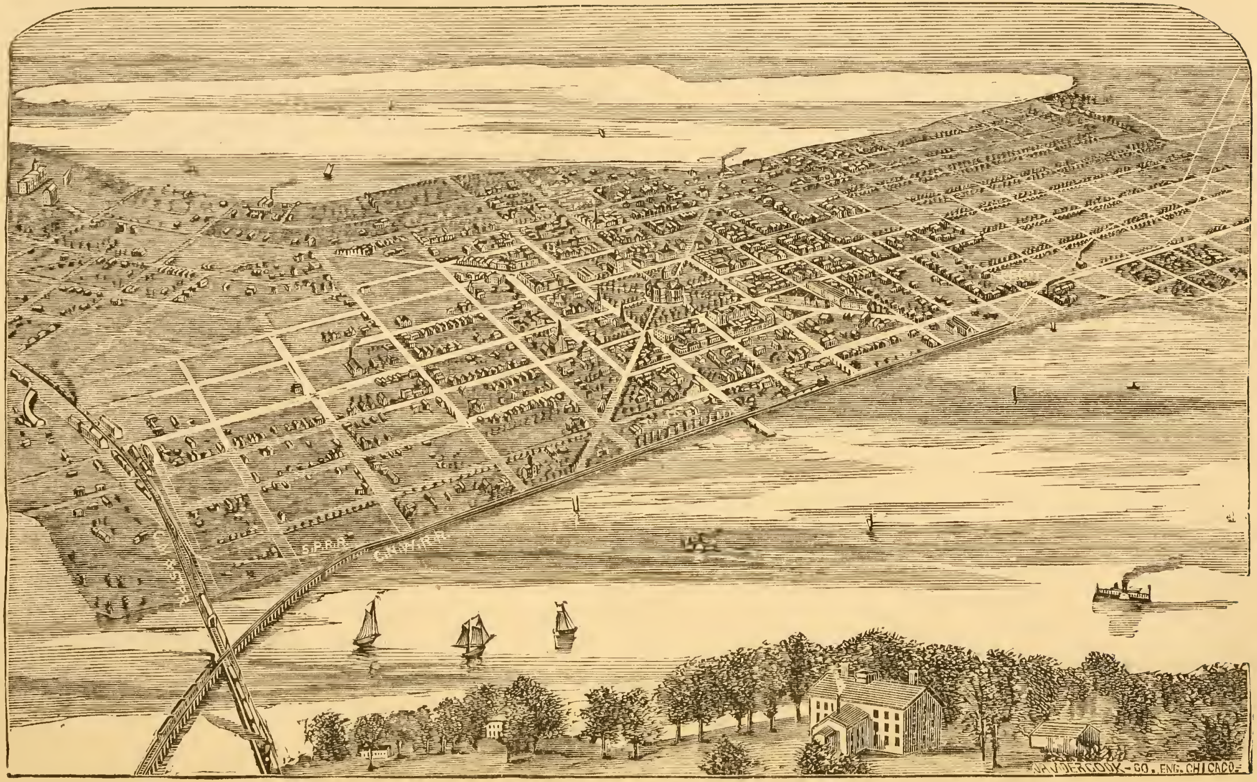
HISTORY OF MADISON

ILLUSTRATED.



VIEW OF CITY OF MADISON, WIS.

MADISON:

ITS

ORIGIN, INSTITUTIONS AND ATTRACTIONS.

PERSONS, PLACES AND EVENTS GRAPHICALLY DELINEATED.

A RELIABLE GUIDE-BOOK FOR TOURISTS.

ILLUSTRATED.

BY C. E. JONES.

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INTRODUCTORY.

Reminiscences, of the troubles, perils and pleasures, through which men have passed, are always interesting unless the narrator descends to the enumeration of prosy details. Given the chief incidents attendant upon the arrival of the first family in Madison, and it is unnecessary to repeat the same facts as they occurred in the experience of subsequent pioneers. Wearisome and unpleasant particulars will always be avoided by the writer who aims at popular favor, if his judgment has been improved by the lessons of the past.

Pioneer life in Wisconsin, including the days in which this territory was part of Michigan, or of Indiana, and glancing back beyond the times of Captain Carver to the first coming of Jesuits and voyageurs to Green Bay, affords scope enough for the preparation of a very interesting volume, such as the reader may peruse upon the cars, or while away an hour withal, when the more serious affairs of the current season have necessitated change and rest. It is hoped that some such work is now offered to compete for the favor of the public.

Not war alone, but incidents of peace have been treated. Charles Reaume, the Green Bay justice, could not be omitted from our pioneer records, but it would have been tiresome to recapitulate the hundred stories which are reiterated with painful sameness as to his eccentricities.

There is a pathetic interest attaching to schoolmaster Williamson's six pupils on Dayton street, and to the twenty students with whom Professor Sterling began the preparatory work of the University, which culminates in a feeling of profound thankfulness, when we contemplate the scholastic advantages of to-day.

Our book might have been a mere guide to the exquisite spots and general charms of scenery, but we have preferred a general statement in that respect, as well as in many others. We have glanced at most of the prominent features in our territorial, municipal and state career, without attempting the dry detail of history. Have noted the growth of bench and bar, the development of our mercantile establishments, the growth of the banking interest, the beauty of the homes that add a pleasure even to the contemplation of our lakes. The mounds, caves and antiquities of the aboriginal people have been recorded, and side by side therewith the better tumuli of literature, erected by the guild of letters in our own time, but above all things there has been an effort to avoid tediousness, in which pursuit we abandon the further drawing out of our preface.

MADISON, WIS., 1876.

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HISTORY OF MADISON.

CHAPTER I.

IN THE BEGINNING.

Soon after Pere Marquette made his way to the Mississippi, from the Lakes, this Western country was overrun by Canadian French *voyageurs*, whose country, language and religion, were considerable aids to trade among the tribes of Indians, recently gathered into the fold of the Catholic church. There is no positive evidence that they were on this identical spot, but a probability, all but overwhelming, suggests their presence in the Lake country, because the Indians were here, and, moreover, because the conformation of the country, the large and beautiful lakes, and other well known features, specially adapted this particular locality for the supply of peltry. There was a mission house at or near Green Bay before Marquette's world-famous canoe voyage by the Fox and Wisconsin rivers; but there is no mention by which our topography is identified until more than a century later, in the records of Capt. Carver, as published after 1768. His "Travels through the interior

parts of North America" make unmistakable references to the Blue Mounds, which he knew, probably from the Indians, were supposed to be rich in lead. The captain shrewdly suspected the trappers of having purposely misrepresented the territory for their better security as to ulterior designs of their own. The Jesuit maps of the Lake Superior country, prepared a century earlier in Paris, were very good, considering the limited facilities of the priests by whom the information was supplied, but the operations of the Canadian *voyageurs*, jealously defending their trading privileges after their old home had passed under the rule of strangers, would be subject to very different rules.

The Sacs and Foxes held this territory from time immemorial, so far as we have any positive knowledge, until the year 1825, when the Nations sold their rights to all lands east of the Mississippi. Unfortunately, for the red men, they were persuaded by some of their leaders to play fast and loose with their treaty, and after the first removal, there were almost continuous returns, and on many occasions marauding parties inflicted damage on property and life by way of asserting a right to their old hunting grounds. In the year 1831 things had become unendurable, and it was found necessary to drive the Indians back across the newly agreed upon barrier, the Mississippi. The Winnebago outbreak and the Black Hawk war, the first named in 1831–2, and the latter concurrent with or immediately following, were parts of the same

scheme of aggression, intended to recover for the tribes the lands already sold and delivered by their chiefs and themselves. Eventually the Indians were repressed and forced back with a firm hand.

The first attempt at settlement in this county was made in 1827–8, by Col. Ebenezer Brigham, who died in this city at the advanced age of seventy-two, in the year 1861. He visited Wisconsin in 1822, but it was not until five years later that he came hither to make a permanent abode. The lead mines were the chief attraction, but after a brief sojourn at Platte river, on what is known as the Block House branch, he and his party retired to Galena, not being strong enough to hold their own in a country possessed by hostile Indians. Early in 1828, Col. Brigham and his associates took up a position in the Blue Mounds, still mining for lead. Food supplies, at first procured from Galena, were afterwards obtained from Fort Winnebago, and it was while returning from Fort Winnebago that the beauties of the Lake country were first discovered by Col. Brigham. The Indians had told him about the lakes, but the beautiful reality vastly exceeded their description. The pioneer is not always capable of appreciating the picturesque, but the colonel predicted the greatness of the village that would be built where Madison now stands, being impressed by the charms of the scene, and he even assumed that the capital of the Territory and State would be here located.

The first comers to this county were widely severed

from their nearest friends. Dodgeville was the residence of their next door neighbor, and to the southeast they could call upon somewhat distant acquaintances on the O'Plaine river, hardly twelve miles from Chicago. Col. Juneau was located near the junction of the Milwaukee and Menomonee rivers, laying the foundations of the beautiful Cream City, which is now the commercial metropolis of Wisconsin. It will be seen at once that every settlement in those days had to rely mainly upon its own means of defense against the Indians, who were established in populous villages in every direction. As a rule there was a good understanding, and from time to time treaties were made defining the boundaries of the new comers, but the stipulations of the natives were extended and broken repeatedly. So slowly did the people migrate hitherwards, that Col. Brigham was still the nearest settler when the capital was located, and his residence was distant twenty-five miles. Gov. Lewis Cass, the chief executive of Michigan Territory, had jurisdiction from the earliest settlement, and he made Col. Brigham the first justice ever appointed here, but his office was almost a sinecure during the four years that he retained the honor. The difficulties under which these hardy miners opened up their lucrative calling cannot readily be made to appear to the modern reader. The traveler of to-day is transported in a few hours from Madison to Chicago, can dispatch the business of the day in the metropolis of the northwest and return, without a

sense of fatigue or a stain of travel, to his home at night, but there was no such luxury possible to the adventurous colonel and his companions who sent their product to Green Bay, Galena or Chicago, and who had not a wagon track to guide them toward the village which has now expanded to the colossal proportions of Chicago. That mighty Babylon was then an insignificant village, in which there seemed to be no probability that the people would master the difficulties incident to the position and render it habitable in the better sense. The old colonel was naturally and fitly included in the earliest attempts to organize a government in this territory, when the severance from Michigan was effected in 1836, and for very many years he was identified with the succeeding forms of administration.

A trip from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien, on horseback, was undertaken for the first time in May, 1829, by Judge Doty, afterwards Governor, and two attorneys of the first named settlement, Henry S. Baird and Morgan L. Martin, guided by a Menomonee Indian whose acquaintance with the country was by no means perfect; but their seven days pilgrimage made them conversant with the topographical features of Lake Winnebago, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, our own Four Lakes, the site of our city, the Blue Mounds and Dodgeville, besides the vast range of country included in their interesting detour. There had been many transits by the Fox and Wisconsin to the Mississippi, since the days of Pere Marquette and his *voy-*

ageurs, but this, so far as can be known, was the first journey made by white men overland. Three years later Judge Doty again visited this spot, having been much impressed by its beauty, and being desirous to see a town started in the midst of so much natural grandeur.

The ambitious designs of Black Hawk, who had obtained an ascendency over the braves of his own and of neighboring tribes, led to a disastrous war with the Indians in 1832, as already indicated, and the settlers of this portion of Wisconsin were not backward during that eventful period. There was an actual alliance between the deceitful Winnebagoes and the more immediate followers of Black Hawk, the Sacs and Foxes, some time before hostilities were openly commenced; but the savages were full of protestations as to their peaceful and friendly disposition. Col. Brigham could not be hoodwinked by their flatteries, and he, with the coöperation of his little army of industry, built a block house fort, on the prairie, near Blue Mounds, as part of their system of defense. When hostile demonstrations were anticipated, the whole of the settlers near at hand, with their families, congregated within the palisade that surrounded the main buildings. The Winnebagoes were still persistent as to their friendship and alliance, until the beginning of June, 1832, although there is good reason for believing that they were supplying information and help to their more warlike neighbors, lone before that date. Preparations for war were madg,

regardless of the Winnebago promises, as it was well known that Black Hawk's followers would cause trouble without much delay. The commanding officer at Mound Fort, Capt. John Sherman, saw the probability of war to be so imminent that he communicated his apprehensions to Col. Dodge, afterwards governor, and the colonel marched to the reënforcement of Sherman with two hundred men, collected from other and less exposed positions in the mining districts. Shortly after this timely aid arrived, James Aubrey, the first commander at the fort, was killed near the residence of Col. Brigham, while procuring water from a spring. The Sac Indians killed him, being guided to their ambush by the treacherous Winnebagoes, within a few days of the time when they were most lavish in expressions of friendship. Their part in the murder was surmised, but not known, at the time of Aubrey's death. A second ambush was planned, and succeeded on the 20th of the month, fourteen days after the death of Aubrey. The savages having made their dispositions for the purpose, caused some few of their body to reveal themselves to the occupants of the fort. Lieut. Force, accompanied by a comrade named Green, the latter leaving his wife and children in the stockade, made a reconnoisance, in the course of which they were decoyed by the retiring Indians into a trap laid for the destruction of a much larger body. Force and Green fought and maneuvered with bravery and skill, but they were so completely enmeshed that there was no possibility of escape. The

savages mutilated their victims in a shameful manner after death. The watch worn by Lieut. Force was subsequently recovered from the body of a dead Indian, by a trader named Wallis Rowan. The red man, overtaken by fatigue, had apparently lain down to rest, and in that way was destroyed by a prairie fire. The efforts and the deaths of Force and Green were seen from Mound Fort.

Notwithstanding these cruel and purposeless successes, the Indians were pursued by the main body of settlers and troops, under the command of Col. Dodge, over the Crawfish, near Aztalan, across the site of this city, to the north end of Monona, and at Catfish Ford, a brisk engagement with the rear guard of the flying foe, taught the Indians what they might expect in the way of punishment. One Indian was shot sitting upon the newly-made grave of his squaw, having calmly taken that position apparently with the hope that he would thus readily join her in the Happy Hunting Grounds. Eventually the Black Hawk war was ended by decisive battles, the only kind of argument that can be conclusive with savages, and nearly the whole of the red skins that had been in arms were killed, captured or dispersed. Black Hawk and his accomplice, the Prophet, who had buoyed up the tribes with delusive promises, were surrendered to General Street, at Prairie du Chien, on the 27th of August, 1832, by the chiefs of their own people, One-Eyed Decorra and Cha-E. Tar. The treaty with the Sacs and Foxes, made at Rock Island in September of that

year, happily terminated the Indian difficulties of Wisconsin.

Shortly after the Black Hawk war had been crushed out, the attractions of this site brought settlers here, and on the 15th of October, 1832, an encampment was made by Capt. Low, James Halpin and Archibald Crisman, on Mendota Lake ridge. There were numerous Indians then located on the city site, having been concentrated here by the facilities offered by a French trader, whose abode was on the ground now crossed by Johnson street. Rowan, the Indian trader into whose hands the watch of Lieut. Force fell as lawful spoil, had long before taken up his location in this neighborhood. Mr. Abel Rasdall, a native of Kentucky, another early resident, commenced his Wisconsin experiences as a lead miner, and thence diverging into the avocation of an Indian trader, was connected by marriage with a Winnebago woman. After her death, he married another of the same tribe, but she eventually migrated west with her own people, and her husband was not entirely inconsolable. Rasdall had been for a considerable time a prosperous trader among the Indians before the war commenced, but during the continuance of hostilities with Black Hawk, Abel Rasdall was one of the readiest and most daring of our volunteers. He continued a resident in Dane county until his death at Token Creek, in 1837, when he was fifty-two years old. After the conclusion of his Indian engagements, Mr. Rasdall took to himself a wife of his own race in this

city, and raised a family as the result of that marriage. He had traded in Dane county, and more especially around the Four Lakes, since the year before the Black Hawk war.

From the time of the first colony planted in Illinois by La Salle, in 1678–9, the Canadian voyagers and colonists had customarily intermarried with the Indians with, as a rule, no other result than that the more civilized race was absorbed by the other, and the result did not exhibit a corresponding increase of capacity to appropriate the advantages of civilization. Some of the half breeds were sharp and dangerous, but few are known as estimable men. One of the earliest traders here seems to have been an exception to that rule. His name was Michel St. Cyr, son of a Canadian Frenchman, by a Winnebago. Living always on the frontier and among the Indians, he had not participated in the advantages of schools, but he bore an excellent character as a man of veracity, a virtue not always found associated with civilization, although certainly a part of the highest. St. Cyr was one of the traders in the Four Lake country, dividing his attention between the traffic by which he made money and a small garden, that gave him and his Winnebago children a subsistence. His cabin served occasionally as a caravanserai, and something more, when travelers visited the lakes. Eventually St. Cyr sold out his improvements to Col. Slaughter, and retired to the Winnebago reservation in Iowa. His sons were considered worthless, even by the In-

dians, and that atom of civilization was utterly erased. The F. F. V.'s would not trace their lineage to Pocahontas, if the husband of that lady had been domiciliated among the tribes, and if the result of that marriage had been given over to Indian customs and general training.

Preliminary steps for the survey of the lands in this locality were taken by the general government in 1834, and before the end of the year, that duty had been completed. The survey and plat of this city were made under special directions from Judge Doty, who had long before that time been impressed by the beauty of this site and its surroundings. The further proceedings of the early settlers must be dealt with in a future chapter.

CHAPTER II.

LOCATING THE CAPITAL.

Settlement had made little progress when the question arose, "where shall we fix our capital?" Suddenly, from all parts of the territory, arose the voice of indomitable advocates, and when the first legislature was convened at Belmont, there was a display of log-rolling such as could hardly be excelled. Judge Doty, who had traversed nearly the whole territory on horseback or in his canoe, accoutred "with his green blanket and shot gun," might have been trusted to make the selection, but for the fact, that he had long since decided in his own mind, and had joined with Gov. Mason of Michigan, in purchasing the site occupied by this city for $1,500. Fond du Lac, Dubuque, in Iowa, which was part of our territory, Portage, Belmont, Helena, Racine, Milwaukee, Platteville, Mineral Point, Cassville, Green Bay, Koshkonong, Belleview, Wisconsinapolis, Wisconsin City and Peru, were all advocated with unscrupulous zeal, and every one of the rival cities, many of which, like Madison, lived only on paper, had anxious friends who were ready to abandon their own chances for the time, to unite on any of the others, only to defeat the most dangerous competitor. Madison was, perhaps,

championed in the same way as most of the other cities of the brain, but with more success. Corner lots were much in request, among the men whose votes could make or unmake a capital at Belmont, and lobbying was the rule. It is tacitly admitted by many, and openly stated by some, that Madison might not have been selected as the site, had not Judge Doty permitted many legislators and their bosom friends, a pecuniary interest in the venture which Gov. Mason and he had made. The majority in the legislative council, as it was, proved to be only one in an aggregate of thirteen, and in the house of representatives, only four in an aggregate of twenty-six. The margin was too small for comfort, but it was sufficient. Thus it happened, that after an exciting contest, the peninsula between the third and fourth of the Four Lakes was chosen as the home of our territorial government, and became the site of the handsome city which we claim has become the admired of all observers.

The time in which this lively conflict occurred was especially full of land speculators. The public domain had enriched hundreds, and millions were hoping that the same process might cover all their needs forever. It was being realized in 1836 that there were blanks as well as prizes in the lottery, and a collapse was felt to be imminent. The founders of paper cities were snatching a new eloquence from despair, and this location of the capital was one of many schemes on which fortunes depended. The

elegance of some of the maps, the fervor of some of their expounders, might have charmed an impartial legislator, could a phenomenon so rare have been found in the territory of Wisconsin, to record his vote for either of the projects. Happily, the proposition of Judge Doty won a controlling interest, and three commissioners, chosen by joint ballot, were entrusted with the task of selecting plans, making contracts and superintending the erection of the capitol.

The sparse settlement of the territory generally, and of this section more particularly, cannot be better illustrated than by recording a few of the experiences of travelers, about the time of, and soon after the passage of the act which determined the seat of government. The sessions of the legislative assembly were appointed to be held at Burlington, in Des Moines county, now Iowa, until March 4, 1839, unless the government buildings here should be completed earlier; and it was necessary to bring from a distance every man that was wanted to assist in the work of preparation. The commissioners chosen for the task before named were Augustus A. Bird, acting commissioner, James Duane Doty, treasurer, and John F. O'Neill. The sum appropriated for the erection was $20,000, a very small amount, considering the difficulties under which the work was to be undertaken, but help was expected from congress.

In the month following the choice of commissioners, that is to say in January, 1837, Madison was visited from Milwaukee, by a young lawyer and land

surveyor, since known to fame as the Hon. Moses M. Strong, of Mineral Point, who from that time has been associated with the progress of Wisconsin by his identification with railroads, river improvements, and other public works, as well as by repeated terms of service in various offices, and in the legislature of the territory, as member and president in the constitutional convention to form a state constitution, and in the house of representatives of the state, for some time speaker. Mr. Strong, accompanied by Mr. Marsh and Mr. Potter, explored this section of country, and after much trouble, found the locality on which the capitol now stands; but they were not quite so fortunate in discovering Michel St. Cyr's cabin, where they hoped to obtain quarters, so that they were compelled to pass the night without shelter or food for their horses or themselves, on the spot where Ashton post office now stands, in the town of Springfield. From that bivouac, the party made their course by the Blue Mounds to Mineral Point. Mr. Strong was employed, in February of the same year, by Judge Doty, to survey and stake off capitol square, and some of the adjoining lots in this city, and the haste with which the work must needs be pushed through would not allow time to be lost in waiting for genial weather. Mr. John Catlin and Mr. George Messersmith accompanied the surveyor on this expedition, and Mr. Josiah A. Noonan joined the party on the way. The commissariat department was much better cared for than it had been in the preceding month, as Mr. Strong

and his party stayed with St. Cyr, and were probably regaled with the half-breed's standing dish, musk rat pie, while the actual survey was progressing. The several days journey to and from this city were thus recorded: The first day out from Mineral Point, the party reached Mr. John Messersmith's, just twelve miles east. On the 18th of February, they called at Brigham's, where they procured provisions, and then pushed on to Haney's Creek, near the Cross Plains station on Black Earth Creek, spending that night at Steel's. The following day the party arrived at St. Cyr's, early enough to permit of the work being commenced. St. Cyr's place was so far from the scene of their labors, that the party camped out part of the time, despite the inclemency of the season, but heavy and incessant falls of snow compelled them to desist from their labors for many days, making the half-breed's cabin their headquarters. After completing their survey for the time, Mr. Strong and his party returned by way of Wallis Rowan's, who lived where Poynette now stands, about twelve miles south from Fort Winnebago. Going by the Wisconsin river, the party reached Helena, and thence struck across to Mineral Point. The scanty narrative indicates the nakedness of the land; but the work just accomplished led the way to the building of numerous habitations. Other travelers passing over various routes toward the mines, or with this city as their objective point, reveal the existence of Prairie Village where Waukesha now stands, and also the intermediate halting place at Fort

Atkinson, *en route* to the Catfish river. Mr. Alex. F. Pratt and Mr. Augustus Story made that route in February, 1837, shortly after the survey party had set out on their return to Mineral Point, and the new comers had been twenty-four hours without food, when they left their camp near the present site of Dunkirk. The men who went exploring in those days had no reason to expect luxurious living. A few cold roast potatoes, unceremoniously found in a wigwam from which the owners were absent, were consumed with abundant relish at noon after their long fast, and no other food was obtained until the next day, when they discovered St. Cyr's cabin on Fourth lake. The travelers had camped without supper, in a ravine near where the State University now stands. The savory musk rat was a treat, by comparison with such short commons, and the party started for Blue Mounds well prepared for a journey. Similar lodgings and fare would not now be considered tempting, but pioneer life does not encourage a too critical taste.

More spacious and comfortable quarters were to be made ready on the site of Madison by Mr. Eben Peck and his wife, Rosaline. Two months only had elapsed since the second visit of the surveying party, when the Peck family started from Blue Mounds to open a pioneer boarding house here. The snow had not gone when Mr. Peck commenced the erection of his premises, on land bought immediately after the location of the capitol; but Mr. Catlin had already

caused a log house to be erected where the post office now stands. Owing to an accident, the interior of Mr. Catlin's house was destroyed by fire before it could be occupied; thus it happened that the Peck hostelry was the first residence in Madison.

There were some rough and ready specimens of humanity then on hand in this region. Two Frenchmen, who had associated with a party of Winnebago Indians in the Blue Mounds during the winter, were employed to build the house, the work being superintended by Abraham Wood, who subsequently put up a saw mill at Baraboo. Wood was at that time living at Winnequah, then known as Strawberry Point, where he enjoyed the distinction of being the son-in-law of De Kaury, son of a Frenchman, a Winnebago chief. Wood bore an excellent reputation, but some of his surroundings were very hard cases. One of the Frenchmen was shot, in a dispute about land, by Berry Haney, a rival claimant, and generally, life was but cheaply held in those troubled times.

Snow and the howling of wolves awakened Mrs. Peck from her slumbers in a tent, three miles from Madison, on Saturday, April 15, 1837, and she pushed on through the storm to the site of her more substantial dwelling, where she sat down under a tree in her wagon, twenty-five miles from the nearest white residents at Blue Mounds, and nearly one hundred miles from the settlers at Milwaukee. The building was not far enough advanced to satisfy the demands of the hostess, and a temporary habitation was constructed,

to serve until the larger place could be comfortably floored and plastered. The little hotel was speedily crowded with guests. Milwaukee and far away New York were represented by visitors, and even England had contributed its quota to the roll of occupants. The comforts of the establishment were substantial from the first, although necessarily the bill of fare consisted of such articles, as could be transported from considerable distances; but very soon the table was a marvel to beholders, and cleanliness, the first requisite towards elegance, was a welcome feature from the beginning. The grand dining room was as well ventilated as the winds of heaven could make it, the hospitable board being spread in the open air to meet the requirements of some fifteen new arrivals. Judge Doty, Col. Brigham and Commissioner Bird, with others whose names are historical, were frequent visitors, and the unfinished building was tapestried with bed sheets to furnish sleeping accommodations. The troubles incidental to pioneer housekeeping are always of interest to people living in the west, and, with few exceptions, the men who sought accommodation then in Madison made themselves completely at home, hunting, fishing and otherwise during their leisure, increasing the variety of the table. Judge, afterwards Governor, Doty gave an excellent example of helpfulness by assisting a party of amateur plasterers to make the kitchen habitable, and one day's work under his direction effected much. The cheery spirit thus indicated was worth more than all the material

aid, as it nerved the sturdy matron to master the situation. Before long the sounds of gayety within that building would have been a surprise to the languid pleasure seekers in much more costly mansions. Really, at all times, the pleasure that can be found in palace or cottage depends upon glad hearts, and not upon the presence of luxurious viands.

Madison was then so great on various maps that it might well have been matter for surprise that the legislative assembly had been convened for its first session at Belmont, and for its subsequent sessions, until 1839, at Burlington, now in Iowa; but, as will readily be understood, it is far more easy to construct a city on paper than to build one on the solid earth. Castles in the air are very often erected before breakfast, but there is just one drawback, that nobody ever dines in such structures. Madison city was then, *vide* prospectuses, the metropolitan center of cities, corresponding to the seven hills of Rome, when, in fact, it was only a village *in futuro.*

The beauty of the surrounding country, with its twelve lakes, might well have concentrated attention upon Dane county, and the four lakes in Yahara, or Catfish valley, lying almost in a direct line from northwest to southeast, could not fail to be recognized as the regal crown of all this natural loveliness. Kegonsa, or First Lake, lowest of the four bodies of water, covers five square miles, having a circumference of nine miles and a half, its longest diameter being over three miles, and its shortest fully two.

Waubesa, the Second Lake, is three miles and a half above Kegonsa, in the towns of Dunn and Blooming Grove. This lake has an average depth of twelve feet of crystal clear water, through which the pebbly bottom can be seen as if through glass. This beautiful sheet of crystal is three and a half miles long by about two miles across. Monona, the lovely Third Lake, is only seven-eighths of a mile above Waubesa, covering an area of six square miles, being six and a half miles long by two broad, and the strip of land which divides this lake from Mendota, the Fourth Lake, is the site of the capital of Wisconsin. The painter's pencil can alone do justice to the scene; words fail to convey an adequate conception of the picturesque effect which is mirrored to the brain, when an artist looks from the high ground, or still better, from the cupola of the capitol, upon the hills and lakes which seem to rival the loveliness of the moon and stars in the azure firmament under which they are now lying silvered before us. Mendota is by far the largest of the lakes, as it covers an area of more than fifteen and a half square miles. Its longest diameter is nine miles, and its breadth is fully six. Could the whole of the legislature have been brought to this spot in the spring or summer of 1836, it may be hoped that there would have been less scope for the log-rolling process at Belmont, in the succeeding winter, which came within one vote of negativing the proposition to make Madison the capital of the territory; but perhaps even then it would have been difficult for

LAKE MONONA, OR THIRD LAKE — LOOKING TOWARD LAKE SIDE.

the tranquil charm of the scene to reach some of their minds through the dense film of local interest. The shores, banks and cliffs surrounding the several lakes present to the beholder almost every variety of scene, but want of space precludes an attempt at adequate description. The poet Longfellow thus writes concerning our lakes, in a contribution forwarded in January, 1876, for "The Centennial Records of the Women of Wisconsin," a volume edited by Mesdames Anna B. Butler, Emma C. Bascom, and Katharine F. Kerr.

THE FOUR LAKES OF MADISON.

Four limpid lakes—four Naiades
Or sylvan deities are these,
In flowing robes of azure dressed;
Four lovely handmaids, that uphold
Their shining mirrors, rimmed with gold,
To the fair city of the west.

By day the coursers of the sun,
Drink of these waters, as they run
Their swift diurnal round on high;
By night the constellations glow,
Far down their hollow deeps below,
And glimmer in another sky.

Fair lakes, serene and full of light,
Fair town arrayed in robes of white,
How visionary ye appear!
All like a floating landscape seems,
In cloudland or the land of dreams,
Bathed in a golden atmosphere.

The commissioners charged with the erection of the capitol building, in which the functions of government were to be undertaken, were not dilatory in commencing their duties, and by the tenth of June there were thirty-six workmen upon the ground, under the direction of Commissioner Augustus A. Bird. The party had traveled with their teams from Milwaukee, making their roads as they came, fording streams, and threading their devious way through occasional swamps, much of the time under a drenching rain, for just ten days, to effect a transit which is now daily accomplished in little more than four hours. The sun gleamed out once upon the travelers, and the spot, made glorious by that welcome illumination, has ever since been known as Sun Prairie. Other workmen speedily followed, and it is interesting to note, in their several narratives, the progress in settlement along the traveled route, as the summer wore on. Early in August there was a log house and an Indian camping ground at Prairieville, formerly Prairie Village, now Waukesha, and five miles beyond that location, a log house occupied by a family named Pratt, which had settled on 160 acres. Half a day's journey further on, some settlers of the name of Brown had taken up a quarter section, and about eight miles from the rapids of Rock river, near the site of Watertown, were three brothers named Setchell, preparing homes for their families. A dam and sawmill were in course of erection at Watertown, by Mr. Goodhue, and at Lake Mills the Atwoods had made a comfortable abode.

just forty miles from the capital. Settlement had made no nearer approach to Madison on that line of road, but the trail was well defined, and there was no difficulty in traveling where so many had already passed. The clear air of the capital, and the bustle of preparation, must have made the appetites of the workmen keen, as the records of the time continually mention expeditions to Galena and elsewhere, to replenish an often exhausted commissariat. Such creature comforts as pork, flour, and some few luxuries, were dealt out with no sparing hand, as all testimonies go to show.

The corner-stone was laid at the southeast corner of the capitol, on the 4th of July, 1837, and there was no lack of eloquence to celebrate the event; but the press was not represented on the occasion, hence the speeches are not recorded. There was another celebration in November, when the foundation was completed and the stone work ceased for the season. The money to pay the hands had to be brought from Green Bay; and Mr. Peck, who acted as courier in that emergency, swam several of the rivers, so that his wallet of paper money was somewhat dilapidated when he reached home. By November, 1838, the assembly and senate chambers were finished, but the plastering was not dry, so that the sessions of the legislature were held for a time in a new building, the American Hotel, erected at the corner of Pinckney street and Washington avenue, where the Park Savings Bank now stands, by Mr. A. A. Bird, the

contractor for the capitol, and his partner, Mr. Morrison.

Most of the workmen erected their own rude dwellings in the vicinity of King street, near the Third lake, immediately after their arrival; but none of the buildings remain at this time. There was a very hearty and unanimous celebration on the 4th of July, 1837, and Mrs. Peck claims that there were from two to three hundred persons present, including the Indian chief, Little Dandy and his party; but Gen. Mills and Mr. Catlin believe there must have been a misapprehension as to the extent of the gathering. The glorification lasted several days, and Madison has never entered with more general gusto upon the national celebration than was realized on that occasion by the little handful of white men and their Indian allies. Probably some of the confusion that was subsequently found in the accounts of the commissioners was due to the spirit that pervaded the first and many subsequent convivialities.

Under the act which provided for the building of the capitol, and appointed commissioners for the purpose, there was an appropriation of $20,000, to which congress added a like sum, making $40,000 in all, to complete the work; and there were explicit instructions, under which the several commissioners were required to advertise for proposals, which would have, in some degree, guarantied the public against wrong. The commissioners agreed upon plans that were to cost more than the gross total available from both

sources of supply, and then determined that they would not invite public tenders for the work. Mr. Bird said, when examined on this question, that he and his fellow commissioners believed that they could get the work much more cheaply done than by regular and comprehensive contracts. The work was carried on under this arrangement until April, 1838; although proposals had been called for on two occasions, in September, 1837, and in February, 1838, and numerous bids had been received. The lowest bid received in February was $24,450, and from that sum the amounts varied up to $125,000; but Jas. Morrison, who was understood to be Bird's partner, had the contract for the completion of the building allotted to him, at $26,200. After the time had elapsed within which the contract should have been fulfilled, the legislature, during its session in 1839, held a convention of the two houses, and appointed other commissioners to supersede those who had acted up to that time. The new commissioners were N. C. Prentiss, Jas. L. Thayer and L. H. Cotton; but disputes and law suits continued to the end of the chapter. Mr. Daniel Baxter, who was in due course accepted as the contractor to finish the work for which Mr. Morrison was originally engaged under commissioner Bird, was never paid what he considered his due for the services rendered. There were law suits between the first commissioners and the latter appointees, and between the contractors and the legislature, but little satisfaction for the public. There was

one public servant who had enjoyed excellent opportunities in his professional career, as well as in the representative offices filled by him, to understand how the interests of the community had been treated; and he, the Hon. Moses M. Strong, before mentioned, characterized the proceedings of the commissioners first appointed as being "as disgraceful to those concerned in it as it was destructive to the manifest intentions of congress. The appropriations amounted to $40,000. The commissioners, Messrs. Doty, O'Neill and Bird, received this large sum of money and .... expended less than half that sum upon the public buildings. They entered into a secret partnership with the contractor in outside speculations, and had done little more than erect a shell of a capitol, scarcely capable of sustaining its own weight." Thus the first capitol building was raised in Wisconsin, and in this way the parties immediately involved showed their unfitness for the trust reposed in them. But many things have to be considered in determining where the blame should rest, and it is certainly significant that the commissioners retained the respect and confidence of their fellow citizens.

The first meeting of the legislature in the city of Madison was held in the American Hotel on the 26th of February, 1838, and Governor Dodge delivered his first message to the legislature in Madison in that building.* A committee reported that the hall and council chamber would be ready for the representatives and for the senate on the first day of March,

and after some little further delay the rooms were actually occupied, but it was an act of hardihood to attempt the transaction of business under such difficulties. Col. Childs, one of the members who was entrusted with the task of carpeting the rooms and rendering them habitable, has left a record of the sad condition of affairs, in which Contractor Morrison's hogs were better sheltered than the law makers for Wisconsin. If under such circumstances there were some efforts at log rolling, it may have been merely to maintain animal heat, by such exercise. The legislature adjourned for twenty days, to permit of the hall and chamber being rendered, in some degree, warm and comfortable. There was a difficulty in procuring hotel accommodation also, although there were now three houses where guests could be received. The Madison Hotel had two rooms that would lodge four persons each; the Madison House also two rooms that would lodge six altogether, and the American Hotel had eight rooms, in which twenty-six members could find accommodation. The prices charged were high enough to satisfy the most fastidious, but in every other respect, there was abundant room for complaint. Happily the pioneers were inclined to make the best of things as they were, although Judge J. G. Knapp asserts that six men were placed in a room, only sixteen feet square, in the Madison Hotel, and that the floors all over that populous establishment were nightly covered with shake downs, for transient visitors. Thus the task of locat-

ing the capital, erecting the government buildings, and assembling the first legislature in Madison, having been accomplished, we can relieve this overlong chapter from further duty, and turn our attention toward the new comers, whose presence had already enlivened the metropolis, and whose industrial efforts promised more for the future of the community than all that had been accomplished by log rolling and manipulation, in the speculative successes of the commissioners and their attachés from the beginning.

CHAPTER III.

PIONEERS AND CELEBRITIES.

The pioneers of our city were not the first settlers in the territory, now known as Wisconsin, and therefore we shall look outside our own borders to construct a sketch of the early days, which will connect the house of Eben Peck and his wife Rosaline, with the remote past, as well as with the present. The chief whose name is spelt by different writers in so many differing ways, De Kaury, Day-Kau-Ray, Decorrah, Decori, and otherwise, in every manner that will give even an approximation to the original sound, is said to have been the son of a French voyageur, or trapper, who had made his home among the Indians, giving rise to a succession of able men, who were influential in the affairs of the tribes. One of that family, a Winnebago, surrendered Black Hawk to Gen. Street, the Indian Agent, at Prairie du Chien, after the close of the Black Hawk war in 1832. The Frenchman Pellkie—whose name is undoubtedly a corruption from the original, who assisted to build the first log house for Eben Peck—was officered by another resident among the Indians, named Wood, afterwards a mill owner, who had married into the family of a De Kaury. Some exquisite stories could

be written of the Four Lake country, connecting Indians with white men, in the days before the city of Madison was even imagined. One of the De Kaurys exercised the powers of a chief in this immediate locality. Gray-headed Day-Kau-Ray or De Kaury, with a considerable force, met Gen. Atkinson at Portage, while Gen. Dodge was in the field during the troubles preliminary to the war, which was ended at the Bad Ax. They were various in their characteristics, as well as numerous and widely diffused, these Franco-Indian warriors and sachems. One-eyed De Kaury of La Crosse bore a good reputation, but another of the family was suggestively described as Rascal De Kaury. Mrs. Kinzie says that the mother of the race, a Winnebago, was alive in 1831, and supposed to be more than a century old. There were four or five brothers, of whom the Winnebago chief was one, and Washington—or Wau-kon—De Kaury another. One sister married a French trader named Lecuyer, another was twice married to Canadian French traders, named De Riviere and Grignon, and three married Indians. But enough about the De Kaurys. They were pioneers in this territory, busily engaged in the war of 1812 on the side of the British, and the advent of white settlers was the prelude to their removal by death or transfer. Descendants from the Lecuyer marriage were united in wedlock with white settlers at Green Bay, and elsewhere, and prospered according to the customs of civilized life.

Eben Peck and his wife came to the Blue Mounds,

where they rented the tavern stand owned by Col. Brigham, and boarded the old colonel and the hands employed by him. While so engaged, Mrs. Peck entertained Judge and Mrs. Doty on one occasion, and the conversation turning upon Madison, where the location of the capital was yet recent, the judge and his good lady made a promise, which was afterwards forgotten, apparently, that if Mrs. Peck was the first to commence housekeeping on the village site, she should have the best lot in the township, and also a present. Mrs. Peck was the first housekeeper, but it is probable that she did not care to recall the promise, which in the hurry of affairs, at that time, might easily have been forgotten by Judge Doty. Boarding houses must have been expensive and troublesome institutions to run, in the early days, as we find that flour fetched $17 a barrel in Milwaukee in 1838, irrespective of the cost of freight, in the days when travelers made their own routes, and carried axes along to cut down the timber that blocked their course. Pork cost as high as $33 per barrel, and potatoes $3 per bushel; add thereto the cost of transfer, and the profits incidental to boarders must have been whittled down considerably. Some courage was wanted then to open an establishment, such as the Peck family meant to run, when Indian villages were the only habitations near, and deserted wigwams along the borders of the lakes and streams told of the red men who had flourished and faded in this locality. Until now the cabin of Michel St. Cyr had served all the purposes of a

hostelry, and the old man had not grown rich by entertaining his few and scattering guests.

There was certain to be a much greater demand for hotel accommodation, because the capitol had to be soon erected, and visitors were sure to become more numerous as the works advanced, but the workmen, as the event proved, would build their own lodgings before long, and make arrangements among themselves about cooking provisions. Travelers who came to see the country, to visit the mines, or to see the spots made famous by engagements during the Black Hawk war of five years before, seldom failed to visit Madison, which had charms of its own sufficient to justify a detour. Before long there were numerous hotels doing a prosperous business on the ground which had at first been exclusively possessed by Eben Peck's log house; and hundreds occupied their leisure in exploring the sparkling lakes, skirted with every kind of scenic beauty. Groves and meadows, suggestive of love in a cottage, capes, bluffs, ravines and prairies, the peninsula itself with its elevation seventy feet above the lakes, on which the capitol stands, now in the center of a lovely park, the undulating lines descending thence to rise again in numerous ridges, and most beautiful of all, in the grounds now occupied by the university, offered variety enough to gratify the most persistent searcher after loveliness. Mrs. Peck became the owner of a canoe which had been the property of an Indian chief, and Cleopatra never enjoyed her famous voyages, celebrated by the poets,

FIRST HOUSE IN MADISON.

1837.

more than did the few who were privileged to glide over the lakes of crystal in that vessel. Only to see that boat freighted with pleasure seekers was a delight equal to all that is realized by the average looker on in contemplating a regatta. The joy of the rowers, and the charms of the scene could not be surpassed. A picture painted by C. A. Johnson, a fine and truthful representation of the first residence in Madison, with the canoe in the distance, is one of the most valued properties of the Historical Society, and an engraving of that scene accompanies this sketch. The primitive looking dwelling was at one time quite a luxurious abode, on Butler street, near the Lake House, now the Meredith House, not far from the Third Lake.

The picture is a perfect reproduction of the reality, in almost every detail.

Professor Chapman has recorded one fact which should long since have been tested by experience, in the natural desire of the early settlers to vary the supplies on their table. He states on the authority of Mr. Rasdall that the Indians used a root which grew in the marshes, as a substitute for potatoes, called by the red men no-ah-how-in. It was bulbous, but did not resemble arrow root. Mr. Rasdall said that having been cast ashore, without provisions, from Mendota Lake, in 1835, while arranging a trading establishment near the First Lake, he had subsisted on the root in question for ten days. The early settlers were not very speculative, as it appears that water for daily consumption was brought from the lakes until 1839,

when the first well upon the plat was excavated on the American House lot, the labor being performed by two soldiers, James Nevil and an Italian named Whildean. Mr. Darwin Clark, our fellow citizen, gives a vivid idea of the state of society in the summer of 1837, and while glancing thereat, we can understand that a fully employed population, engaged upon a task which must be finished in a hurry, and surrounded by hot blooded Indians, had little opportunity for making permanent improvements, which others would probably enjoy. That summer a party of Winnebagoes camped on the shore of the Third Lake, on the flat just below the Meredith House. During the continuance of the encampment, a quarrel occurred between two young Indians, one of whom stabbed the other, and from different sources we learn that the murderer sat on the body of his victim with perfect unconcern, smoking his pipe, as though modestly disclaiming special merit in a very creditable transaction. The white workmen, who were unaccustomed to look upon murder with satisfaction, were much incensed, and by way of warning that the knives of the red men must not be too freely brought in as umpires, they carried their rifles and shot guns to and from their work. The Winnebagoes took the hint in a proper spirit, and soon after left for parts unknown. The Indian stabbed as above described, was the brother-in-law of Pellkie's partner, another French Canadian, and, as stated elsewhere, Pellkie was himself shot on a subsequent occasion. There were consequently other

matters deserving attention besides digging wells, and seeking roots as substitutes for the potato. The vigorous action of the volunteers, who provided their own rifles and ammunition, may have prevented worse trouble. Public opinion, speaking through the rifle barrel, was a power which the red skins did not wish to provoke.

About two weeks after the arrival of Mrs. Peck in Madison, a party of fifteen men came on from Milwaukee *via* Janesville, and the work of the hostess began in earnest. Commissioner Bird was one of the arrivals, and he was accompanied by hired hands whose work had consisted in blazing and preparing a road by which other workmen and supplies would follow. It was important that proper tracks should be defined where so much traffic must shortly occur and the acting commissioner was provident. The American Hotel, already mentioned, was built in 1838, and circumstances gave that establishment an advantage over all competitors, for a time. It continued to be a place of considerable note, until it was destroyed by fire in 1868. The Madison Hotel also dated from 1838, but the structure was at first quite small. The territorial supreme court was organized in this building, in June, 1838, and held its first session here when the legislature assembled in the American Hotel. Gov. Dodge and many of the leading members of both houses made the Madison Hotel their headquarters. The structure belonged to Commissioner Bird, and was at first kept by his brother. The long continued efforts

of the other side to remove the seat of government from Madison found in this building an unceasing watchfulness which could not be evaded. There were numerous hosts, after the hotel passed out of the hands of the Bird family, and the name was changed several times, but it was known by the old name at the last, in March, 1863. It was situated on King street on the present site of Dean's block. The establishment kept by Mr. and Mrs. Peck, has already been mentioned.

The new comers, whose names and influence have been beneficially associated with Madison since that date, would defy enumeration, but there are some who cannot be omitted, from a record, however brief, which aims at any measure of completeness. The scene enacted in plastering the kitchen of the Peck boarding house, in which Judge Doty, Col. Brigham, and all the available masculinity of Madison, took part, is historical. The pioneers of Wisconsin were well represented and well occupied on that occasion. One of the earliest visitors from abroad, was an English geologist named Featherstonehaugh, afterwards a British consul until his death in 1866, and he provoked the ire of his hostess at a later date, by some ill-mannered jokes and very unnecessary criticisms, about Mrs. Peck and the accommodations obtained in her pioneer restaurant, which were published by him in London. There is unexceptional testimony, from a witness no less reliable than Gen. Mills, that Mrs. Rosaline Peck made excellent coffee, a point expressly denied by the earliest writer whose lucu-

brations concerning Madison, were published in Europe. The somewhat vulgar and untrustworthy book served its purpose in procuring him a government appointment under the British crown, so that Madison helped at least one man to fortune.

Before the days of Featherstonehaugh, there had been celebrities in Wisconsin, and not a few of them had stood where the capitol has since been erected. Capt. Jonathan Carver may have been a visitor to this precise locality, certainly he was for some time in the lake country. Gen. Dodge, who came occasionally to the capital, in discharging his official duties as governor, was in that way a Madisonian, and it is no small matter that we should be identified with the man whose conduct of the war did most toward effecting the defeat of Black Hawk in 1832. Col. Zachary Taylor was for some time in command of the troops in Prairie du Chien, and while there, a young lieutenant, Jefferson Davis, was sparking the daughter of the commandant, so that there were two celebrities in Wisconsin; the one destined to become president of the United States, after serving the country for many years in the field with "rough and ready" effectiveness, and to die of the turmoil of political life; the other, to lose by ill-directed ambition, the repute won as a soldier, and to find the grave of his success in the presidency of the confederation whose ruin it was his fortune to survive. Both officers rendered good service in the Black Hawk war until the end was reached in the battle of the Bad Axe on the second of August,

1832. But for the vigor with which the United States troops and volunteers fought then, in vindication of the faith to be placed in treaties, and in defense of property and life, there might have been no Madison on this peninsula. In that sense the men named were pioneers.

The Hon. John Catlin was essentially among the first comers. He was one of the party that accompanied the surveyor, Moses M. Strong, to survey and plat the town, and a lot purchased by himself, the site of the present post office, was utilized by him by the erection thereon of a log house, long used as the post office store. That building was the first erected in Madison, as it was commenced some time before Eben Peck began his structure; but an accident destroyed the interior of the building, a fire having been by some means originated, and in consequence the primeval log house was not the first residence. Mr. Catlin was the pioneer *par excellence.* He was a Green Mountain boy, as he came from Orwell, Vermont. He was a partner with Mr. Strong in the law business at Mineral Point in 1836, and clerk of the supreme court. He became postmaster in this city in 1837. Removed from office by Gen. Harrison, he was reappointed by President Tyler. Subsequently he served as chief clerk of the house of representatives; was district attorney for Dane county, and judge at a later date; in 1846, he became secretary of the territory. Mr. Catlin was a good citizen and an able man of business, and his genial manners secured him a wide circle of friends.

Hon. Simeon Mills ranks in the same category, with this difference, that he still remains in our community. Born in Norfolk, Litchfield county, Conn., in February, 1810, he is now in his sixty-seventh year, and he has spent his lifetime in Wisconsin since attaining the age of twenty-five. Mineral Point was his first abode in this territory, but immediately after the location of the capital, he moved to this city when there was only one house upon the ground, and on the 10th of June, 1837, he commenced a small building of hewed logs, in which to begin business as a storekeeper. For five years from 1837, Mr. Mills carried the mails to and from this city for the government, and about the same time the responsible duties of a justice of the peace were imposed upon him by Gov. Dodge. Numerous offices of honor and emolument have since that date been conferred on Mr. Mills. He was one of the commissioners for Dane county upon its organization in 1839; clerk of the United States district court; territorial treasurer; first senator for Dane county; one of the regents engaged in the organization of the state university, and subsequently paymaster general of the state during the war, from 1861. The record left by Gen. Mills, in every relation of his well spent life, reflects credit on one of the oldest pioneer families in Dane county, and his industry has contributed, in no small degree, to the prosperity and growth of the city.

Darwin Clark came to this city with acting commissioner Bird, in the spring of 1837, to commence

work as a cabinet maker on the capitol, and since that time he has been a resident in Madison, holding many offices of trust with honor to himself, and conducting for many years a very extensive business. He was born in Otsego county, N. Y., in May, 1812, in which state he also married his first wife. He set out for the west when twenty-five years of age, to make a home where there would be better opportunities than in the crowded east. The pioneers had among them few more estimable men. A young mechanic of mark in the early days, when there was only one family in Madison, and growing up with the place, figuring in its gayeties in the first New Year's festivities, which lasted two days, a guest at the first wedding when a young woman in Mrs. Peck's household became the wife of Jairus S. Potter, his name is interwoven with most of the early celebrations, as well as with many later responsibilities.

The community was very limited when that marriage occurred, on the 1st of April, 1838, and the better half was held in high esteem. Gen. Simeon Mills, not then holding military rank, but a prosperous storekeeper, and in office, rose betimes to gather an early bouquet of wild flowers to grace the occasion. The spring, in honor of the event of course, came early, or that feature would have been wanting from the festival. The wedding ceremony was performed by Mr. Eben Peck, in his capacity as justice of the peace, and when the dance followed, the better half of the Peck family played on the violin, assisted by Luther, her

husband's brother, according as the exigencies of the time demanded. Mrs. Peck played well, but she danced well also, and there were so few ladies to take the floor that one could hardly be spared to form the orchestra. The disparity of the sexes was happily expressed by Mrs. Peck: "You cannot call it succotash; there was too much corn for the beans." Both bride and bridegroom have since passed away, but the memory of the event is part of the domestic history of the city. Mrs. Prosper B. Bird was present, and she yet remains to honor and grace our community, a living memento of a time from which sad memories, mingled with few delights, yield a gentle perfume as of bruised but never dying flowers. Mr. Potter died in Madison, somewhere about the year 1841. His wife's maiden name was Elizabeth Allen. There were two Potters then in the village, Jairus, known as "Long Potter," for he was a man of great altitude, and Horace, whose more stunted proportions caused him to be known as "Short Potter." Miss Allen, after considering "the long and the short of it," did not follow the maxim "of two evils choose the least," consequently there was more husband in her home than in any other household near the capitol. Darwin Clark was good for many things, besides, being good company, in the early days, as thank goodness, he still remains. In the summer of 1837, when Wm. A. Wheeler came here to erect a steam saw mill west of the foot of Butler street, on the bank of lake Mendota, the young cabinet maker was able to give valuable

assistance toward the erection of the works; and although owing to the fact that the engine and machinery had to be brought from Detroit, operations were not commenced until nearly the end of the year; much of the timber used in the old capitol was sawed in Wheeler's mill. The McDonalds, the Smiths, and others whose names have escaped us, who mingled in the throng when Commissioner Bird and his wife led off in the "Virginia reel" or "Hunt the squirrel," will never have for us more than a phantom existence, as they "come like shadows, so depart;" but friend Clark is a reality.

The days in which Judge Doty, treasurer of the board of commissioners, came in from Green Bay with specie and currency to pay the men, guarded by Capt. John Symington and a squad of soldiers from Fort Howard, were not without their charm; more especially when we see the commissioner laying aside the pomp of office to stand sponsor at the informal christening of the first white child born in Madison; and editor Sholes, who was then in his company, must have been favorably impressed by our band of pioneers. Some four years later we find the Hon. C. C. Sholes identified with the publication of the *Enquirer* newspaper, the material of which journal was eventually removed to Milwaukee from this city. Mr. Sholes was more actively identified with Kenosha. The name most intimately associated with our early press is that of the Hon. George Hyer; but his work in that capacity will appear in reviewing our news-

paper history. He was one of our pioneers, and before Madison was platted, he had accustomed himself to thread his devious track through the woods, having on one occasion made his way from Milwaukee to Green Bay, and on another in 1837, from the same starting point to Rock river settlement, when he was specially sworn in by old Solomon Juneau to carry the mail.

In the earliest apportionment of offices for Dane county, the name of John Stoner occurs as treasurer, and that of R. L. Ream, father of the famous Vinnie Ream, a Madisonian, as register of deeds. Ream succeeded to the old log house erected by Eben Peck, after another residence had been built for that family. Gen. Geo. P. Delaplaine was surveyor, Col. Bird was the first sheriff, William A Wheeler, assessor, Adam Smith, collector, and the three commissioners were, Simeon Mills, Eben Peck and Jeremiah Lycan, with LaFayette Kellogg for clerk. The father of Vinnie Ream assumed the management of the pioneer "Tavern Stand," as Mrs. Peck phrases it, when Eben and his wife gave their attention to farming, unfortunately for themselves, cultivating a piece of land which had been deeded to them by mistake. The change was made in the spring of 1838, and the birth place of the sculptress was torn down in 1857, after twenty years of peculiarly eventful service. The old Madison House, the picture of which we preserve, was, under the presidency named, the resort of the aristocracy of Wisconsin, and it long continued to be the

stage house. According to Judge Knapp, the charges were not very moderate, as "two feet by six of floor could be had for the night," only upon payment of "two pence per square foot," and "the weary traveler might spread his own blanket, using his saddle or portmanteau for a pillow, rejoicing that he had so good a bed." The other hotels were no more sumptuous than Ream's, as in all of them, the lakes, the woods and the slow coming "prairie schooner," were drawn upon liberally to supply the table. Sleeping accommodation was at a premium everywhere, even after the American Hotel, the largest on the ground, was raised.

The first treasurer of Dane county, John Stoner, was born in Washington county, Maryland, in 1791, consequently, when he died in this city, in 1872, he was in his eighty-first year. He served in the war of 1812, and was one of the early arrivals in Madison village. His pioneer log cabin was in the second ward, standing on the lot now occupied by the church of Norwegian Lutherans. The old landmarks are nearly all effaced, so far as they were raised by men in the springs and summers of 1837–8. The log house on the marsh is gone, the first frame house built in the city at the southwest corner of Wilson and Pinckney street, for J. S. Schermerhorn, has given place to a large two story brick dwelling. The old steam mill on the bank of the lake is so entirely gone that it is not easy to find even a trace of its foundations. A grey sandstone slab, erected to mark the spot where a

carpenter named S. Warren was buried in 1838, having been killed by lightning in that summer, cannot be found.

"Chief Justice of the Peace, Seymour," who is mentioned in a very pleasant and appreciative way in "Reminiscences of Madison," by Judge Knapp, loomed large in our early days, at once a pioneer and a celebrity. Mrs. Peck mentions him as possessed of a feather bed, once her property, and containing "over thirty pounds of fresh geese feathers," so that he had ideas of luxury. Judge Pratt says, that "his pipe was part of the man; with that in his mouth, he was clerk in the commissioners' store, kept books, dealt out silks and dry goods, tea and powder; was surveyor of the town plat, only he read the degrees and minutes at the wrong end of the needle; tried causes, civil and criminal, administered justice, mingled largely with equity and common sense. ..... All knew he was the *Gazette*, the very latest edition, and he had under his special care all the affairs of town, state and church. ..... A dreadful sickness came upon him and Seymour lost his pipe, the city losing its best guardian." Gov. Dodge appointed Seymour justice of the peace, upon the recommendation of Eben Peck, when Dane county was organized, and the commissioners set about bridging the Cat sh, and ne t- ing the jail, reducing "the bounty on wolves' scalps," to render their funds available for such works as have been suggested. Wm. N. Seymour published a directory of Madison, a copy of which is in the hands of

the Historical Society. He has lived to see several other works of a similar character, but none of them more interesting than his own. The stroke of paralysis under which he fell in November, 1859, has not deprived him of the satisfaction of witnessing the steady growth of the city, the infant steps of whose village days were in part guided by himself. His form is well known on the streets, and most of the old pioneers can tell of some good deed in his career, which retains for him a pleasant place in their memories. The Masonic fraternity stood by the "Chief Justice of the Peace" in his affliction, and by their aid he is comfortably circumstanced.

Gen. Geo. P. Delaplaine was county surveyor. We find him on the Fourth of July, 1839, reading the Jeffersonian Declaration, when William T. Sterling was orator of the day, and the music on the occasion was anything but first class. The dinner that day consisted of bacon and fish, with the addition of much whisky. Customarily the dinner comprised fish and bacon with less whisky. The celebration lasted three days. The pioneer Geo. P. Delaplaine came from Milwaukee to clerk in Jas. Morrison's store, and his ability no less than his high character soon made him master of the situation. His name stands honorably identified with most of the movements in early days for the advantage of Madison. Another of the early pioneers whose life has been honorable to the community, although there are no brilliant deeds to be pointed to in his career, is Mr. E. M. Williamson,

of Pinckney street, one of our earliest school teachers, and identified with the establishment of the Episcopal church, which will be found more particularly mentioned elsewhere. Many names that should have had notice have been omitted, but that is inevitable because of our limitations. The position and labors of Mr. and Mrs. Peck have already been briefly indicated. Eben Peck started overland to California when the gold fever spread over this western country, and it is supposed that he was slain by the Indians on the plains, but there is no record of his death, and it is claimed that he was heard from at a later date. His wife, a brave and able woman, has written many piquant papers, descriptive of pioneer life, in which her own experiences made her proficient. In her house the earliest visitors to Madison found a home, in her dining room the gayeties of several seasons found their earliest expression. Her husband as justice of the peace united in the bonds of wedlock the first couple lawfully married in this city, and after the irrevocable knot had been tied, as we have seen, the violin of the justice's lady gladdened the hearts of the assembled throng while they threaded the mazes of the dance. In the old log house was born Miss Wisconsiana Victoria Peck, the first child that saw the light in this city, concerning whose christening some particulars are given. Mrs. Peck and her husband were the pioneer settlers, and subsequently the lady became the first settler in Baraboo, where she still resides.

Mrs. Prosper Burgoyne Bird, formerly Miss Hewitt, another of our pioneers, came of good revolutionary stock, and was one of the most valued of our early residents. Her husband built a house for her in this city, while she remained in Milwaukee. There was only one house in Janesville when the lady came through to her destination. The party had seen enough of pioneer life to have discouraged most people, before they left Milwaukee. While they were neighbors of "Old Solomo," as the Indians always called Col. Juneau, they witnessed an election, in which the principal argument used in favor of the successful ticket was a dipper placed in a barrel of whisky, by the founder of the Cream City. The potency of such logic was manifested in the fact that a sober man could hardly be found in the settlement at the close of the day. The first boat launched on Lake Michigan, "The Juneau," kissed the water while Mrs. Bird was remaining in Milwaukee. The party set out on their road altogether, but at the last moment Mr. Bird, having business to transact on account of the capitol, for the building of which his brother was acting commissioner, returned to the village, leaving his courageous wife to prosecute the journey without his guidance, until sundown the following day. The ferryman at Janesville was not at home, so the little band went round by Beloit, where there were two log houses, one on each side of the river. The home provided for their accommodation was an uninclosed frame building, on the street now known as Webster

street, on lot eight, and the building was not completed until April, 1838. During part of the interval, Mrs. Bird resided in a log house on the site where Kentzler's livery stable now stands, and afterwards moved into the old log boarding house near Mr. Pyncheon's residence. There were, when Mrs. Bird arrived in the village, only four log houses; that built for Mr. Catlin, and partly consumed by fire; that occupied by Mrs. Peck, and known long after as the Madison House; the residence of Mr. Stoner, already mentioned; and one other of less note. Such an addition to the village was important.

The workmen engaged upon the capitol boarded with the newly arrived housekeeper, and there were rough times and hard work for all hands when she began her pioneer experience in this locality. In Mrs. Bird's mother's home the first death in the new settlement occurred from typhoid fever, and the second happened from her own house having been struck by lightning. The cemetery then in use forms now a part of the university grounds. The Bird family was one of the most numerous and energetic among the pioneers, but a volume would be required to record their several fortunes and adventures.

Col. Wm. B. Slaughter, whose eloquence is still the pride of his fellow townsmen, was born in 1797, in Culpepper county, Virginia, and came to reside in Green Bay in 1835, where he was appointed register of the land office. While serving as a member of the

legislative council of Michigan, which assembled at Green Bay in the winter of that year, he initiated the memorial for the organization of Wisconsin. About the same date, he entered the lot held by St. Cyr, near this city, and gave the half-breed $200 for his improvements. When the capital was located, he made his residence where the City of the Four Lakes was platted by M. L. Martin, Judge Doty and himself, and continued a resident until 1845, when Virginia attracted him to his old home. On the commencement of the war, the colonel was appointed commissary and quarter-master by the president; and now, nearly eighty years of age, he is one of the most active and intellectual of the residents in this city. There are but few men to be found who, from their personal experience, know more about Madison from the beginning. Soon after the capitol was commenced, and when Commissioner Bird's residence was small and cold, Sheriff Childs from Green Bay mentions a visit to Col. Wm. B. Slaughter's, on the west bank of the Fourth Lake, near Pheasant Branch. Long before this time, all the land business of the territory had passed through the colonel's hands at Green Bay. When the location of the capital was under debate, and long before it came to the vote, Col. Slaughter made arrangements with St. Cyr, under which the half-breed enabled the colonel to enter the tract in the summer or autumn of 1835, and he subsequently conveyed an interest to Judge Doty, with the hope that the capital would be there located. The arrange-

ment with Gov. Mason of Michigan, and the purchase of the peninsula for $1,500, wrecked Col. Slaughter's project, seeing that he was absent in the south while the session was being held at Belmont, upon which the location turned. Sheriff Childs, already mentioned, says that the votes which determined the matter were those cast by representatives who knew that their several localities would be erected into a distinct territory soon afterwards. Iowa had six councilmen and representatives, so that the influence of the outsiders really determined the issue, and the country west of the Mississippi was separately organized with little delay. Childs says that the town plat of Madison was divided into twenty shares, and that he was offered one share for $200, apparently with the hope that he would in that way be induced to vote for the location. His Roman virtue was equal to the emergency, and Green Bay was pleased with the course taken by him. Col. Slaughter's site had been very wisely chosen, upon the historical ground where Gen. Dodge held his "talk" with the Winnebagoes, when the Black Hawk war had begun, and after Stillman had sustained his defeat.

Josiah A. Noonan did not come to our territory until the year 1838, and in 1840, removed to Milwaukee, whence, still later, he migrated to Chicago to take charge of the *Industrial Age;* but as the founder of the first newspaper issued in this city, the *Wisconsin Enquirer*, he must have a place among our pioneers. The first press and printing materials

bought for this enterprise, were thrown overboard, off Mackinaw, in Lake Huron, in a storm, on the voyage from Buffalo to Green Bay, and in consequence the *Racine Argus*, with its material, was purchased and removed, to do duty in the capital. The paper was published on King street, in a room over the commissioners' store, and eventually some of the ablest journalists in the state were identified with its career. C. C. Sholes became a partner in the paper in 1839, as is elsewhere mentioned, and it lived until June, 1843, taking an active part in all public affairs until its death. Judge Knapp was for some time its editor. That gentleman has left on record a brief description of the Fourth of July celebration in 1839, and according to his winged words, there was no lack of spirit among the celebrants. There was an oration, and the declaration in proper order, but a liberal supply of "Pecatonica" and "Rock River," the latter a peculiarly strong water, with an orchestra consisting of two violins and a flute, filled every soul with martial music. A fat steer which had been brought to grace the tables of the citizens on the Fourth, was forgotten until three days later, when the keg was empty, and there was then but little superfluous fat upon the bones of the delayed sacrifice. It must not be supposed that all the citizens were affected by "old rye," but the carrier, who had brought the steer, had kept the secret of its whereabouts, until his senses were sobered by the emptying of the keg.

Abel Rasdall cannot be utterly omitted from a

record of our pioneers; his bravery during the troubles and his good faith at all times, entitle him to be mentioned, but he has been referred to at large in the first chapter, as will be remembered.

The schoolmaster was in request, but the number of pupils was not great. Mr. Edgar S. Searle taught school in the summer of 1839, and was followed by Mr. E. M. Williamson, mentioned among our pioneers, who had six pupils. Mr. Williamson taught at the corner of Pinckney and Dayton streets, in a very primitive building, and his love for the task, which was continued until 1842, must have been much greater than his remuneration. Mr. Theodore Conkey succeeded him in the winter of 1842. Miss Pierce was at the same time engaged in the tuition of girls in an old building near the spot where Dean's block is now standing. Another step in the same direction, aiming at the improvement of adults, was an association for church purposes, entered into in July, 1839. The instrument of association indicated the establishment of a parish of the Protestant Episcopal Church as the object of the members. There were sixteen signatures to the document.

CHAPTER IV.

THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

The example set by the Pilgrim Fathers in 1636, in preparing for the foundation of Harvard, less than sixteen years after their landing on this continent, has been fruitful in suggesting like works all over the Union. An endowment of public lands for a seminary in Wisconsin was provided by an act of congress which was approved on the the 12th of June, 1838. The land thus given amounted to 46,080 acres. Prior to the passage of the congressional act, and anticipating its provisions, the territorial legislature, in January, 1838, prepared to incorporate the University with all the powers and limitations common to such institutions.

The first quorum of the board of visitors stands on record as having met pursuant to adjournment, December 1, 1838, when Henry L. Dodge and John Catlin were chosen treasurer and secretary. Col. Slaughter was one of the most active members, and the requisite steps devolving upon the board were fulfilled. Regents were appointed, and an act was passed specifically incorporating the University, immediately after the inauguration of the state government, in 1848.

The first board consisted of John Bannister, Hiram

Barber, Alex. L. Collins, Julius T. Clark, Henry Bryan, Edw. V. Whiton, John H. Rountree, Eleazer Root, Simeon Mills, Rufus King, Thos. W. Sutherland and Cyrus Woodman. Four of the members were nominated for six years, and the others were appointed, four for four years and four for two only; their successors thereafter to hold office for six years. The present site of the University was purchased from Mr. Aaron Vanderpool of New York, on the 17th of October, 1848, subject to the approval of the legislature; and a building in the village of Madison, erected as a private venture for the purposes of an academy, having been tendered to the regents, rent free, by the citizens, it was determined to open the "department of science, literature, and the arts," by means of a preparatory school, on the first Monday in February, 1849, under the superintendence of Prof. John W. Sterling. The next step was the election of John H. Lathrop, LL. D., as chancellor of the University, at a salary not to exceed $2,000. The preparatory school was opened at the time named, with twenty pupils under Professor Sterling and Chancellor Lathrop. The cabinet of natural history was formed by Horace A. Tenney, who rendered his services as agent free of cost, and gave excellent aid to the institution at all times.

The formal inauguration of the chancellor took place on the 16th of January, 1850, and buildings were erected, the north dormitory in the following year and the south dormitory in 1854, from the in-

come of the University fund. In the same year the first class, consisting of Levi M. Booth and Chas. T. Wakeley, graduated.

The intention of congress in granting a liberal endowment of public lands to the University was to a great extent defeated by manipulations in the legislature, under which the lands were appraised at very inadequate prices, and so passed into the hands of speculators and others, who became the recipients of advantages which should permanently have assisted the intellectual culture of the community. Under such injurious action on the part of honorable members, some of the best lands in the state were preempted, or otherwise obtained, at less than one-fourth of their actual value, and the authorities of the University were powerless to defend the interests entrusted to their charge. The fund necessary for University purposes being thus rendered inadequate, congress was once more approached, and mainly in consequence of the exertions of Gen. Simeon Mills, a further grant of seventy-two sections was obtained. Mr. Tenney, already favorably known by his services, selected the lands thus given for the purposes of learning. The selections made by Mr. Tenney were among the choicest lands in the state, and although there was some delay in reporting them at Washington, in consequence of which private parties procured many of the best, other lands fully equal were eventually procured. Once more the legislature using its powers defeated the express design of the endowment, by ap-

praising the picked lands of the state at $3.00 per acre, reducing a property which was well worth $500,000 to a selling value of only $138,240. Even then the designs of the manipulators were not exhausted, as it was found that by pushing the lands into sale by auction, away from the centers of population, still lower prices could be made to rule, and yet the representations made by the institution were without avail. Even worse, during the summer session of 1854 a bill was hurried through one house, and came very near passing the other, under which all the lands sold, and to be sold, in the interests of the State University, some of which ranged as high as $30.00 per acre in value in open market, should be subject to patent at $1.25, and that all moneys already paid in excess of that amount should be refunded. A proposition more shameful was never submitted to a legislature; but Mr. Tenney, then reporting in the house, and a number of members acting with him, by whom he was called upon for a statement, only succeeded in defeating the nefarious project by two votes. Two purposes were served by the members who voted for the despoilment of the University: one, the enrichment of individual speculators, and the other and more justifiable design was the encouragement of immigration. Precisely similar tactics were pursued when the Agricultural College act was passed by congress in 1862; but no good purpose can be served by recapitulating discreditable details. The Regents of the University faithfully discharged their duties

in the premises, and at length, in 1872, procured the passage of an act granting from the state a sum of $10,000 per annum, as compensation to the University. That amount was not an equivalent for the loss, but it was something to have procured a recognition of the principle, that the lands granted by the federal government for purposes of education, should not have been sacrificed in pursuance of personal gain, or in carrying out schemes to promote immigration, in the lower interests of the territory and state.

The legislature acted for some considerable time as though the funds accruing from the sales of land granted for the University by congress were, in fact, taxes levied upon the state, and in consequence there were dark days and great causes for discontent among the promoters of learning in this city; but thanks to a more enlightened spirit which now prevails among the directors of the press of the state, and in the main, among the people at large, a better understanding has been reached. The fact that the University was doing its best under the disadvantages incidental to want of funds, during the dark and troubled times, is now admitted on all hands; and it is too apparent to require comment, that the cause of that poverty consisted in the breach of trust of which legislators were guilty. A bill aiming at the reorganization of the University was introduced, and came near passing both houses of the legislature in 1858. The chancellor of the institution, taking up the leading ideas of that measure, carried out most of the proposed al-

terations during the same year, with the concurrence of the board of regents. Chancellor Lathrop suggested the several changes apparently demanded by the public, and in pursuance of the change, resigned his position as chancellor, which was afterwards filled by Henry Barnard, LL. D., who united therewith the duties of professor of normal instruction. Chancellor Lathrop was elected professor of ethical and political science, but he subsequently resigned his office, and was reëlected to the position he had previously filled as president of the University of Missouri. Beyond doubt, that gentleman fell a sacrifice to circumstances not properly chargeable to himself; but his retirement, and the change of administration consequent thereupon, permitted the complete establishment of a good understanding between the people and their most valuable institution. The new scheme originated by the retiring chancellor was, in effect, a full recognition of the right of the people to control the University, and it devolved upon them the fullest share of responsibility.

Chancellor Barnard was unable to attend to the duties to which he had been called, thus the scheme which was to have united the University with the normal school system of the state failed completely. Eventually, in consequence of continued ill health, his resignation was accepted in January, 1861. The civil war, and the stress upon every department of the state, joined to the diminution of the number of students, rendered a reduction of expenditures inevitable. Prof.

John W. Sterling was made dean of the faculty, with the powers of chancellor, and schemes of retrenchment were adopted which enabled the University to continue its operations, without asking aid from the legislature, during the war. The University was largely represented in the army, and a military company was formed among the students, which has eventuated in the establishment of a military department, giving effect to an excellent suggestion made to the regents by the faculty. The drill undertaken to secure military efficiency has conferred mental as well as physical vigor. In the year 1864, all the class was in the field, and for the first time during ten years, there was no commencement.

A normal department was opened in 1863, under the care of Prof. C. H. Allen, and the result was in every way satisfactory. The apprehension commonly expressed, that the introduction of ladies would lower the standard of culture, has been proved groundless. Prof. Pickard succeeded to the control of that department in 1866, when the "female college" was established, which continued until 1873, since which time all departments of the University have very properly been thrown open to both sexes, without those invidious distinctions, which too long have evidenced the want of genuine culture among men.

Gifts made to the institution by generous citizens, have done much to increase its efficiency. Gov. Jas. T. Lewis made a donation to enable the board of regents to bestow an annual prize. The amount was

only $200, but the regents having invested the fund, were enabled in June, 1874, to offer a prize of $20, which sum is to be awarded every year, under the name of "the Lewis prize," to the writer of the best essay, received in the competition of that year. The Scandinavian library, known as "Mimers library," was a contribution from private individuals in 1868, through the agency of Prof. R. B. Anderson. The collection now aggregates about one thousand volumes of Scandinavian literature, and its value can hardly be stated. The world-famous Ole Bull was induced by Mr. Anderson to increase the library fund by giving a concert in the assembly chamber, and the sum thus obtained was very advantageously expended in Norway by the professor, who made a voyage thither in 1872 for the purpose, and procured at the same time valuable contributions from some of the ablest professors and most distinguished Norwegian scholars. The books obtained by the several means indicated render the Scandinavian library one of the best in the United States. The "Johnson student's aid fund" was in part due to the same agency. The sum given by the Hon. John A. Johnson, some time senator for this district, is $5,000, the interest of which is to be applied from the time of the donation, 1876, until the end of the present century, to assist indigent Scandinavian students, with sums not to exceed $50 per annum in any individual case, nor to aggregate more than $200 in the aid afforded to one person; with this further proviso, that in every case the student assisted

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shall understand that the advance is a loan, and not a gift, and that whenever it may be in his power, he shall be expected to repay the sum to the fund, to increase its efficiency for future operations. On and after the end of this century the fund will be available for all students, irrespective of nationality, on precisely similar terms. Clearly, the object of the donor is to break down whatever barriers may at present exist, to the complete unification of the Norse element in our population with the great body of the people, made up of all the nations of the world. It would be difficult to imagine a form in which enlightened munificence can more elegantly express itself, than by such contributions to the improvement of the State University, and it is gratifying to observe that other persons are preparing to follow in the path thus nobly indicated. Most of the universities and scholastic institutions in Europe have been enriched by just such acts of individual munificence, generally by way of bequests, taking effect upon the death of the donor.

The state bestowed upon the University the building which had been occupied as the soldiers' orphans home, with the intention that it should be used as the location for a medical school or department; but for many reasons it was found inexpedient to carry out that design, and the regents having memorialized the legislature to that effect, have been permitted to sell the structure and grounds for $18,000. The Norwegians, who have made the purchase, will establish an academy and theological seminary in the building,

which will thus become a considerable addition to the educational facilities in Madison.

Returning now from a prolonged digression on the subject of gifts, to resume the narrative temporarily broken, we may say, that in June, 1865, the war having come to an end, it was thought advisable to reorganize the State University, but in consequence of an offer of the chancellorship having been declined, Prof. Sterling continued in his position until the following year. The increase of students and the improving aspect of affairs generally, so far as the University was concerned, led to a reconstruction, which was aided by a vacation of all the chairs in 1866, whereupon Pres. Paul A. Chadbourne was called to the management of the University from the agricultural college of Massachusetts. Prof. Sterling alone, of all the old faculty, was retained and reëlected.

The change made in 1866 entitled the University to the advantages accruing under the act of congress, which granted lands for agricultural colleges. The alterations necessary were embodied in an act, which was approved on the 12th of April, 1866, and thereupon the county of Dane issued bonds to the amount of $40,000 for the purchase of lands for an experimental farm contiguous to the university grounds. The requisite funds were provided and the farm procured, but two professors in turn declined the nomination as president, and the members of the old faculty were recalled for another year. After certain amendments had been made in the regulations, as to the several

departments being open to both sexes on precisely similar terms, Prof. Chadbourne accepted the presidency in 1867, and the work of reconstruction proceeded.

Since that time, the state has pursued a more liberal and enlightened policy towards the University. The educational power of the institution has been felt in the community, in the presence and force of men trained therein, or in kindred establishments, and now editing the leading journals of the state, or filling other responsible representative positions. The secretary of state, in his report for 1866, recognized the fact, that Wisconsin had not appropriated one dollar toward the support of the University, but had absorbed from the endowment given by the general government, sums aggregating more than $10,000, in the form of charges for taking care of the lands, besides reducing the value of the property in question, so that the fund arising from the interest had decreased $7,000 per annum in less than two years. The action of Dane county in affording substantial help was speedily followed by compensatory measures in the legislature. In the year 1867, an appropriation of $7,303.76 per annum was made for a term of ten years, and it was supposed that a like amount would be granted in perpetuity as an act of simple justice; but, as will be seen, a much more generous arrangement has been effected. The charge unwisely levied by the state upon the University, property for taking care of its lands, was at the same time abandoned.

Three years later, in 1870, a sum of $50,000 was appropriated to erect a female college, that being the first sum actually granted by Wisconsin in aid of her own University. In the year 1875, upon proper representations as to the necessity for additional buildings, the legislature appropriated $80,000 to enable the regents to proceed with the erection of Science Hall, now rapidly nearing completion; and still later, during the present year, an act has been passed repealing all other measures of appropriation touching the revenues of the institution, and giving, by way of liberal acquittance for every error in the past, an annual tax of one-tenth of a mill on the dollar, on the valuation of the state, upon the condition, that from and after July, 1876, all tuition shall be free to every citizen of Wisconsin. The line of policy thus indicated, places the State University on a sound basis, and will not fail to establish the character of our people thoughout the union. The struggle for life has ended, and the munificence of the legislature, expressing the will of the community, will materially aid in developing the resources of the state. The line of conduct pursued in the beginning was an aberration, such as we are not likely to see repeated.

A desire to narrate in the proper order, and in a connected way, the several items of financial policy which, since 1866, have characterized the legislature, has led to a deviation from the straight course in describing the steps by which the regents and the faculty have discharged their duties; but allowances can be

made for that offense in the presence of such admirable provocation. There will be no further need to break the continuity of the narrative.

The University has now a department of engineering and military tactics, to which has been added a department of civil and mechanical engineering and military science. Mining, metallurgy and engineering as connected with mines, have also received attention; and the department of agriculture, a branch of training second to none in importance, is very slowly advancing in appreciation as well among the people as in the minds of the regents. Efforts have been made to render this branch of education effective, but up to the present time there have been no agricultural students. The Law Department, under the able Dean of the Faculty, Prof. J. H. Carpenter, aided by the best authorities in the state, deserves the very highest encomiums.

President Chadbourne's labors, under the reconstructed board, and the better tone of public opinion, gave an impetus to educational effort. The University became more worthy of support, a better exponent of scientific culture; and the leading minds in the community recognized its higher usefulness. The increase of students consequent upon those improvements, rendered additional buildings necessary, and the want has been in part supplied, but the requirements of the institution will continue to increase with the growing importance of the community. There cannot be finality in supplying the wants of an

intellectual people whose numbers and demands in the realm of knowledge are daily expanding. Already there are murmurs because of the want of an observatory and astronomical instruments. There can be no question that these requirements will be supplied.

President Chadbourne was obliged to retire in consequence of ill health in 1870, and his place was temporarily supplied by Vice President Sterling, during whose incumbency, at first as a matter of necessity, and afterwards as a matter of principle, young women were admitted to recite with any of the classes. The change has proved beneficial. President Twombly, D. D., was elected in 1871, and continued in office until 1874, when President Bascom, LL. D., D. D., was called to the work. Under the two officers last named in succession, but more especially under President Bascom, the institution has grown in usefulness and in public favor, and there is no reason to doubt that the good understanding, fully established, will be maintained.

The income of the University from all sources, now amounts to about $80,000 per annum, and with the growth of the state generally, the prosperity of the institution will steadily keep pace. Henceforth there will be no reason why every young man and young woman in Wisconsin, having an ambition to possess the advantages of complete training, should not cultivate the powers with which God has blessed them, in the development of their intellectual faculties, under

the sanctions of religion, and with all the benefits accruing from well applied moral force.

President Bascom is steadily and very wisely reducing the amount of preparatory work, which was at first forced upon the University, and he states that in carrying out that reform, he is largely assisted by the High School Law prepared by Professor Searing, the state superintendent of public instruction, whose experience in the work of tuition and training enabled him to initiate a measure, which will grow in favor continually, so far as its main features are concerned. The University and the high schools of the state will give to Wisconsin in the mass a much higher intellectual status than was possessed by Athens, even in its palmiest days; but the work that has been accomplished must be accepted as only an indication of the progress yet to be achieved. The men and women engaged in the task have won popular appreciation and regard, without which no good result could be hoped for; and with that helpful condition attained, everything is possible.

CHAPTER V.

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The state library dates from the earliest days of our existence as a territorial government, the first purchase of books having been made in 1837, since which time the collection has been largely increased. The State Historical Society was organized on the 30th of January, 1849, and its treasures now comprise by far the best collection of materials for northwestern history that can be found anywhere in this western country. There was at one time a superior collection in Chicago, but the great fire unfortunately destroyed that, among other priceless treasures. The organization of the society was suggested in the *Mineral Point Democrat* of October 22, 1845, by Chauncy C. Britt, but notwithstanding the support given to the project by the whole of the press, it was not found possible to carry it into effect until the date mentioned, more than three years later. Even then it was not a vigorous existence, upon which the association entered. Events called off the attention of some, sickness and misfortune impeded others, and the act of incorporation was not procured until March, 1853, when there were not fifty volumes in the library. In the month of January following, a com-

plete reorganization having been effected, a vote of $500 per annum was subsequently procured from the legislature to assist in attaining the objects aimed at by the promoters; and the first annual report for the year 1854 showed very considerable progress. There were already more than one thousand volumes in the library and promises of assistance and coöperation had been received from numerous societies on this continent and in Europe, as well as from American authors whose names are to-day more honorable to the nation than our material riches. Collections of autographs, portraits, and life sized pictures had already been commenced, including mementoes of our worthiest men, and those lines of effort have been persevered in with great success to the present time, until the gallery of the Historical Society has become singularly complete. With the report for 1854 were presented many valuable and interesting documents forming parts of the contemporary and more remote history of the northwest, in a striking way illustrating the importance of the society. One paper was a translation from the French, setting forth the policy which the soldiery of that nation should pursue toward the Chippewas and Foxes; another an English record of the days when the British forces had taken possession of Green Bay and other frontier posts, soon after the reduction of Canada by the English, and a very interesting appendix consisted of Jas. W. Biddle's recollections of Green Bay in 1816–17, about the time that this country really passed under Amer-

ican rule. The discriminating reader is of course aware that although the British should have surrendered this country in 1783, there were excuses made for the retention of Detroit and other posts until Jay's treaty was made, and that even after that date it was not until the end of the war of 1812 that the English authorities abandoned their manipulations with the Indians in this territory. The conduct of the Chippewas in hoisting the English flag at Sault Ste Marie in 1820, and defying Gov. Cass, was an event of still later occurrence, and the courage with which the old General tore down the insolent bunting, in the face of the Indians, won for him honest admiration. James Duane Doty, who was then traveling in the suite of Gov. Cass, assisted in hoisting the Union colors, and thereby increased his favor with the governor of Michigan. The drain on the material resources of England, caused by long continued wars against Napoleon, ended by the banishment of that ruler to St. Helena in 1815–16, made it inexpedient for the nation to continue its system of annuities to Tomah and the Menomonees, as well as to other Indian allies. The change was announced in 1817, and Mr. Biddle's recollections embrace that period and event, as well as much other matter that deserves recapitulation. The customs of Green Bay as to limited marriages, and transfers of marital engagements, among the *voyageurs*, fur traders and their semi Indian squaws, read like the records of South Sea Island life, with a few business like variations. There

had not been a priest in Green Bay for some time, and Judge Reaume, whose commission was said to have been given by Gen. Harrison, or earlier by the British, was for many years the only justice. Nobody could say when his authority first claimed recognition, but on the other hand nobody presumed to question its potency. "The Judge's old jack knife," sent by the constable, was a sufficient summons for any real or assumed offender, and the judgment of the bench could be influenced by a present, so that in one respect he resembled Lord Chancellor Bacon; but like the more celebrated man last mentioned, he was not without many excellent points, and his usefulness was beyond question. Gov. Cass recognized the substantial worth of Judge Reaume and gave him an appointment as associate justice, toward the end of his career, after the organization of the territory of Michigan.

The state will not readily comprehend how much is due to the labors of the Historical Society, and to its corresponding secretary, Lyman C. Draper, in the procurement and preservation of the treasures amassed by the society; but the Union and the reading world will some day recognize their worth, and this city cannot fail to reap honor in having been the birthplace of the institution.

Col. Whittlesey's "Tour Through Wisconsin in 1832," written in 1838, gives a vivid and life-like description of the Black Hawk War, but our space will not allow of such extracts as might be desired,

and it is to be hoped that some person favored by the society, will embody in a few volumes the choicer matter in its priceless collection. For the present it is impossible even to enumerate the contributions that lie before us, and it is necessary to confine ourselves to a bare mention of only a few of the chief items of interest. Major H. A. Tenney, whose services to the community in many ways have been beyond praise, has given an admirable *precis* of "Early Times in Wisconsin," written in this city in 1849, after he had succeeded in buttonholing Col. Brigham, and had collated the information thus obtained, with knowledge from innumerable other sources. The first settler in Dane county was not inclined to write his recollections, but in his manly and genial way he was induced to talk of his early experiences, and *currente calamo*, Major Tenney converted his veracious words into history, which must always be the foundation of Wisconsin's records.

The second annual report showed that the Historical Society had increased its store by 1,065 volumes during the year 1855, and that in every other respect it was growing in usefulness, with experience. The picture gallery then consisted of twenty-five paintings, besides which the likenesses of numbers of local and national celebrities had been promised as additions to the collection. No less than forty-seven portraits, chiefly of pioneers and friends of Wisconsin, had then been engaged, nearly all of which were afterwards supplied. We are almost entirely at a loss in general

history, when we attempt to recall the features of thousands of men and women with whose deeds the world may be said to be familiar, yet "the counterfeit presentment" is often the best commentary upon the actual career of a person. Could we only be sure as to which of the several pictures, busts and casts, said to have been made at various times and places, of the player and poet, William Shakspere, was really taken from his features, in life or in death, it would be much easier to pronounce upon the question whether the wool-comber's son, who married Anne Hathaway, was truly the writer of the plays and sonnets that bear his name, or only the stalking horse of a still greater personage, the founder of our modern system of investigation. The pictures then in the gallery of the society were particularized, and where possible and necessary, as in the case of Black Hawk, the prophet, and in other such, certified to by the then librarian, Prof. S. H. Carpenter, in an excellent report on his particular branch of the society's possessions. The library has gone on increasing in every feature with accelerating rapidity every year, so that in 1857 the volumes aggregated 3,122, exclusive of pamphlets and unbound newspapers; in the year following, 4,146; in 1862 there were 14,400 volumes; in 1866, when the change was made from the basement of the Baptist Church to the suite of rooms in the capitol now occupied, there were 21,000 volumes and documents; in 1868, the Tank Library donation added 4,812 volumes, and the number of books, bound and unbound, had

increased to 31,505, which in 1872, when the last publication appeared, showed a total of 50,530. The supplementary catalogue, in August, 1875, showed a further expansion to 65,000, and the gratifying increment goes on with continuous energy.

There are now in the galleries more than one hundred oil paintings of noteworthy men, a feature of surpassing value. The cabinet of pre-historic relics contains nearly ten thousand specimens of the tools, ornaments and weapons of the stone age, in many respects second to none in the world. The copper era is illustrated by even a still more valuable collection, which has latterly been transferred to the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, an assemblage of celts, spearheads and knives, in unalloyed copper, such as all Europe cannot equal. The maps and other valuables which are preserved in this institution would alone repay all the outlay that the state has incurred in supporting the invaluable movement, with which it is an honor to have been associated, as even the humblest pains-taking assistant.

The Tank collection above mentioned deserves more detailed notice. One of the earliest pioneers in Wisconsin was Otto Tank, whose widow, the daughter of a clergyman in Zeist, in Holland, inherited from her father his exceedingly choice collection of works, amounting to more than 5,000, inclusive of pamphlets, and this great treasure was by Mrs. Tank freely given to the State Historical Society, the cost of removal from Holland to this country being covered by a legis-

lative appropriation. In the next year a full set of Patent Office Reports, which cost the donors no less than $12,500 gold, and which covers the whole range of invention since the year 1617, the year following the deaths of Shakspere and Cervantes, were presented to the Historical Society by the British government, through the intervention of the Hon. Charles Francis Adams, late minister to the court of St. James. The favor thus conferred does not end with the donation named, as the society will continue to receive the series of publications from the Patent Office in London, at the rate of about one hundred volumes per year, and thus the inventive genius of this state will continue to be stimulated by the opportunity at all times to inspect what has been accomplished and attempted, and what is still within the range of tentative effort among our brethren on the other side of the Atlantic. Like donations may be expected from every other European government, when the purposes of the institution are made known in the proper quarters.

To continue such an enumeration would prove tedious to the average reader, and in consequence, we refer our friends for more complete details to the reports and catalogues of the society, and the rooms in the state capitol, which already are too small to do justice to an always increasing literary, archaic and artistic treasure. Mr. Draper has proved himself, in an exceptional degree, "the right man in the right place," one of those whose deeds will live after them, and to him

more than to any other individual, the state and this city owe the wonderful growth which we have utterly failed to chronicle according to its merits. Those who have been associated with him best know his peculiar fitness for the task to which his life has been devoted, and none of them will grudge the patient and modest worker the credit to which he is honestly entitled. His name has been the *open sesame* to numerous collections, and to innumerable pockets, from which the resources of the society have been enriched, and his zeal has contributed to induce the legislature to assist the movement by appropriations which, without great economy, must still have been wholly inadequate, while his example has induced hundreds to become willing laborers in the good cause.

The lover of books cannot pass from such an admirable collection without pausing for a moment to gossip about some few of the immortals, whose genius must shine upon the printed page forever, as the stars begem the firmament. Said one of the vulgar rich, who had built for himself a mansion, "Send me enough books, handsomely bound, to fill a library." That was "the be all and the end all" of his care, or taste, in the matter, the bindings in Russia leather being of greater moment than the contents, or even, may be, the authors' names. Not in that spirit would James Russel Lowell feast on the lettered wealth with which the world grows truly rich. Not so will any loving soul approach literature, the highest gift of man to man. Said Wordsworth:

"Books, we know,
Are a substantial world, both pure and good;
Round these, with tendrils strong as flesh and blood,
Our pastime, and our happiness will grow."

Says Lowell: "There is to us a sacredness in a book, ...we live over again the author's lonely labors, and tremulous hopes; we see him.....doubtfully entering the Mermaid, or the Devil Tavern, or the coffee house of Will, or Button, blushing under the eye of Ben Jonson, or Dryden, or Addison, as if they must needs know him for the author;" as though he might expect to rest, like Shakspere,

"Under a star-y-pointed pyramid,
Dear son of memory, great heir of fame."

How high was the hope of Milton when he essayed the calling of an author: "By labor and intent study —which I take to be my portion in this life — joined with the strong propensity of nature, I might perhaps leave something so written, to after times, as they should not willingly let it die." "The writer," said the blind bard, "ought himself to be a true poem." Then indeed there comes to be a sacred verity in his words: "A good book is the precious life blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up, on purpose, to a life beyond life." Looking in this aspect upon the page which may instruct the world for a millennial term, as it were, creating "Brave men and worthy patriots, dear to God, and famous to all ages," there is no delight greater than to find some congenial wor-

shipper who will talk or listen while the merits of the masters are expounded, not as they really are, but as our slowly expanding powers enable us to see them, the world's teachers, the intellectual leaders of the race.

Before us, on the desk, lie the volumes of Halliwell's Shakspere, a costly and rare luxury, originally published at $800 per copy, beyond our reach in any other way. The Historical Society enables us to see all that is known about the man with whom the greatest treasure of poetry on this earth is associated. Here are *fac similes* of his writing, and of his father's mark. The deeds and acquittances, and unhappily, also the writs, which tell of the poverty that fell upon the poet's home. Here are figured, as though in very fact, the original documents as they were presented to his eyes, letters and memoranda in which Shakspere and his immediate surroundings moved, in their daily lives. They "fret and strut their hour upon the stage," and we see the homes in which their pleasures and anxieties arrived at fruition. Here Anne Hathaway was wooed and won. There is the rustic bridge on which mayhap the lovers murmured fond hopes, scarce louder than the music of the stream, but such as linked heart to heart for all eternity, while each soul in the sweet obliviousness of youth —

> "Mistook the rustic murmur of their woods,
> For the big waves, that echo round the world."

Turning now from the man and the cottage in which he saw the light, shutting out his financial griefs and successes, banishing John Shakspere and Mary Arden, forgetting Henley street, Stratford, and the family of Lucy, painfully associated with his youthful fortune, we are in London, and the actor is before us, in the old Globe theatre, where he learned how shamefully the average player can mar the best passage, by an ill-mouthed sentence, where he gave force to his advice to the players, by such deliverance as did, indeed, "Suit the action to the word, and the word to the action, with this special observance, that you o'erstep not the modesty of nature." His plays are being acted, and standing in the pit among the commonalty, for which they have paid their penny, every man, day after day, it is possible to forget the fatigues incident to the position, while "The Tempest" is presented, without the charms of modern scenery and the upholsterer's art. The genius of winged words enchains us to the spot, until the end, when we reluctantly recall his own language as our dismissal —

"Our revels now are ended. These, our actors,
As I foretold you, were all spirits, and
Are melted into air, into thin air;
And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve,
And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack behind. We are such stuff

> As dreams are made on; and our little life
> Is rounded with a sleep."

Puritan are we, to our spinal marrow, and the player is not suspected of favoring our "ism," but again and yet again we pervade the enclosure, in which his works are rendered. Sarcasms grate upon our ears, because of the nonconforming spirit with which we are imbued, and the "unclean knight" John Falstaff is, we know, presented as a play upon the peculiarities of the Lollard, Sir John Oldcastle, through whom those who would carry religious reform too far may be impaled; but even in the wildest license of his merriment, who cannot see that there is a love for Falstaff pervading every line of the portraiture. Shakspere was a reformer in his soul. Cassio, when he is betrayed by "Mine Ancient" into drunkenness in the Isle of Cyprus, shows under the film of his lovable nature, the Puritan in his prayer. The new philosophy is in the playwright, not the old dry theology. Within his subtle expression there is a breadth and profundity which shall convey the deepest meaning to unnumbered generations. Othello will forever unfold his simple manhood—

> "Not easily jealous, but being wrought
> Perplexed in the extreme."

And Hamlet unveil his endless dubitations, wandering on the verge of madness, until the purpose of his

life is lost. In him, better than in any other, can we see the mind —

> "Sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought;
> And enterprises of great pith and moment,
> With this regard their currents turn awry,
> And lose the name of action."

Romeo will still come upon the scene, and Shakspere with his perfect face and form, if some traditions can be relied on, may well have been that lover, making immortal pleas for the affection of a lady, whose —

> "Beauty hangs upon the cheek of night,
> Like a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear."

The "sweet sorrow" of that parting will never die out of the memory of the race. Yet while the audience pauses to rest, the demon of ill-applied ambition is on the stage. Macbeth, the story of whose life, in very truth, is warped by the genius of the poet to the doing of murders that were never done, and whom we see uttering the agony of a conscience-smitten soul,

> "Methought I heard a voice cry: 'Sleep no more;
> Macbeth does murder sleep,' the innocent sleep;
> Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care
> The death of each day's life, sore labor's bath,
> Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course."

But the play has ended. Antony, Cæsar, Brutus, call to us in vain; no human power can follow the

beck of this magician through all his charm. "The cry is still they come;" Shylock demanding his pound of flesh, and the gentle Portia defeating him with woman's wit, when her imperishable plea for mercy has been placed upon the record in vain; Lear moans to the midnight storm, as he sallies forth in his agony of sorrow.

"Blow, blow, thou wintry wind,
Thou art not so unkind
As man's ingratitude."

And we see "a man more sinned against than sinning;"

"A poor, infirm, weak and despised old man;"

Broken to worse than the bitterness of death by the experience,

"How sharper than a serpent's tooth, it is
To have a thankless child."

The rage of Coriolanus who "banished Rome" and

"Flutter'd the dovecotes in Corioli;"

The cynic hate of Timon; the noble sorrow of Wolsey who had realized

"How wretched
Is that poor man, that hangs on prince's favors;
There is betwixt that smile we would aspire to,
That sweet aspect of princes, and their ruin,
More pangs and fears than wars or women have;
And when he falls, he falls like Lucifer,
Never to hope again."

The melancholy Jacques, the moody Touchstone, the lovely Rosalind, Puck, Ariel, Titania, the Henry's, Faulconbridge, distorted Richard and a myriad others, born or fashioned from his brain, can never live for us upon the boards that Shakspere trod, but they are here within these volumes, to be called forth whenever sympathetic eyes shall break the magic of their tomb and bring them back to sunlight. Gossip about the immortals, indeed; when, where, and how? Time and space forbid. We have glanced but at one book, and the floods of memory well forth from every crevice of the brain, until the subject is "taboo," and we must turn in haste to other themes.

The state library has been already named, as its chronological right demanded, seeing that it came into being before the capitol was planned. Apart from that feature, it is of great merit as a law library, hardly second to any in the west, and the completeness of the collection long since suggested to the managers the transfer of all its miscellaneous works to the shelves of the Historical Society. The courtesy of the librarian, the perfect order prevailing in the department, and the extensive as well as excellent assortment of works, combine to render the state library, in every sense, an honor to its promoters and to this city. The location occupied by this department in the capitol, adjoining the supreme court and the chambers of the legislature, renders it easy of access to all who are concerned in its advantages.

The city library, in City Hall, and the library at

the University, deserve more lengthened notice than our space will permit, seeing that the witchery of books would infallibly cause an overrunning of our limits, "contrary to the statute thereunto made and provided." Before ending this chapter, it becomes our imperative, as well as our pleasant duty, to acknowledge the manifold kindnesses of Librarian D. S. Durrie, whose own labors as a writer have made him apt to render aid to every one toiling with pen or pencil. His merits need no eulogy, but this word of recognition is due to ourselves.

CHAPTER VI.

BENCH AND BAR.

Naughty people, long ago, in their desire to be smart, dubbed the lawyers "The Devil's Brigade;" but like their commander, the brethren of the long robe are not nearly so black as they are painted. Those who have lived in countries from which courts and lawyers are remote, or still worse, entirely wanting, know that the expounders of law are the defenders of property, liberty, and life. Wisconsin has passed through that perilous era when there was no law but the will of the strongest. The "oldest inhabitant" can still rivet the attention of his hearers, by recounting the manifold pains and penalties incidental to that condition. Judge Reaume, with his cocked hat, regimental coat, broken English, and general appearance of caricature, dispensing eccentric justice, was better than the utter absence of organization, which might otherwise have prevailed in the Green Bay region, where Wisconsin was first peopled. The *Coutumes de Paris* and an odd volume of Blackstone constituted the law library and basis of operations for the old Judge, and his authority came, as it has been surmised, in the first place from George III; afterwards from General Harrison, as Governor of Indiana, and

yet later from Governor Cass. The strangest customs of Paris could hardly cover many of his decisions, contrary to all law, written or unwritten; but in any form, order is to be preferred to the horrors of anarchy. Old Judge Reaume was tolerably wise in his way. Rich suitors, such men as the traders, who constituted a privileged class, and could afford the luxury of an appeal to the supreme court, at Detroit, seldom found cause of offense in his decisions.

Some of the anecdotes concerning Reaume will not bear repetition, but enough remain to illustrate the curious compound which invited the criticisms of the earlier settlers. Free love doctrines, and proposals for limited wedlock, which are now offered as novelties by Mrs. Victoria C. Woodhull, had long been in practice in the frontier country, where the *voyageurs* mated themselves by a kind of marriage, for six months or a year, with Winnebago and Menomonee women. Reaume was the high priest, and his cabin, the altar, where the postulants made their vows and offered up their fees. If a man who had contracted an engagement for a limited period presumed to continue the union after the term had expired, the old Judge sent his constable, carrying his jack knife as the symbol of authority, to compel the parties to come before him, to renew their vows, their license and their payments. There is literally no new thing under the sun. Marriages for six months were sometimes inconvenient, when the *voyageur* was suddenly called to a distant field of operations, but the customs

of the country in such, as well as in some other cases, permitted a transfer of his domestic relations, probably upon the payment of a reduced amount. Reaume was equal to any such emergency, and the elasticity of an unwritten law must have facilitated his operations. He was not the only authority in such matters. There was an Irishman named Campbell, later in the century, who was appointed by the U. S. government, a sub-Indian agent at Prairie du Chien, in 1809–1810, who depended upon civil marriages for part of his emoluments. He would solemnize a contract of marriage for a hundred pounds of flour, that being then the Prairie du Chien currency, and should the parties grow dissatisfied with each other, he made no difficulty about granting a divorce upon the payment of two hundred pounds of the same commodity.

There was law in the territory at that time, and there were courts also, but they were so distant and expensive that few dared indulge. Campbell had a dispute with a well known trader named Brisbois, as to the ownership of a heifer, and the parties being comparatively well to do, manned and provisioned their canoes for a voyage to Cahokia, to procure the services of lawyers, in the old French settlement, about ten miles from Belleville, on the Mississippi. The litigants settled the matter out of court, after expending about $3,000 on a question of right, in which at first the value involved was only eight dollars. Who shall say that Campbell and Brisbois did not enjoy the blessings of civilization? Compared with

such a luxury, the litigants who came before Judge Reaume to procure an adjustment were mercifully dealt with in being ordered, the first to supply the justice with a load of hay, and the second to bring him a load of firewood. Tradition says that the constable was adjudged to pay the costs of the suit, but that portion of the record is not well sustained, and is moreover improbable.

Pinney's Wisconsin Reports, contain by way of an introductory chapter, a very able digest of the condition of this country, as to law, law courts, and social customs, prior to the establishment of genuine local government; and to that publication, the reader, who is desirous to pursue this subject in greater detail, is referred. Our limits only permit a brief glance at this very interesting matter. In the preceding chapter reference has been made to the tardiness with which England relaxed her hold upon this western country long after her treaty obligations should have left the northwest subject to American laws and customs. Practically, it was not until after Waterloo, that we became *bona fide* masters of the soil, there was so wide a margin between *de jure* and *de facto*. Even when that point had been reached, the law was too often a snare for the less wealthy, who could choose between acquiescence in a verdict, possibly unjust, within the jurisdiction of a local judge, of the Reaume or Campbell stamp, and a journey or voyage to Detroit, involving travel of from four to eight hundred miles, for self and witnesses, besides

innumerable expenses. During about seven months of the year, Detroit could be reached by the lakes, in vessels, ill found, of about one hundred tons burthen, but the rest of the year, a journey overland was alone possible, and the hardships and outlay therein involved were ruinous.

Military control prevailed during part of the time, and when, as it sometimes happened, the commanding officer was wise and upright, the result gave but little to be complained about. Unhappily there are brave men whose knowledge is very limited, and whose instincts make but a poor palladium for the liberty of the subject. Still worse, there have been men in command, whose tempers and whose propensities have made them, in their small way, worse tyrants than Sardanapalus. There were at various times men of every different stamp holding sway in the several military posts in this territory, and the people fared well, or ill, as circumstances favored or oppressed them. Judge Doty was obliged at one time, in 1827, after his location as an associate judge at Prairie du Chien and at Green Bay, to land under the musket of a sentry, in obedience to an arbitrary command, which would not allow any canoe to pass the post, without landing to report. Possibly there was something more than a report demanded, where tithes in kind could be levied. Thanks to Judge Doty, the rule was brought to a termination. Men had been subjected to corporal punishment upon the finding of military tribunals, or even upon the word of an

officer, without a trial in any form. Military rule continued in operation within this territory until the year 1824, when Judge Doty entered upon his term of service. Courts and machinery of law were now brought comparatively to the doors of the people, but still the system was cumbrous in the extreme, in consequence of the sparseness of settlement, and appeals continued possible to the supreme court at Detroit. Law and legislation for the territory of Michigan had been dependent upon the governor and the judges, three in number, appointed during good behavior, who formed the legislative council, as well as the executive power, subject only in a remote and inoperative way, to congress, under the organic act. After 1819, a delegate was elected to congress for the whole of the territory of Michigan, which included our own and much more. Four years later an elective legislature was permitted, subject to an appointing power on the part of the president, which allowed him to choose nine to form a council out of the eighteen nominated by the electors.

Imprisonment for debt or for damages was permitted by law in any case where the amount exceeded $5.00. Persons convicted of leading immoral lives were liable to be whipped, or might be sentenced to hard labor for three months, in which case the constable became master of the situation, as he could hire out the prisoner to work for whom he pleased, the wages procured being applied to the benefit of the poor. He was in his own esteem often one of the

poorest. The territory was so impoverished that there were not funds sufficient to print the laws, and in consequence, only titles and digests could be prepared for the use of the courts. This was the condition of affairs when congress made provision for an additional judge for the counties of Brown and Crawford, now Wisconsin, and the county of Michilimackinac. Judge Doty held office for two terms from 1823 to 1832, when Judge Irvin was appointed, and four years later the court was abrogated by the organization of this territory upon the admission of Michigan to the Union. Courts were held once in each year, in each county, from and after October, 1824, when Judge Doty first officiated in Green Bay to dispose of criminal cases. The Hon. H. S. Baird, then acting as attorney general at Green Bay, has since added to the curiosities of our Historical Society the court costume which was worn by the eccentric Judge Reaume.

When the counties of Brown and Crawford were set off by Gov. Cass in 1819, blank commissions were sent, to be filled up, with the names of the several officers to be selected by the settlers; and thus it happened, that men were chosen as chief justices, probate judges and justices of the peace, who knew nothing of law, and were entirely ignorant as to the formalities of courts. They could obtain no books of precedents, nor any assistance to fit themselves for their duties.

Many of the men tried before Judge Doty in the

first term at Green Bay were proceeded against, because they were not legally married to their half-breed or Indian wives; but most of them made the *amende honorable* to the law, by marrying in time to avoid the consequences of their misconduct. It is due to the majority to say, that they had complied with the customs of the country. The appointment of sheriff of Brown county was vacated in 1829, because a man named Hempstead was to be hanged for murder, and neither the old official, whose term had nearly expired, nor the new appointee, would undertake the disagreeable duty. Sheriff Childs was eventually appointed and held the office for many years, being only twice called upon to inflict capital punishment, from 1829 to long after the organization of the territory. This says a great deal for the moral tone of the community, unless it indicates failures of justice.

Justices of the peace did not frequently err on the side of thinking too modestly of their functions and of themselves. Their knowledge of law was peculiarly light, but their processes were of the heaviest. Warrants for arrest were issued in proceedings to recover debts, as though a criminal offense had been charged and sworn. In a case of that kind, mentioned by the Hon. H. S. Baird, a debtor having been arrested preparatory to trying a cause, the justice issued a second warrant to arrest the plaintiff, and upon the constable, who had the defendant in custody, objecting to carry one prisoner along in pursuit of the other, the justice obviated the difficulty

by commanding a traveler to remain and act as custodian of the offender, for whom there was no lockup. Plaintiff and defendant being both under arrest, the suit proceeded in due course, but the most interesting part of the whole business arose when the traveler from Illinois, who had been detained as custodian, would have proceeded on his way, as thereupon the justice, who was also keeper of the hotel, compelled him to pay the expenses of his detention. Shakspere's portraiture of *Dogberry* might find many exemplars in sparsely settled countries, but no man within his jurisdiction would have dared to write that justice down an ass.

Another instance of justice's justice occurred under the observation of Mr. Baird in a log school house in Iowa county. The action was to recover payment on a note of hand, and evidence entirely irrelevant had been repeatedly objected to by counsel, being just as frequently sustained by the court, when the foreman of the jury, taking offense at the action of the lawyer, in renewing his objections, left the jury seat, swearing that he would "remain no longer to hear that fellow," the counsel for the other side. The justice followed the foreman to the door, and with much entreaty brought him back, promising that the attorney for the other side "should not interfere any more." On that condition the foreman of the jury resumed his seat, but he subscribed a superfluous oath at the same time, that he would not "stand any more of that fellow's nonsense." It

is needless to say, that the lawyer was effectually silenced, and that the case of his client was, in consequence, hopelessly wrecked. Sometimes, beyond question, there are cases when the persistency of a lawyer occupies the time of the court only to prove the weakness of his client's case; but there does not appear to have been any such feature in the proceedings of the advocate before the tyrannical foreman and his obsequious friend, the justice. The name of justice was for once a misnomer.

Court affairs proceeded with regularity. Wisconsin was duly organized as a territory in 1836, the laws being subject to the veto of congress. The courts increased in importance, three judges of the supreme court were appointed, the chief justice and two associates, two to form a quorum; and the machinery of district courts, courts of probate and justices of the peace, gave completeness to the organization. The census in 1838 showed a population in the territory—the extent of which is elsewhere given—of 18,149 souls. The first annual term appointed for July 1837, in this city, was not held, as there was no business matured, but in the following July, 1838, C. J. Dunn and associate justice Frazer, constituted the court. Since that time all the terms have been held in Madison. It is claimed that sometimes when on circuit in Milwaukee and elsewhere remote from the capital, Judge Frazer indulged freely in whisky and poker, being probably of opinion that when in Rome, he must do as the Romans did; but certain it is that no judge

on the bench ever condemned gambling more emphatically than he. At one term of his court in Milwaukee, when a defendant sued for a debt, pleaded present inability to pay, he adjudged him to liquidate the amount in fish within twelve months. The defendant being a fisherman, expressed his willingness to carry out that arrangement. Other items of business were handled in a manner just as informal. Two Indians tried for murder were condemned to death, and on the following day the same men were further prosecuted for an assault, on which charge, being convicted, they were cumulatively sentenced to five years' imprisonment and a heavy fine. The governor commuted the double sentences to imprisonment for life, and the Indians were pardoned after two years servitude. Judge Frazer did not live long after assuming his duties in Wisconsin, and it is supposed that free living accelerated his death; but he was sixty-two years old when he died in Milwaukee, in October, 1838.

The Chief Justice, Hon. Charles Dunn, was an able and worthy man, thirty-seven years of age when the organic act passed for Wisconsin. President Jackson appointed him chief justice. That position he continued to occupy until the state organized its judiciary, when he resumed the practice of his profession, in La Fayette. His prolonged residence in this territory and state, won for him the respect of all classes, and the admiration of those who were most conversant with his many excellent qualities. After his resumption of professional labors in La Fayette, the ex-chief

justice filled many important offices, having been elected state senator for that county, and having served as chairman of the judiciary committee of the senate. He was a member of the convention that framed the state constitution, and during the whole of his career deserved and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his cotemporaries. John H. Fonda has left a somewhat detailed report of the trial of an Indian for the murder of a white man named Akins, for inducing his squaw to leave him and to live with Akins. The proceedings of the court were not so regular and orderly as could be desired, seeing that the retiring room for the jury was a grocery, in which every man could take his fill of liquor for seventy-five cents, and it was asserted that every man in the court was drunk; but in the end the prisoner was acquitted, as the evidence demanded he should be, so that the jury must have been properly directed. This was the first prosecution under the territorial organization at Prairie du Chien. Judge Dunn was called to his account some few years since.

Judge David Irvin was the successor to Judge Doty at Green Bay, and in the counties presided over by him, until 1832. When the territory was organized the Judge became one of the associate judges. He was singularly neat and ultra economical, but generally reputed an honest and worthy man. Rumor says that he lost a match with a rich lady in St. Louis, because he would persist in mending his own stockings, sewing on his buttons, and discharging many

other of the duties that disturb the digestion of the average bachelor. He was fond of his horse and dog, believing each to be the very best of the kind that the world had seen. His peccadilloes caused much amusement in the early days, among the pioneers, but there were none to suggest that the penurious old man failed to discharge his onerous duties in an honorable way. Except among his own relatives, urbanity never ripened into acts of kindness, nor did he seem capable of great attachments—save for the horse and dog aforesaid—consequently there were few to mourn over his departure for Texas, when upon the organization of the state, other judges were appointed. Judge Irvin died in Texas in June, 1872, shortly after the decease of Judge Dunn, having attained the ripe maturity of seventy-three years. During the war he was favorable to the falling cause, and at one time came near being captured by Gov. C. C. Washburn's force. He was not profound as a lawyer, but he was naturally just and shrewd, possessing a good memory, and he accumulated knowledge just as he stored the other valuables, for which he had more affection.

The successor to Judge Frazer was the Hon. Andrew Galbraith Miller, from Pennsylvania, appointed by President Van Buren. When Wisconsin was admitted as a state, Judge Miller was transferred to the position of United States district judge, remaining in that office with changes of location until his death. Judge Miller never failed to discharge the high functions devolving upon him, in a manner that

demonstrated the possession of fair attainments and a capacity equal to the demands of the most exacting of all the liberal professions. Years hence, his worth will be better understood than even now. He was gathered into the silent city several years since, and many, who during his lifetime condemned the acerbity which often marked his manner in office, are now among his eulogists. It is something to have carried through life, the reputation of an honest man, and failings of temper do not largely detract from the final estimate of genuine worth. His abilities were good and his attainments sufficient to render him a very useful and valuable public officer.

Chief Justice Whiton, who was a temperance man in the later years of his career in a generation of hard drinkers, is very honorably associated with the establishment of our courts and statutes. He was not the first chief justice elected upon the organization of the state, but his merits were so early recognized by the people when a separate supreme court was chosen that a brief sketch of his career will give the best insight to the manner in which judicial and other matters were transacted in the early days. About the time when the first settlers were coming into our village, in 1837, Mr. Edward V. Whiton erected a log cabin in Janesville, having migrated west, from his native town of Lee, in Berkshire county, Massachusetts. He was than thirty-two years of age, but unmarried. He entered upon the practice of his profession, but briefs that winter were not as plentiful as

snowflakes. He was elected to the legislature and sat in the first session held in this city in 1838. The following year saw him reëlected, and during the second session of that year he became speaker of the house. The territorial statutes having been revised, he was entrusted with the highly important task of superintending their publication, making marginal notes and an index, which duties were discharged so ably that for many years the volumes referred to were the standard and reference books of the profession in Wisconsin. He continued in the assembly until 1842, when his services were transferred to the council, of which body he was a member until 1846. He was a member of the second constitutional convention, occupying an important place in most of its deliberations. When the constitution was adopted, he was chosen judge of the first circuit, defeating the nominee of the democratic convention, then very influential. The supreme court was composed of the circuit judges, and for some time Judge Whiton was chief justice by the vote of his fellow jurists. Before this time, his action in the legislature had won a very high place in popular esteem, which could not fail, whenever the people should become masters of the situation, to procure generous recognition. There is no mistake greater than the assumption that republics are ungrateful. The men who make that assertion have customarily set too high an estimate upon their services. Mr. Whiton had never erred in that way. Having served as speaker of the assembly,

he possessed a just esteem for the dignity of representative government, and when Governor Doty collided with the legislature, by his gratuitous conclusion that all laws passed in the territory were null and void, unless they had been expressly sanctioned by congress, the lawyer and the patriot were alike called to do battle for the right. Judge Doty had won a good name in the earlier days, but a comparatively unquestioned career had made him dictatorial. He was peremptory and wrongheaded during the major part of the conflict with the two houses. Unfortunately the whole of his gubernatorial career was a conflict to the very day of his removal. Mr. Whiton was one of the first to take up the gage of battle on behalf of the legislature, and he did so by moving that the representatives of the people should proceed with their duties, irrespective of the governor. Another act of his will serve to show that he was in the front ranks of the whig party. Having become a member of the council, he proposed in that body in 1846 that colored persons should be allowed to vote. The proposition was laid on the table by a majority of one vote only, the members being seven against and six for the extension of the franchise to negroes. Six years later the opportunity occurred for the people to elect their chief justice, the democratic party had almost complete control of the state, but Judge Whiton was chosen by a large majority against the nominee of the ruling organization in the fall elections of 1852, when Samuel Crawford and A. D. Smith were elected associates.

Prior to that time, Judge Jackson having declined to serve as chief in the supreme court, consisting of the circuit judges, the honor had been conferred upon Judge Whiton. The action of the chief justice in the case of Glover, a man of color, arrested at Racine, according to the provisions of the Fugitive Slave Law, steered the middle course between partizan zeal on the one hand, and that dictated by holders of property in human flesh, on the other, recognizing the law as undoubtedly constitutional, but finding an avenue of escape for Sherman M. Booth, the chief rescuer of Glover, in a convenient irregularity in the warrant. The court unanimously concurred on that point. The people had long before solved the question, so far as Glover was concerned. The jail in Milwaukee had been surrounded by impatient thousands, all day, from the moment that it became known that the arrested fugitive was there incarcerated. There was a belief that Glover could be liberated under a writ of *habeas*, and the process of trial by jury ; but the crowd nominated a vigilance committee to watch proceedings, and toward evening when the steamer came in from Racine, there arrived a body of nearly one hundred men, who administered a summary process by breaking into the jail and freeing the captive. The militia called out to suppress the tumult, refused the duty. The slave owner, Garland, who had arrested Glover, was himself taken for assault and battery, committed in the capture.

Editor Booth and John Ryecraft were found guilty

by the United States district court in January, 1855, and sentenced to fine and imprisonment, with costs, in the case of Booth ; but on the 26th of that month, a writ of *habeas* was applied for in the supreme court, and on the 4th of the following month the prisoners were liberated, by the decisions of Chief Justice Whiton and Associate Justice A. D. Smith. There remained but one process where the courts were so completely in conflict. Garland sued Booth in the United States district court for the value of the escaped chattel, and the jury, under direction from the judge, gave him a verdict for $1,000, the worth of a man, according to the congressional declaration of 1850. Eight centuries had ameliorated the conditions of enforced servitude among Anglo-Saxons, in some degree. In the eleventh century in England, the Parliament declared that the value of an adult white serf of either sex was just $5.00, and in the middle of the nineteenth century, America had similarly pronounced upon the black, making the standard $1,000.

Another case just as exciting, but of another complexion, arose in 1856, when the *quo warranto* application, Bashford against Barstow, called upon the supreme court to determine who was the governor of the state. The friends and supporters of Bashford claimed that all the powers of the state government had been exerted to procure a falsification of the ballot and a fraudulent return from the state canvassers, in favor of Governor Barstow, while, in reality, Coles Bashford had been elected by the popular vote. Both

claimants were sworn in as governor, but Barstow was in possession. To him Judge Collins administered the oath of office, surrounded by all the trappings of state. Chief Justice Whiton, in his office at the supreme court, performed the like function for Governor Bashford. The governor in possession asserted that there was no power that could properly question the certificate of the state canvassers, consequently he refused to yield to the importunities of his successor. The claimant was fortunate in securing the services of E. G. Ryan, our admirable Chief Justice, and Hon. Tim. O. Howe, one of our U. S. senators, as his leading counsel, and after some delay, in spite of the protests of Governor Barstow against the exercise of authority and jurisdiction, which it was asserted did not belong to the court, it became evident that there would be a judgment of *ouster*.

Gov. Barstow precipitately resigned, declining to contest the issue before the judges, for reasons assigned to the legislature; but before that step was taken, there had been a decision, giving judgment for Bashford upon an *ex parte* statement, in default of a sufficient defense on the part of Barstow. There had been much manipulation to prevent that conclusion. The state attorney general, who appeared at first on behalf of the relator, dismissed his own information and protested against the action of the court; but the judges concurred in sustaining the claim of Gov. Bashford, calling upon him, as a prudential measure, to establish his right by evidence.

Party feeling was strong, but when lawyers so eminent and fearless as the present chief justice and his associate counsel championed the cause of the claimant, and still more, when counsel so astute as Matt. H. Carpenter, could see no defense, there must have been something beyond partisan virulence in the assault. The tyranny of the courts and judges was never so great a danger; nor could the tribunals become so perilous to the state, in every relation, under any circumstances, as the arbitrary power which might be exercised by corrupt boards of canvassers and irresponsible governors, should the conclusion be arrived at that their action was beyond legal challenge and incapable of rectification. The people generally evinced their satisfaction with Chief Justice Whiton's conduct in office by reëlecting him in the spring of 1857, his majority ranging near twelve thousand. Two years later the chief justice died in harness, a comparatively young man, being only in his fifty-fifth year at the time of his decease. He had been for twenty-two years a public servant in the territory and state, and no slur has been cast upon his name, even by his most virulent political opponents.

Chief Justice L. S. Dixon, who for many years filled the office with marked ability, was appointed *pro tem.*, after the death of Chief Justice E. V. Whiton, and was subsequently elected, defeating the popular republican nominee, A. Scott Sloan. Judge Orsamus Cole was reëlected in 1861, and the like honor conferred upon the chief justice in 1863, who

retained the office until June 15, 1874. When Judge Dixon determined to resign his position, the office was conferred by appointment on the present occupant, the Hon. E. G. Ryan, whose services have commanded the approval of all classes, and been indorsed by popular election. There is good reason for assuming that there will be no change in the occupancy of the office as long as the present chief justice cares to discharge the onerous duty for which he is so well qualified. The associate justices, Messrs. Lyon and Cole, are so well known that it is only necessary to say they are worthy and popular men. The courts reflect honor upon the community, and render life and property alike safe against aggression. The United States and other courts located in Madison are well administered by their respective judges and officers, and it is long since any question has arisen in which the people have conflicted with the tribunals. "Happy is the people that has no history," and that is especially the case where judges and courts are concerned. It would be invidious as well as presumptuous to speak of individual merits in a work that is only intended for popular reading; suffice it to say that the professional men practicing in this city compare favorably with the like class in other cities in the union, and indeed there are few capital cities in which the abilities and talents displayed by S. U. Pinney, Wm. F. Vilas, Geo. B. Smith, and H. S. Orton can be surpassed. They stand as representative men in a learned and honorable body, and Madison respects their varied powers.

CHAPTER VII.

CHURCHES AND PASTORS.

The supposed first attempt at church organization was named in our pioneer sketches. Many similar works followed. Any preacher was welcomed in Mr. Ream's, Madison House. Bishop Kemper was a visitor there, and Father Quaw, from Canada. Col. Slaughter and Mr. Ream were vestrymen. The last named gentleman was in request as a singer, when services were held by any denomination. Rev. W. Philo was the minister of the "Apostolic Church" for twelve months. "Dominie Philo" was sentimental in his references to the other sex, and that fact provoked laughter, but, on the whole, he was much respected. When Mr. Toots in "Dombey and Son," was crossed in love, he told Miss Dombey, "It's not of the slightest consequence." It was otherwise with Mr. Philo. There was no Susan Nipper to give him consolation. He took to it kindly, and became sentimental. Probably some eastern belle had declined to share his missionary privations, and he knew that "the course of true love never did run smooth." There was a donation party for the good man on Christmas Eve, 1840, and he was made rich in creature comforts; but he was suspected of shedding

tears, as he reflected on the happiness that Dulcinea had lost. Ready to take part in any ameliorating effort, we find him conducting the religious exercises of the celebration, July 4th, 1841, when Mr. Slingerland of the Dutch Reformed Church was the orator. An oyster, crossed in love, would become more misanthropical than the Rev. Washington Philo.

Rev. Richard F. Cadle, his successor, had lived fourteen years in the territory. He came to Green Bay as a missionary to the Indians. One hundred and twenty-nine children, Indian and mixed, at one time were taught by him and his assistants, industrial habits and the elements of a good English Christian training; but the effort died out after sixteen years. Mr. Cadle was chaplain of the fort at Green Bay and taught school. Many of the early teachers were men and women of good standing. He removed to Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien, in 1836, being chaplain and teacher there for five years, until he came as pastor of the Apostolic Church, to this village.

Rev. Albert Slingerland's Dutch Reformed Church was a heterogeneous combination. There was an understanding among the nine members, that name and creed should remain subject to the will of the majority. The congregation was organized in 1840. The preacher officiated twelve months from the preceding June. He was indefatigable, lecturing on temperance as well as preaching, from Sun Prairie to Prairie du Sac. Col. Brigham was the ruling elder. Eventu-

ally his followers came under the pastorate of Rev. J. M. Clarke, having joined the Presbyterian and Congregational convention. Rev. S. E. Miner, now a prosperous business man in Kansas, next preached under the auspices of the Home Missionary Society. Eben Peck's log house was their temporary church until a commodious barn had been erected. A better edifice was raised in 1846 on Webster street, block 108, lot 10, that seated 250. Rev. Chas. Lord came in 1846, and continued until 1854, when, his eyesight failing, he resigned. Rev. H. N. Eggleston, his successor, was very popular. When he left, there came near being a permanent split in the congregation.

There is a general impression that whisky drinking was very common among the pioneers. Mr. Slingerland, in 1840, said that intemperance was not so prevalent as in New York, but Sabbath breaking and profanity impressed him strongly. Some preachers have preserved the best chronicles of the time. Rev. Dr. Brunson gives a lively picture of the various uses of the capitol for "courts, plays, shows, and worship," as well as legislation. Faro banks and the "Tiger" were excluded, but there were signs of the credit mobilier. The murder of C. C. P. Arndt on the eleventh of February, 1842, gave a terrible completeness to the catalogue of deeds possible in the capitol. J. R. Vineyard, from Grant county, terminated a dispute of his own beginning by shooting his fellow member through the heart, in the council chamber. The council refused Vineyard's resignation and expelled

him from the legislature, but the courts acquitted him of manslaughter. The funeral services in the chamber were very impressive, and Arndt was interred at Green Bay. Vineyard went to California. Considering the excitment, it is a wonder that he was not lynched. C. C. P. Arndt's father was in the assembly when his son was shot, having been invited from Green Bay to a social gathering which had been enjoyed the night before. The Arndts, father and son, were beloved, and the murder was unprovoked.

The erection of a Catholic church was resolved on in 1845, and commenced in the following spring. The church on Morris street was built in 1850, and three years later the foundation stone of the Catholic cathedral on Main street was laid by Bishop Henni. The consecration of St. Raphaels, in 1866, was a grand ceremonial, as was also the dedication of "The Church of the Holy Redeemer" in 1869. The storm of 1874 injured the steeple of the cathedral, so that it was taken down, but the structure will be improved greatly in consequence.

The first sermon was preached in Madison by the Rev. Salmon Stebbins, M. E., as presiding elder of the Milwaukee district, in the Illinois conference. He came on the 28th of November, 1837, and upon the invitaton of Col. Bird, converted the bar room of his brother's house into a tabernacle. The elder, a vigorous preacher at Kenosha, says: "I preached to an interested and interesting congregation." There was no collection, but the men made up a purse of

$11. There were few inhabitants between Madison and Jefferson. He came through Kenosha — then Southport — and by way of Milwaukee, through the counties of Washington, Manitowoc and Sheboygan, to Green Bay and Fond du Lac — a formidable journey over such roads. Milwaukee was the first location made in this territory. Solomon Juneau was in his prime, a prosperous Indian trader, founding a city. Root River Mission was formed with Rev. Samuel Pillsbury in charge. He was our second preacher, and is now editing a paper. Col. Bird thought that Elder Stebbins' sermon was preached in September, but the money entry in the diary of the Elder fixes the date of the service. The foundation of the capitol was completed in November, and the men waited for Eben Peck to return from Green Bay. Mr. Woolcock of Jefferson says: "Peck had to swim the rivers and the money was wet, so we waited until it was dry to get our pay. About the end of November we started." Mrs. Marion Starkweather, Col. Bird's daughter, says that Mr. Pillsbury came in March, 1838, and held services afterwards once every month. Col. Bird provided a barn for him, where Kentzler's stables are now standing. There were few white settlers; Col. Bird, with four children, Chas. and Wm. Bird, and Dr. Almon Lull were present when he first preached, but the outside attendance was large. About four hundred Indians surrounded the building, but would not enter. Mr. Pillsbury was a frequent visitor. He assisted in opening the

capitol when the first session was held in the unfinished building. Mr. Hyer mentions the habits of the Indians in his notice of "Covalle the trapper." His Indian wife and her children would gather to observe the Sunday meetings, and the proceedings of settlers in their homes, but would rarely enter. Dr. Joseph Hobbins says, that an Indian and his squaw dined with him and his family, behaving with exemplary decorum during the repast; but after leaving the table they asked for every article that caught their fancy; considering that fact, their backwardness was a blessing.

The Methodists did not recruit rapidly. In September, 1838, Rev. John Hodges was appointed here and to Fort Winnebago, now Portage. The first three members in Madison were Ruth Starks, Benjamin Holt and his wife. Dr. Brunson was a member of the legislature in 1840, and he rallied the Methodists, assisting the chaplain, Jas. Mitchell, in occasional services. He thinks that Mr. Fullerton was here in 1841. S. P. Keyes was here next year; then Jesse L. Bennet in 1843, and Mr. Stebbins afterwards. The several preachers cannot be mentioned, but Jonathan Snow is a piece of our history. He became eccentric and nearly killed the church by harsh discipline in 1851. He was summarily removed and is remembered as "The Snow Storm." Gen. Samuel Fallows was the junior preacher in 1858–9, and in 1864 the chaplain of the 3d Wisconsin supplied the pulpit. Rev. E. D. Huntly is now the pastor and is working

strenously to complete the edifice almost ready for dedication. The little church was once a great improvement on former experiences, but the new building will be an ornament to the city. When the "Little Brick" school house, on Washington avenue, became too small, Damon Y. Kilgore removed his pupils to the basement of the Methodist church. Even there 250 pupils in one room must have required good stowage and little fuel in winter.

"Chief Justice" Seymour was reflected upon in a public meeting during the pastorate of Mr. Philo, because, he being a justice of the peace, did not "kill the tiger" that was being "fought" by many citizens. The respected "dominie," never suspecting a joke, drew up a resolution exculpating the squire as a "good and sufficient justice," and the audience, which had assembled in indignation, broke up in laughter. There were hard cases in the settlement, compared with whom Covalle was a marvel of civilization. Pinneo, a "shingle weaver," attended church one day when Mr. Philo was preaching, and he astounded the congregation by saying very seriously, "That's so, Mr. Philo, that's so, Butterfield's got to be saved; just hold on 'till I bring him in." Pinneo did not return. His absence was, in an olfactory sense, a pleasure. He claimed to be a down east Yankee, but that was the only sign of good lineage. He was indispensable as a maker of shingles, and when sober, had a laugh and a joke for everybody, but people kept to windward of the unwashed man. He was summoned to

serve on a jury in Judge Irvin's court, and the judge was scrupulously clean, while Pinneo was dirty as was possible to a life divorced from soap and water. The court was adjourned to enable Pinneo to wash and procure clean clothes, after listening to a diatribe against filth; but he survived the affliction, and was burned to death at last in a drunken orgie.

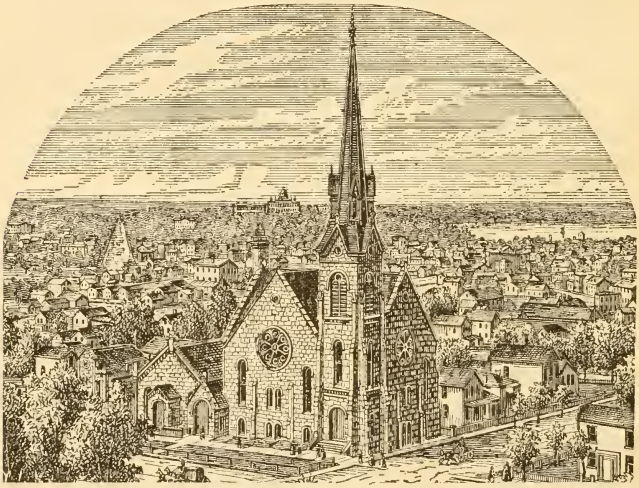
Covalle conformed to the usages of civilization, attended church, was orderly, took physic with praiseworthy resolution, gave it to his half-breed children, made them wear the garments of white folks, and attend the ceremony of his marriage to their mother, before a justice. He had been married according to the usages of the country. He traced his line to the trappers on Hudson's Bay, and when Col. Bird came here, Covalle was the only white man on the site. He led a blameless life, being cleanly, sober and obliging. Better conditions supervened. Rev. Stephen McHugh was called by the Episcopal church in 1845, having become known during attendance to deliver a Masonic oration on the anniversary of St. John. He organized Grace Church parish, and the ladies raised funds to purchase the land occupied by the church. A brick parsonage, commenced in 1850, was occupied on Christmas day when the Rev. W. H. Woodward was pastor. The next rector was the Rev. Hugh M. Thompson, followed by Mr. Powers. The sound of the church-going bell in the village was due to Squire Seymour. Meetings, social, political and religious, were repeatedly delayed because no two clocks or

watches agreed, and the variations extended over two hours. Somebody suggested a bell; Seymour drew up a subscription paper, ordered the instrument, and on its arrival procured the first peal from its clapper, utilizing the astonishment of the audience by carrying round the hat. The bell was the common property of all the churches and every organization.

Rev. J. B. Brittan came in 1855, and funds were raised to build a church, which was not finished when Mr. Brittan became chaplain of a regiment. There had been an outlay of $22,000, but the tower was incomplete and the basement was not ready for occupancy. Rev. Jas. L. Maxwell came next, remaining until 1867. Before he resigned, a very handsome organ had been built at a cost of $2,500. Under the rectorship of the Rev. H. W. Spaulding, the building was completed in 1872. When the Rev. Dr. Spaulding removed to Pittsburg, the Rev. John Wilkinson, of Chicago, the present incumbent, succeeded him, winning the good opinion of all classes. A chime of nine bells was placed in the tower in April, 1874. The bishop's bell, in memory of Bishops Kemper and Armitage, the largest in the chime, was purchased by general contributions, as also was the seventh, the rest being donated *in memoriam* of the departed, whose names they bear.

The Congregational Church eventuated from Mr. Slingerland's labors, and we have followed the organization to Mr. Eggleston's ministry. The people were attracted by Mr. Eggleston, and Bacon's Commercial

College was used while a brick chapel was building on Washington avenue. Mr. Eggleston was succeeded by Rev. James Caldwell in 1858, and in the following January a church was specially organized to receive Mr. Eggleston as pastor, to be known as "The Union Congregational Church and Society of Madison." Eventually all reunited. Revs. L. Taylor and Lewis E. Matson bring us to the present incumbent, Rev.



Chas. H. Richards, whose talents and good qualities have made him a gain to the community. Arriving in March, 1867, he has assisted in the later developments of the church, among which must be noted the elegant edifice, capable of seating one thousand persons. The bell in the tower was given by Mrs. L. A. Richards, and was at that time the heaviest in the city; but the "Bishops' Bell," in Grace Church chime is five hundred pounds heavier.

The Presbyterian Church was at first identified with other organizations. Rev. H. B. Gardiner was retained by the congregation in 1851 at Lewis Hall, The building since used as a bakery by Mr. Miner, at the corner of Mifflin and Carroll streets, was next occupied, and in 1853, the church moved into the frame building, corner of Wisconsin avenue and Johnson street. The several pastors have been the Revs. Wm. L. Green, Edward G. Read and Richard V. Dodge, until we reach the pastorate of the Rev. L. Y. Hays, who has served since 1873, maintaining unabated popularity and usefulness, and taking a praiseworthy part in many movements outside the church.

The First Baptist Church was organized in December, 1847, by the Rev. H. W. Read, his successors being the Revs. John Williams, S. S. Whitman, M. D. Miller, James Cooper and Wm. R. Brooks, whose pastorate ended in 1858. There were many preachers for brief terms. In the summer of 1860, Rev. W. H. Brisbane became pastor, but resigned to become chaplain of the first Wisconsin cavalry regiment. Rev. J. E. Johnson assumed pastoral charge in 1863, and he was followed in succession by Revs. J. C. C. Clarke, Mr. Paige and Thomas Bright, who came to the city in 1873, and rendered acceptable service until his lamentable sudden death in the pulpit, in September, 1876.

The German Evangelical Association commenced operations in 1844, when the missionary, Rev. J. G.

Miller, having found German families in Madison, held service in their houses. The whole of Wisconsin was his parish, and his salary was $41 in 1845, increasing to $47 the second year. His successors were the Revs. J. Eply and M. Howard, but Mr. Miller was still a frequent visitor. Revs. C. Schnake and W. Strasberger commenced a church building between Broome and Bassett streets, which was finished by Mr. Miller in 1856. The church on Pinckney street, corner of Mifflin, was built in 1865, under the pastoral charge of the Rev. W. F. Schneider, succeeded by the Revs. C. F. Finger and Chas. Schneider.

The German Lutheran Church has erected two buildings, the first on Main street, in 1858, near the railroad depot, on block forty-four; the second, ten years later, on Washington avenue and West Canal street. The organization dates from 1856. Rev. H. Vogel, was pastor until 1872, when he was succeeded by Rev. Christian Wilke.

The German Methodist Church, Rev. Mr. Walker, pastor, was built in 1864, on the corner of Mifflin and Webster streets.

The Norwegian Lutheran Church, on the corner of Hamilton and Butler streets, was erected in 1862. Rev. H. A. Preuss is pastor.

The Hebrew Congregation Schaare Schoymayn, of which the Rev. J M. Thuringer is Rabbi, hold services every Saturday at 10 A. M., in the Synagogue on Washington avenue, between Henry and Fairchild streets.

CHAPTER VIII.

NEWSPAPER HISTORY.

A SCOTCHMAN who had seen the Stuart dynasty sung from a throne, said: "Let me make a nation's ballads, and who will, may make its laws." Newspapers have superseded ballads. Journalism, the popular voice in type, is the foe of usurpation. The growth of our press has been wonderful. While Captain Carver diplomatized among the Indians here, the newspaper advanced from an advertising sheet to a political power. Before King George rewarded Carver with a grant, the press had defeated the monarch. The stamp act might have been fought in vain, but for our journals. Henry would have roused a small circle, but there would have been no national soul. Journalism was the bond of union that saved the colonies. Charles Carroll, in the *Maryland Gazette*, indorsed Patrick Henry, and every liberal sheet responded. The *Gazette*, in Pennsylvania; the *Newport Mercury*, R. I., answered the call, and the *Mercury* was suppressed in vain. Charleston papers took up the strain; New York sons of liberty shouted for freedom. The *Boston Gazette* echoed the words of Henry, backed by Adams, and a pamphlet in London disseminated that utterance, in spite of the British government. Within one year the king was discom-

fited, the stamp act repealed. That was the beginning, and the end was near. "I am the State," said Louis XIV. With greater truth the press could have said, "I am the Revolution." The newspaper was the weapon, without which there had been no Bunker Hill, no world renowned Declaration.

The *Enquirer*, published by Noonan, was small, but it had power. His share in the transaction appears elsewhere. George Hyer, who set the first type, has been mentioned with honor. The partnerships of Sholes, Noonan, Hyer and Judge Knapp, are stories often told. Reed changed the sheet from Democratic to Whig, and in 1844, the changeling died. Politics, in the early settlement, were for and against the commissioners. When the capitol ceased to supply pabulum, a Democratic pioneer says, "we went where we belonged."

Party lines were observed when the *Wisconsin Express* appeared, in 1839. Wyman sold the paper to D. Atwood and Royal Buck, who afterwards consolidated with the *Statesman*. Its politics were Whig. Wyman was a hard hitter. When Ream and Clark were candidates for the office of register, the former winning by two votes, Wyman made affidavit and published, that the canvassers had suppressed returns. Ream confirms that statement, saying: "I found myself elected by two votes, which much surprised me .... until .... a friend explained .... after exacting secrecy .... that the extra vote was obtained by strategy, to make my election sure." Wyman is

fortified, but the canvasser says: "Save me from my friends."

Knapp and Delaney brought out the *Wisconsin Democrat* in 1842, which died eighteen months later, in the hands of J. P. Sheldon and Geo. Hyer. The same name was used for a paper in 1846, by Beriah Brown. That organ combined with the *Wisconsin Argus*. While two papers were running, both offices wanted the government printing. The *Argus*, some months older than the *Democrat*, rested on its antiquity. Beriah Brown relied on shell fish, and the wire puller won. A caucus being called to settle the question, a member unseared by corruption, said: "We have eat Brown's oysters and drinked his liquor. We can't go back on Brown." Beriah succeeded in taking the *Argus*, as well as the patronage.

The Wisconsin Argus was published by S. Mills & Co., with John Y. Smith, editor. H. A. Tenney joined, when the firm of Tenney, Smith & Holt was established. Two of the firm sold to S. D. Carpenter, and Mr. Tenney remained until 1852, when the consolidation followed. "Old Hunkers" and "Tadpoles," the divisions of the Democratic party, took their "feast of reason" in one sheet. Mr. Carpenter retired, and Beriah "played it alone" until July, 1854, when E. A. Calkins, since of the *Milwaukee News*, joined the staff. Calkins & Proudfit became proprietors. Two years later, J. K. Proudfit sold to Mr. Webb. The paper suffered from tightness of the chest, and Beriah Brown was called in, but after three

months vigorous treatment there were no signs of increasing vitality. Brown left Webb & Calkins, and the paper breathed its last. There was a resurrection, but Calkins & Cullaton could not make it go. Calkins sold out, other editors gave vigorous support to the war policy of Lincoln, but the paper would not live.

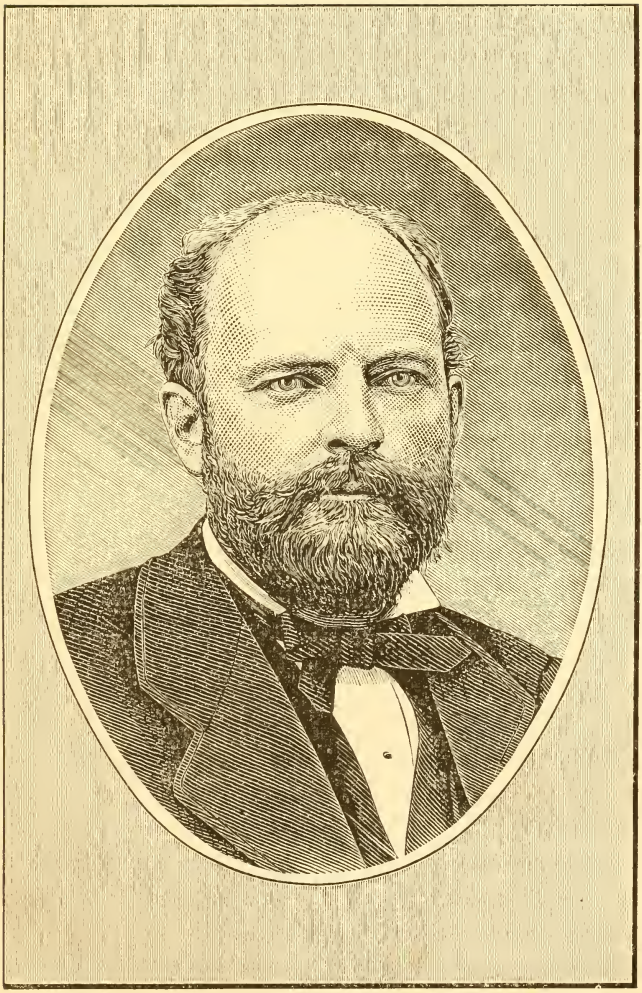
Wyman brought out the *Statesman* in 1850. William Welch was one of its editors. Wyman & Bugh assumed the management in 1851, and at last consolidated with the *Express*. The *Wisconsin State Palladium* resulted. Atwood, Wyman & Buck did not harmonize, and the paper was suspended. The *State Journal* made its appearance, with David Atwood as editor and proprietor, in September, 1852, the Republican party accepting the *Journal* as its organ. Several additions and alterations have worked no change in the politics of the paper. Mr. Rublee, Mr. Gary, Mr. Reed and Mr. Culver have supported the venture, making it one of the best journalistic properties in the state; with one of the most complete printing offices west of Chicago.

Earlier phases of newspaper activity are illustrated by a sketch from the *State Journal*. Mr. D. K. Tenney is identified with this city, and the phrases of Col. Bird are true to life:

"Twenty-six years ago, Dan. K. Tenney put up at the "United States Hotel," with two "bits" in his pocket. Col. A. A. Bird was landlord. Said Dan, "Two bits sizes my pile; but I'd like to stay here

Wisconsin State Journal Block, Washington Avenue.

over night and see what I can do to-morrow." The Colonel (good old soul as ever lived) looked at his new guest, and replied: "O God, yes; stay as long as you like, boy! Have some supper? O, God, yes; come in. Stay as long as you please." Dan had supper and a night's lodging, and in the morning struck a printing office, and secured a "sit." Getting a little money, Dan next turned up in the University. He got as much as they could spare in that institution and returned to the printing office (the *Journal*, a wee bit of a paper then), working along, until toil and no fortune seemed foolishness. One day, all hands were "jeffing" on the stone to see who should get a pail full of whisky, when Dan. spoke up: "Who the d—l's got any money in this crowd?" Nobody, of course; and the "devil" had to go down and "stand off" old "Jackknife" Robinson for a couple of quarts. After this amount had been disposed of, it struck Dan that printers were fools to be pulling hand press and sticking small pica, so he remarked: "Good bye, boys; you are all condemned fools if you stay here? I'm going to study law and make something." Dan started for Portage, where he met his brother H. W. "I've come up to study law with you, by thunder." H. W. replied sharply, "You have? You are a darned fool; you'd better stick to printing. You'll cut a hog in two studying law? But if you are bound to stick to law, you can see what you can do turning those eighty acres of mine into city lots, and selling them." This was Dan's first



D. K. TENNEY, Esq.

job. He succeeded, stuck to the law and kept out of a printing office, except when briefs and other jobs were required. We don't know how Dan counts his thousands in Chicago, but next April he will begin the erection of a handsome block, on the spot where Col. Bird twenty-six years ago, took him in, with only two "bits," in his pocket."

There were wild jokers in the printing offices, men for whom a hen-roost had no sacredness; fellows as full of deviltry as Falstaff on Gad's Hill, but more courage. One of the Tenney's possessed a choice assortment of poultry. One night, when the devil failed to scare up copy, that power of darkness found occupation for idle hands, purloining capons from the foreman to make a feast for the father of the chapel. There were two Tenneys in the business, but H. A., to whom the poultry belonged, warmly approved the banquet. He said the foragers should revisit the hen roost, and they did so. There may be no truth, but there is poetical justice in the *fowl* invention. D. K. Tenney says: "Have not all my happy days for twenty-six years been spent in Madison?" Was the happiest day that night? The boys cleared his brother's hen-roosts like the grasshoppers scooped Kansas?

The Wisconsin Patriot has more than one eventful history. Gathered to "the tomb of the Capulets," it is still a power. The first number appeared twenty-two years ago. The proprietors and editors were J. T. Marston and H. A. Tenney. Tenney sold to S. D. Carpenter, who subsequently bought out Marston.

The firm of S. D. and S. H. Carpenter ran for some time, but after many changes, S. H. Carpenter, our much respected "Professor of Logic and Literature," sold to Mr. Law, who was associated with S. D. Carpenter about a year. The *Patriot* saw many changes which would be tedious to narrate. The management at the present time is in the hands of H. A. Tenney and S. D. Carpenter, but their business arrangements are not matters of history. Two men so intimately identified with the press of this city, deserve a notice embracing more than their Madison engagements. Major Tenney, from whose sketches we have freely quoted, came in 1845, but went to Galena, and did not buy into the *Wisconsin Argus* until 1846. He was government printer in 1847 and the following year. When the constitutional convention assembled, he was reporter, and again in 1848. Directly and indirectly he was state printer until 1852, when ill health compelled his retirement from the *Argus*. The Major, one of the founders of the *Patriot*, sold out to his old partner. Mr. Tenney's services to the University are matters of history. His position as assistant state geologist, enabled him to aid the University collections largely. In 1857, he was a member of the legislature, and introduced the bill for the new capitol. In the following year he was comptroller of state, and one of the regents of the university. His services at Camp Randall need not be enumerated, nor his appointments in the U. S. A. He was special agent of the P. O. department until 1864. In

1869–70, he was associate editor of the *Chicago Republican*, moving to similar duties on the *Post*, and on the *St. Paul Pioneer* in 1872. He became clerk of the railroad commission in 1874, is the oldest Madison editor surviving in Wisconsin, and not yet tired of the drudgery of the press. When he began there were but nine exchanges, few of which have survived.

Mr. S. D. Carpenter settled in Madison in 1850, and was identified in succession with the *Argus*, and the *Argus and Democrat*, from which having retired he devoted his genius for mechanics, to invention. The pump, to which he is indebted for a pseudonym, was invented in 1853, and he sold rights to the extent of nearly $35,000. Once more in newspaper life, Mr. Carpenter became editor and proprietor of the *Patriot*. Its politics were eventually war democratic. The well known claim for damages against the state, dates from 1864. During that year Mr. Carpenter devised a power press, on the model now largely used, feeding from paper in the roll, and he claims to have originated that plan. The invention of an automatic grain binder employed nine years, and about $40,000. It is claimed that every device now operating for that purpose, took its rise in Mr. Carpenter's ingenuity. His inventions were sold to McCormick & Co., because a fortune was wanted to establish his rights, and furnish machines. His veneer cutting and other inventions cannot be glanced at; suffice it to say that few men have excelled him in variety and originality of design for labor-saving machinery.

The Daily Capitol, published by W. J. Park & Co., with Col. Calkins as editor, appeared on the day on which President Lincoln was shot. It was a racy, nonpartizan daily, eventually incorporated with the *Democrat*, which was established in 1865, by Hyer & Fernandez, and bought by A. E. Gordon. The title was then changed from *Wisconsin* to *Madison Democrat*. Mr. Raymer is now editor and proprietor, having succeeded the firm of J. B. Parkinson & Co., which purchased from Gordon.

The *Journal of Education* originated in Janesville, but was transferred to this city. Col. J. G. McMynn, afterwards state superintendent, was its editor, succeeded by A. J. Craig, also state superintendent. Rev. J. B. Pradt is now one of the editors. Discontinued in 1865, in consequence of a withdrawal of state support, it was resumed when partial aid was afforded. Several substitutes started elsewhere, but they do not come within our limits. When Gen. Fallows succeeded as state superintendent, upon the death of Mr. Craig, he revived the *Journal*, and Superintendent Searing continues the publication.

The *Wisconsin Farmer*, commenced under another name in Janesville, was removed to this city in 1855, the interest of one proprietor being purchased by E. W. Skinner and D. J. Powers. The paper was conducted with great energy by Dr. J. W. Hoyt, assisted by the skillful pen of his wife. The paper died after twenty years of struggle, beaten by extensive capital in such enterprises in eastern cities. The *Norse* press

has had severe vicissitudes. Many courageous efforts have failed; none conducted with first class talent, nearly all have been respectable. The names of some failures are given, but some may have escaped notice: *De Norskes Ven*, Friend of the Norseman; *Den Norske Amerikaner*, American Norseman; the *Nordstjernen*, Northern Star; *Immigranten; Billed* (or illustrated) *Magazine; Imigranten; Den Liberale Demokrat*, and *Wisconsin Banner*, have all perished. There remains only to-day the *Nordvesten*, a liberal democratic weekly, edited and published by L. J. Grinde. The *Nordvesten* deserves success. Ole Torgerson's *De Norskes Ven* was the first paper in a foreign tongue in this county. It was whig in politics, and appeared in 1850, but a few months ended its career. *Den Norske Amerikaner* appeared in December 1854, and died in May, 1857. "The Scandinavian Democratic Press Association" brought out the *Nordstjernen* in 1857. Their effort was not successful, although changes of management were tried. The *Emigranten* was brought to this city from Immansville, Rock county, but after years of partial success, that also was gathered to its fathers. There have been several fugitive periodicals of a religious character.

The German population supports the *Wisconsin Botschafter*, started by Porsch and Sitzman in 1869. There have been several German papers, but none have prospered. The *Staats Zietung*, democratic, edited by August Kruer, continued two years. The

Madison Zietung, republican, hardly lived two years. The *Madison Demokrat*, published in 1858, perished in 1860. The German population is large enough to sustain a paper, but it is divided in politics. The young men become absorbed in the great mass of Americans, notwithstanding their love and admiration for *Vaterland*, and they are not disposed to support a sectional press which falls short of the American standard. The highest type of German intellect is ill adapted to the daily press, and cannot meet the special aptitudes of this population, in which the paper has a position and popularity not approached in other parts of the world.

Many papers deserve obituary notices in the category with Longfellow's hero, who,

> "By the wayside fell and perished,
> Weary with the march of life."

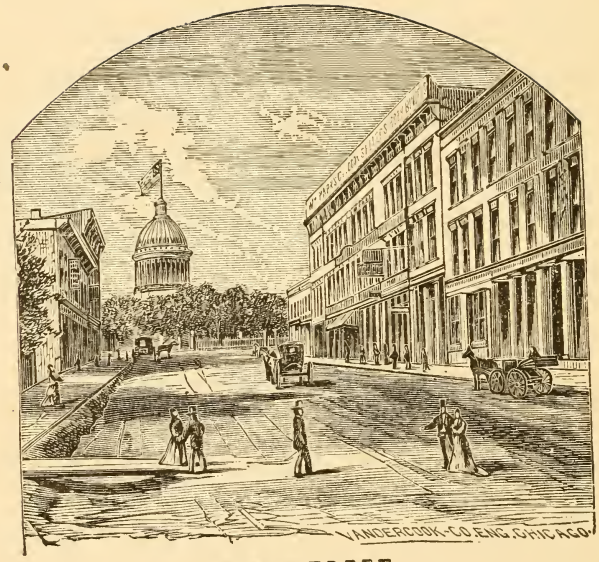
The *Madison Capitol* was started in 1855 by J. Nolan. The *True American*, edited by an association, appeared during the same year. The *Western Fireside*, by S. H. Carpenter in 1857. The *Higher Law*, by Herbert Reed, in 1861; and the *Soldiers Record*, by S. W. Martin in 1864. Our educational interests were served by the *Northwestern Journal of Education, Science and Literature*, in 1850, under the editorship of Prof. O. M. Conover, and by the *Free School Journal*, edited by J. L. Enos. Of Dr. Hunt's ephemeral, the "*Old Oaken Bucket*," a temperance paper, we can only say, *Requiescat in pace.* The *Stu-*

dent's Miscellany was commenced during the session of 1857, and its tone reflects credit on the management. The *Home Diary* is a sparkling occasional paper edited by V. J. Welch, which deals vigorously with every topic that is touched. A paragraph, denouncing the shortcomings of Park & Co., in selling a copy of Burns' poems without "Holy Willie's Prayer," is a favorable specimen of the style, which we subjoin:

"Friends! be cautious in buying Burns' poems. We were saddled with a copy recently in which "Holy Willie's Prayer" was omitted. Park sold it to us. He is a Scotchman. He is one of the "presbyt'ry of Ayr."

"Lord, hear my earnest cry and pray'r,
Against the presbyt'ry of Ayr;
Thy strong right hand, Lord, make it bare,
Upo' their heads,
Lord, weigh it down, and dinna spare,
For their misdeeds."

The depth of guile implied by that accusation admits of no reply, except the reasonable penalty of supplying to every lover of the Scotish Bard a copy of his works, without which no library is complete. Park should be visited at once.



KING STREET.

(Between Webster and Pinckney Streets)

LOOKING WEST.

CHAPTER IX.

MERCHANTS AND BANKERS.

Great changes have come since Madison was settled by four housekeepers, who procured supplies from the peddler's cart and the post office store. There were bright fellows in the settlement, but they dispensed with much that we deem essential. Tom Jackson, the Scotchman, whose whip-saw cut lumber for the capitol, before Wheeler was ready, was almost a manufactory. Tom illustrated the possibility of doing without indispensables, but not as they do in some parts of Scotland. His old log house was on fire, and the last glass had dulled his wits. Tumbling out of bed, Tom, who was called Jack for brevity, pushed his lower limbs through the sleeves of his jacket, and with many an adjective declared that "some fellow had cut off the legs of his pantaloons." The better appliances of life were more remote than the seedy unmentionables of Tom Jackson. Everything was in the rough. The park was the forest primeval. Prairie fires annually crossed from marsh to marsh. Game was abundant. Prairie chickens and quail were shot in the village, where bears, wolves and deer were not strangers. Many years later Col. Bird's hotel stood in an unbroken forest, and trees that now ornament

the park were planted at the instance of Judge Knapp, who risked having to pay for the improvements. The woods abounded with game, and deer were particularly plentiful until 1849, when the Winnebagoes killed 500 near the Asylum. They would have cleared the country, but the settlers interfered. The supply was important, when any man might depend on his skill for a dinner. The commissioners' store was not the pioneer. Simeon Mills was deputy postmaster and storekeeper before July, 1837. Mr. Catlin, his partner, says that barrels of salt and flour, hauled from Galena, were then worth $30 and $20 each. "Wild cat currency" was the circulating medium, and the notes of Judge Doty were at a premium. The legislature, during the session of 1838–9, passed a "stay law" against recovering debts. The predominant sentiment of the community was hatred of banks. 'Squire Seymour says that in 1839 there were two stores, three groceries, a steam mill, three public houses, and in all thirty-five buildings. Dr. Chapman mentions, in 1846, Shields & Snedden, Finch & Blanchard, and E. B. Dean & Co., as the storekeepers of the village. Fairchild's store came next. The population had increased from 62 to 283. The doctor was told there were 400 inhabitants, but many farmers were looked on as village residents. Messersmith's house, on Pinckney street, was in full blast, with a "wet grocery" down stairs and "the tiger" above.

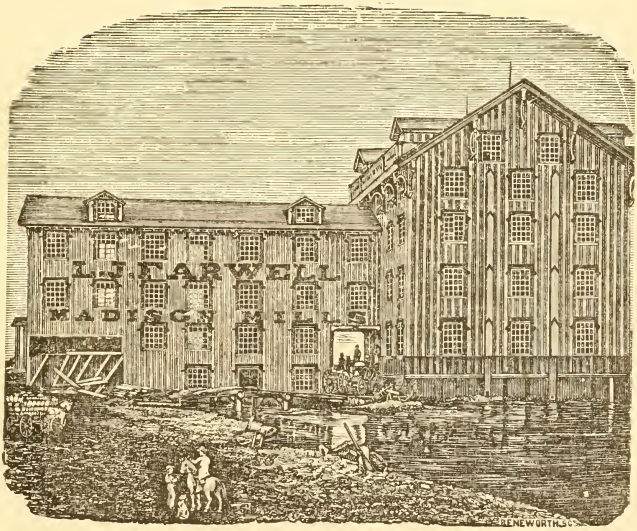
The first help to Madison was the location of the capitol. The next, the arrival of Mr. Farwell, who

invested money and energies in permanent improvements. His fortune was not large, and part was invested elsewhere, but he brought the reputation of wealth, and turned it to excellent account. He systematically made known the beauties and excellences of the locality, and induced others to invest. His coming gave an impetus, labor acquired value, real estate changed hands, roads were opened and cleared; the press all over the union had paragraphs about Madison. We were no longer out of the world. The marks left by Farwell can be seen in our growth.

Until the capital was permanently located there was little progress. Lobbyists hoped that another site would be chosen when the constitution was adopted, and Milwaukee wooed the legislature. Fixity of tenure could alone justify expenditure on property. Hence the slowness observable in every branch of enterprise. That period of doubt had passed when Mr. Farwell came and invested in real estate in 1848. The business advantages and beauty of Madison were his constant themes, and he spared no expense in giving them publicity. Remunerative works on a large scale were undertaken. Mendota was dammed at its outlet, increasing the fall two feet, and Monona, lowered by the removal of an old obstruction, made a further improvement. Farwell became more beneficially associated with the growth of Madison than any of its pioneers. The inexhaustible reservoir, thus turned to account for industrial enterprise, created a demand for workmen. The lakes unfolded a promise

of wealth. When H. A. Tenney came, he was introduced by J. A. Noonan to all the celebrities in a few minutes. The little *coterie* in 1845 numbered few besides Governor Dodge, Secretary Floyd, Judges Dunn, Irvin and Miller, George P. Delaplaine and Mr. Mills. Manufactures and enterprise changed the aspect of society. Until Mr Farwell came, the place had never been thought worthy of a circus. When that distinction was attained the legislature adjourned to see the show. The villagers had depended on each other for amusements, but there had been ample leisure.

Improvements were made rapidly, and golden visions were common. The circuitous Yahara was superseded by a straight canal. At the outlet of Mendota a long building contained a saw and grist mill. Tibbits and Gordon built their brewery below the mill, and the court house was commenced in 1849. The old jail, once let as a shoemakers' shop, no longer met the wants of the community. Farwell started his grist and flouring mill in 1850, and opened two roads across the Yahara. The first dormitory at the university was erected in 1850, in a thicket remote from the village, hardly approachable. Prominent citizens began more beautiful homes and other improvements. Men became speculative. Ditching, planking and planting Washington Avenue, by Mr. Farwell, was an act that found no competitors, but in other ways his conduct provoked a spirit of emulation.



Farwell Mill.

The years 1851–2 were prolific in the erection of business blocks. Public houses were found inadequate and the Capital House was commenced by associated effort. Messrs. Vilas, Fairchild and Farwell bought the venture in 1853, and the hotel was completed before the fall. Madison was a paradise for builders. The best positions were rapidly occupied for business. The Presbyterian church was finished, the foundations of the Catholic church laid, and the Milwaukee and Mississippi railroad company commenced building their depot in a growth of coppice wood on the spot occupied by the successors of that company. Early in 1854 the depot was ready, the bridge constructed and the first train of passenger cars arrived. The celebration took place on Tuesday, May 23, 1854. That was a great day for Madison and the surrounding country. Other works were undertaken during the year, including a fire-proof structure for the safe keeping of the state registry, a new bridge across the Yahara, a brick church for the Baptists, the second dormitory of the university, the extension of Washington Avenue, specially due to the liberality of Ex-Governor Farwell, and the commencement of the asylum for the insane. Men assumed that there would be a population of ten thousand here within two years. There was a woolen factory, a flouring mill, a grist mill, two saw mills, an oil mill, a mill for sawing stone, foundry and machine shops, two steam planing mills, besides other extensive undertakings, three daily papers and five weeklies, and a sale of

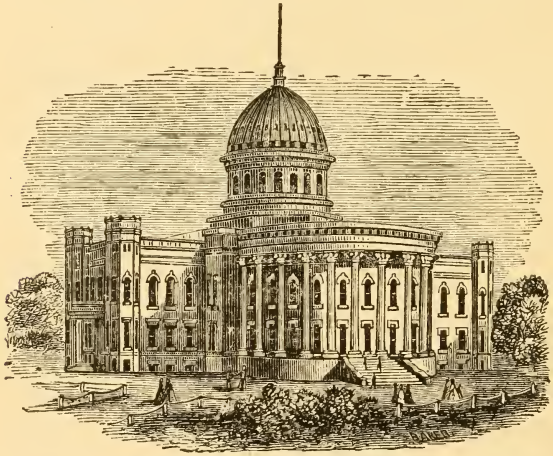
more than $500,000 worth of produce during 1854–5. Seymour's Madison Directory, in 1855, gave excellent grounds for anticipating rapid growth. The population was nearly seven thousand. Ex-Governor Farwell was offering desirable lots, with credit, extending ten years if required, provided that purchasers should occupy and improve. Telegraph lines connected Madison with the whole circle of civilization. Goods could be purchased at little advance on the charges in any metropolitan city, and some storekeepers said much cheaper. The American Express Company had an office, the Madison Mutual Ins. Co. had entered upon its successful career, and other companies had opened agencies. The State Agricultural Society had rooms in Bruen's Block, and there was every facility for coming into the world with the aid of science, remaining, with all the graces that art and dry goods could afford, and at the last being undertaken for, in a style replete with grace and finish, so that the end crowned the work. There were banks, a water cure, and it is difficult to imagine a want which Madison had not appliances for immediately satisfying. Over three hundred and fifty houses were built in 1854.

The Madison Hydraulic Company, to supply water from Lake Mendota, was a failure; there was a difficulty in procuring capital. The Gas Company seemed to be in danger, but the secretary, B. F. Hopkins, leased the works, and made the enterprise a success. In the same year, Ex-Governor Farwell commenced the residence, which was purchased as a

Lake Side House.

"Hospital for wounded Soldiers," next occupied by the "Soldiers' Orphans," then given to the State University, and since sold to be used as a Theological Seminary and College, by the Norwegians. Rapidly as the building mania spread, every new comer was forced to build, if his means would permit, so continuous was the demand. Trade prospects grew more encouraging, school houses were required, and churches well sustained. Madison became a city on the fourth of March, 1856, and Colonel Fairchild was its first mayor. The necessity for school houses was recognized by the city council, and $24,000 appropriated to erect schools. The City Hall was commenced in 1857, and the main building of the University was awarded to contractors, to be finished before November, 1858. The log house erected for Eben Peck was saved from falling by being torn down, after twenty years' service. About the same time, as if the old "tavern stand" must be identified with the capital, there was a new proposition to remove. The capitol was dilapidated, and rivals said that as a new structure must be raised, the time was favorable for a transfer. The city authorities met the difficulty by donating $50,000 in bonds, towards erecting the present edifice. That settled the question. While affairs were thus progressing, came the financial crisis of 1857. The crash was disastrous to Madison. Milwaukee availed itself of the confusion, to renew the attempt to remove the seat of government. Upon the third reading of the bill, there was a tie vote; but

by an adroit movement, the measure was killed for the session; delay, meant death. Many associations of public value date from this time, among which, we note: "The Capitol Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1;" "Mendota Fire Engine Company, No. 1;" "Madison Engine Company, No. 2;" the "Governor's Guards;" the "Madison Guards;" and the



WISCONSIN'S CAPITOL.

"Dane Cavalry." Already, the excitement arising from the troubles in Kansas, was producing an effect in military and other organizations.

The postoffice had long been established, and well served, but railroads had given greater completeness. Pioneers remember when the nearest postoffice was at the City of the Four Lakes, from which village there was a road partly cleared to Fort Winnebago.

When John Catlin and his deputy got into working order, things were better. Darwin Clark remembers the mail for the village being brought in a handkerchief. Newspapers increased the bulk, but for some months there was only an occasional copy of the *Cooperstown Freeman's Journal*, which had a wonderful circulation from hand to hand. There would have been more newspapers, as there were few books, and whisky drinking was not universal; but there was a strike among the hands. The men that came with Colonel Bird signed articles, with the understanding that their pay, $2.25 per day, would commence with the journey, but a proviso, that if they left within three months, there were to be deductions. The transit from Milwaukee commencing on Wednesday, ended eleven days later, on Saturday, so that there would be a large drawback on every man's pay, if he should quit the work prematurely. The trouble arose on the questions that still agitate the Union — paper money and resumption. The commissioners were said to have been paid the amount of the congressional vote, in specie, which they had deposited in the bank at Green Bay, the bills of which establishment were used for wages. The notes could be used with little loss in the territory, but every removal cost a "shave" of from ten to fifteen per cent., and even then the exchange might be made in "wild cat" paper, that would speedily lose all value. Hence the workmen demanded specie payments, and the commissioners deferred that operation. Many

would have left at once, but for the three months' proviso. A large proportion did leave as soon as that time had expired. There was little difficulty in supplying their places. There was not much employment in Wisconsin. Several strikes occurred. The stone cutters, at Stone Quarry Point, now McBride's, combined to get higher wages.

The prices charged for everything were enormous, and there was little margin, unless men limited themselves to bare necessaries. A man could get board for $5.00 per week, and lodge in the dormitory near the east gate of the park — the club house, sleeping apartment and literary assembly. But as soon as ambition suggested the desirability of personal adornment, or outlay for any other purpose, money took wings. Would the workman build a log house to prepare for matrimony? The barrier was not only that better halves were scarce and that the cost of calico was prodigious. Pinneo and Butterfield would have their own price for shingles, and the customer must wait until there was no whisky to be had on credit. Nails cost three shillings per pound; the brownest of brown sugar fetched a like price; a pound of sperm candles cost one dollar, and every article was proportionately dear. No wonder men struck for higher wages. Speaking of prices, we may revert to the charges preferred against the old commissioners and their contractor-partner, "Uncle Jim" Morrison. The amount of the two votes from congress — not from the territorial legislature, for that body had no money

to appropriate — was $40,000; and when the territorial authorities brought suit against Morrison, it was proved by measurements and vouchers that the basement alone cost $13,000. Moses M. Strong was the attorney for the territory, and Mr. Fields conducted the case for Morrison, so that there was no lack of zeal or ability on the side of the government, but the action was a failure. When the population had settled down to industrial pursuits, upon the return of the citizen soldiers, a directory was published, in 1866, by B. W. Suckow. John Y. Smith was the historian. Many prominent business men, in the record of 1855, did not survive the crash of 1857. Those who had invested in real estate, found that item the least *real* among their assets. Ex-Gov. Farwell had specially devoted himself to that branch. It would be an endless task to name the failures, therefore one instance may suffice for many. Tibbits and Gordon, a short time before the crisis, could have realized $60,000 beyond paying every cent; and when the storm burst, so hopeless was every effort, they could not pay fifty cents on the dollar. Gov. Farwell's ruin called forth much sympathy. He had built up the community, spending his own money in a liberal spirit and inducing others to invest. Men thrown out of their customary labor could remember the generous employer who had given work to hundreds. A policy less open handed might have enabled him to tide over the panic, but the village would have been much slower in becoming a city.

The crisis destroyed the value of real estate, closed up stores, factories, workshops and offices, threw men out of their gainful avocations, and brought gaunt famine near to many doors which had been fondly thought secure from its dread approach.

After the crisis, some mills were resumed, and in 1866, the manufactories of the city included the flouring mill built by the ex-governor, owned by Mr. Briggs; a woolen factory, the steam flouring mill of Manning and Merrill, and the iron foundry commenced by E. W. Skinner in 1851, on the corner of State and Gorham streets, sold in succession to W. S. Huntington in 1859, and to Andrews & Co. in 1864. The foundry of E. W. Skinner & Co. occupied the building raised by Gorham for a steam saw mill. The mill changed hands, and was made into a foundry by I. E. Brown. P. H. Turner bought the property in 1859, when the country was recovering from the crash, and Mr. Skinner became the proprietor, adding to his firm O. S. Willey and S. D. Hastings. That establishment, in 1865–'6, employed fifty men, besides canvassers all over the northwest. Beginning with one sorghum mill in 1861, it extended its operations to eleven in 1862, one hundred in the following year, and in 1865 more than five hundred. The Capital Iron Works, owned by J. E. Baker and operated by Mr. Stillman, had been entered upon in 1865. There were, besides, two planing mills, three cabinet ware manufactories, and great hopes that the peat beds would become factors of immense prosperity.

The Agricultural Society, a young institution when Mr. Seymour published his directory, had grown strong, and the old rooms were to be given up for the better location in the capitol. The patriotism of the society in vacating its grounds for military use rendered it impossible to hold exhibitions from 1861 to 1863; but in September, 1864, Camp Randall having well nigh completed its military avocation, was available for the arts of peace. The value of the institution is beyond praise. It has stimulated agricultural and inventive industry and skill, largely to the advantage of our city and state. Abraham Lincoln, then not dreaming of the presidency, honored the society on one occasion by delivering the annual address. Other orators, well worthy of being particularized, are omitted for want of space.

The State Hospital for the Insane was commenced under an act passed by the legislature when Gov. Barstow was in office, in 1854, but in consequence of a misunderstanding, the contractor, Andrew Proudfit, did not proceed. There was no blame attaching to him, and he recovered damages. Two years later the scheme was revived, but the original name of Lunatic Asylum was changed to the title now in use. The contractor, in 1857, was compelled to abandon the enterprise, but the building was made ready in 1860. Col. S. V. Shipman was the architect; additions were made in 1861. Dr. Clement was medical superintendent in 1860, and Dr. Favill assistant. In 1864, Dr. Van Norstrand became medical superintendent, and

Dr. Sawyer assistant. There was no change in the office of matron, which continues to be filled by Mrs. M. C. Halliday.

The fact that the capitol graces Madison is due to the business tact of the citizens. The grant of $50,000 in city bonds has been mentioned. The east wing was undertaken in 1857, and the legislature occupied the building in 1859. The west wing was commenced in 1861, amid the discouragements and financial pressure incident to civil war, and that wing was finished in 1863. The north wing, the south wing, and the rotunda followed in the order named, the dome being completed before the commencement of this decade. The material is not so good as the beauty of the structure demanded, but the commissioners did the best possible under the circumstances. The internal finish is admirable, and the conveniences afforded for the several departments are all that can be desired. Few persons visit Madison without mounting the wide iron stairs that lead from the upper floor to the second, in which are found the chambers of the senate and assembly, the supreme court, the state library, and the still more attractive collections of the state historical society. Those who are wise and vigorous mount the tholus, whence the scene is enchanting. The galleries and storerooms are reached by the same stairways, and one *suite* is occupied by a lady artist, whose paintings and statuary reflect honor upon the state.

The want of proper banks caused the first strike

in Madison, hence it is important to mark the career of our banking institutions. We were dependent on Green Bay, in 1837, for doubtful advantages, and "wild cat" currency. The early traders were bankers. Business was not sufficient to permit of money being made a specialty. There were only thirty-five buildings in Madison in 1839, and there was no bank. The census in 1843 showed that banks were still unknown, and the total of population was 342. There was a considerable increase of inhabitants, but no bank in 1848, when Wisconsin became a state, and permanent improvements were in order. The Wisconsin Fire and Marine Insurance Company provoked the governor in 1849–50 by issuing certificates of deposit, which served the purposes of banking. Great numbers availed themselves of the facility, denounced as unlawful.

The question, "banks or no banks," Gov. Dewey said, in 1851, must be dealt with. He strongly opposed the banking system. The law of 1852, approved by the people, was the answer to his fears. Wisconsin concluded that there should be safe banks. There was no lack of justification for the doubts entertained by Gov. Dewey. People could not forget the disastrous failures of the banks at Dubuque, Milwaukee and Mineral Point; the last of which cost the community more than $220,000. Those failures impoverished all classes. There had been a struggle against "wild cat" currency from the earliest days of the territory, which may be summarized. The strike

of the workmen on the capitol is matter of history. They wanted money that would not require a perpetual "shaving" process. An act, which passed the first legislature, to establish a bank in the village of Prairie du Chien, was disallowed by congress. Two years later, Gov. Dodge recommended an investigation of the three banks at Green Bay, Milwaukee and Mineral Point, and there was a show of inquiry. The bank at Green Bay was pronounced insolvent, but that had long been patent to everybody. The Bank of Mineral Point was declared in flourishing circumstances, although it failed soon after for nearly a quarter of a million. Gov. Dodge and Mr. E. V. Whiton did their utmost to protect the people, but without success. The fate of the Milwaukee Bank has been already mentioned. There was little cause for wonder that many persons dreaded the banking system. So well defined was the sentiment, that the first convention drafted a constitution that prohibited banks, and the circulation of small bills. The people rejected that constitution, but the feeling remained powerful. The message of Gov. Dewey intimated his views, and it was not until 1852, when the people had pronounced on the bank problem, that Gov. Farwell assented to a banking law. Precautions were adopted to protect the community from being flooded with worthless bank bills.

Unauthorized bank paper required stringent legislation in 1854. Banks rapidly increased, circulating semi-secured bills, under the inspection of the bank

comptroller, whose duties merged in the functions of the state treasurer in 1868. There were in the days of Gov. Bashford forty banks, but the crash year 1857 saw many contractions in number and amount. The bank comptroller declared that many institutions closed without loss to billholders, but the statement did not hold good throughout the crisis. The banking law was amended in 1858 under Gov. Randall's *régime*. There were then seventy-five banks, twenty-seven of which took their rise in 1857. There was a large increase of banks up to 1861, when Wisconsin currency was discredited in Chicago, and the farmers, alarmed beyond measure, held meetings to discuss financial dangers. Many banks that were sound were looked upon with disfavor. Thirty-nine were discredited. In one year there was a decrease of $3,209,000 in the declared amount of capital invested in banking. The bank comptroller exacted additional securities from the banks that continued, and there was no great failure during the remainder of the war. In 1868, the office of bank comptroller was discontinued on the recommendation of the then incumbent, Gen. Rusk.

Resuming our narration as to Madison, little time was lost after the law of 1852 came into force. The State Bank, on Pinckney street, between the postoffice and Bruen's Block, was opened in January, 1853, with a capital of $50,000, under the direction of President Samuel Marshall and Cashier J. A. Ellis. The Bank of the West began on the second floor of Bruen's Block, in March, 1854, with a capital of $100,000,

and the officers were Samuel A. Lowe, President, and Wm. L. Hinsdale, Cashier. The Dane County Bank, in the same block, began its operations in October, with a capital of $50,000, the officers being Levi B. Vilas, President, Leonard J. Farwell, Vice President, and N. B. Van Slyke, Cashier. There was, in addition, in 1855, a bank of discount and brokerage on Morris street, of which J. M. Dickinson was manager and owner. Catlin, Williamson & Barwise advertised as bankers and land agents, dating their establishment from 1836, just a little before Madison came into existence. The Merchants Bank of Madison was organized in 1856, and commenced business in July. A. A. Bliss, of Ohio, and C. T. Flowers were president and cashier. The Wisconsin Bank of Madison, with M. D. Miller, President, and Noah Lee, Cashier, was also organized in 1856. The Bank of Madison began in April, 1860, with a capital of $25,000. The president was Simeon Mills, and the cashier, J. L. Hill. The First National started into vigorous existence in December, 1863. The board of directors consisted of L. B. Vilas, S. D. Hastings, N. B. Van Slyke, George A. Mason and Timothy Brown. The directory of 1866 only showed four banks in operation: The Farmers' Bank, the First National, the Madison, and the State Bank. Many of the leaders had entered into new combinations; some had disappeared altogether; N. B. Van Slyke had become president of the First National. The State Bank retained its first president, but procured a new cashier, L. S.

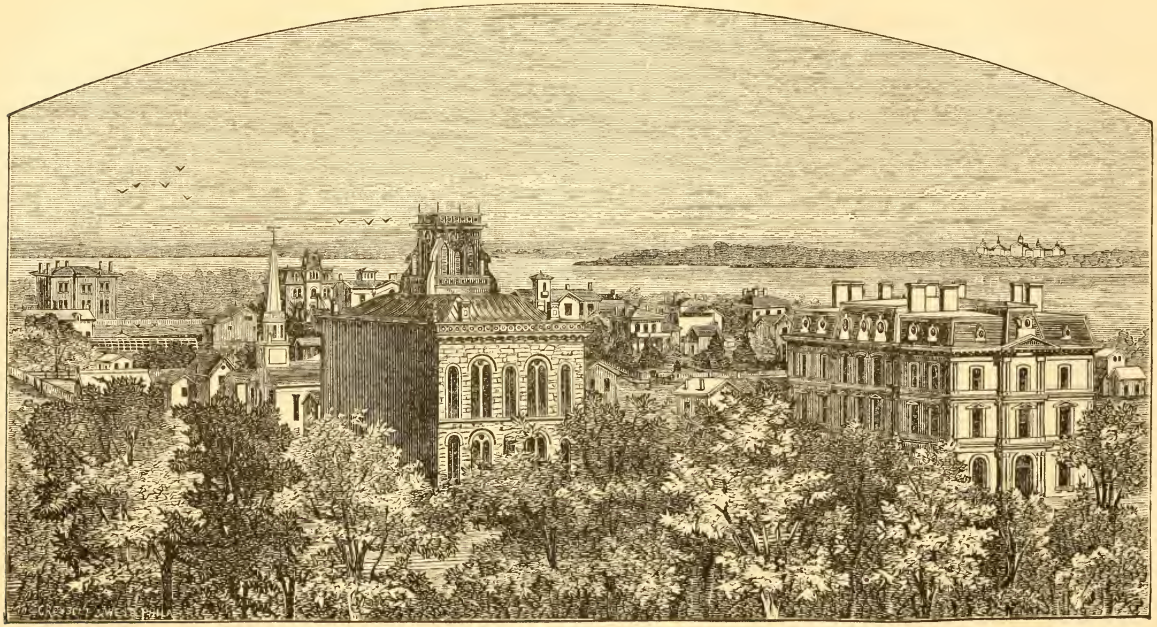
Hanks, who still remains. The Farmers' Bank had offices next door west of the State Bank, and J. H. Slavan was its cashier. Brainard's city directory for 1875 showed a total of five banks, comprising in addition to two of the four last named, the German Bank, on King street, near Main, the Park Savings Bank, and the State Savings Institution, the last of which has since ended in disaster. The Bank of Madison failed for a considerable amount. The loss fell heavily upon all classes because of the faith reposed in the financial strength of some few names. The banks now operating in the city are, The First National, with a capital of $150,000; the president, N. B. Van Slyke, deserves mention for the care with which he has presided over the finances of the State University; The State Bank, with President Marshall and Cashier L. S. Hanks; The German Bank of J. J. Suhr, on King street, and The Park Savings Bank, which commenced in November, 1871, and has transacted a business quite as large as circumstances warranted the proprietary in anticipating. Capital, $50,000. The president is Dr. J. B. Bowen, and the cashier, Dr. Jas. E. Baker, the offices being at the corner of Washington avenue and Pinckney street, in a handsome block, the property of Dr. Baker.

The time in which banks were dreaded by the poorer class and distrusted by the leaders of public opinion has, we may hope, passed for ever. Failures are inevitable; misfortune will overtake individuals; but the banker *per se* is one of the most useful citizens. He

is the medium by which wealth, which would otherwise be wastefully hoarded, can be brought from its hiding places to multiply the riches of a nation.

The post-office, once a small log house, is now one of our handsomest buildings. The United States courts are held in the same elegant structure, on the third floor. Business keeps pace with increased accommodation. There are 2,400 boxes in the post-office. The offices of the United States marshal; the assessor and collector of internal revenue; the pension agent; as well as those of the clerks of courts, the judges and the postmaster, are conveniently grouped under one roof. The structure forms one of our illustrations. Postmaster E. W. Keyes has marked individuality. For eight years he has served as chairman of the Republican State Central Committee with such good fortune, that, when recently assailed, his vindication was welcomed by men of every class. Upon his return from Washington, his welcome home was an ovation in which judges and others, dissevered from him in political life, bore a conspicuous share. Mr. Keyes studied law under George B. Smith, and is a member of one of our most respected legal firms. His father was a pioneer of note in the early days of Wisconsin. Madison must feel pleased that the executive ability of the party which has so long controlled the state has, from the beginning, been vested in a prominent Madisonian.

The factories and business houses can only be briefly mentioned. Breckheimer, Fauerbach, Rodermund,



City Hall and U. S. Post Office — Lake Mendota in the Background.

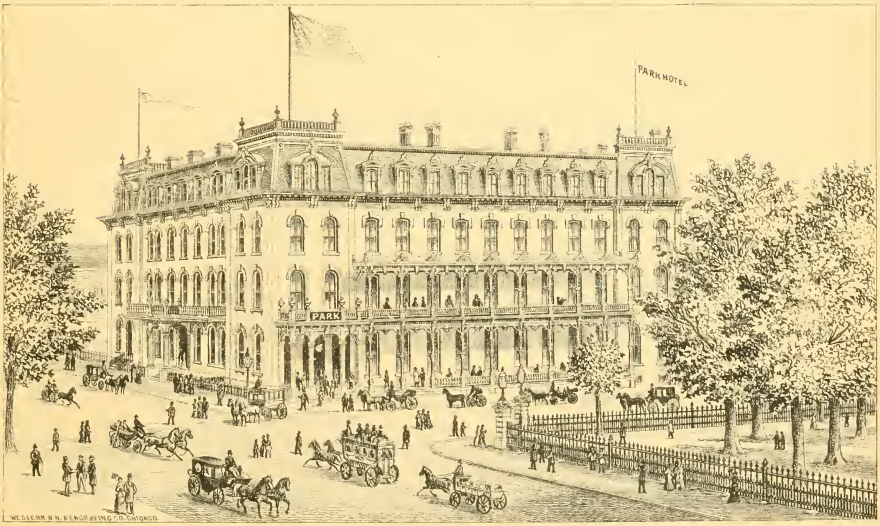
Hausmann and Hess are the brewers; there are five carriage and wagon building firms; two bookbinderies; four book and job printers, English, and one German; seven carpenters and builders; one distiller and rectifier; thirteen dry goods houses; two express agencies; five furniture warehouses and factories; two founders and three machinists; three grain dealers; thirty-three grocers; four dealers in hardware; twenty-six hotels, including the Park, the Vilas, the Capitol and the Rasdall, which are the principal in the order in which they are named; the Madison Mutual and the Hekla are home insurance companies, and there are many agencies; there are four livery stables well appointed; manufacturers of and dealers in tobacco are six in number; there are fifteen merchant tailors; two omnibus lines; three daily papers, five weekly, one tri-weekly, one semi-monthly, and four monthly; we have one plow manufactory; two makers of pumps and windmills; one reaper factory; two sash, door and blind factories; two restaurants and thirty-one saloons; a soap and candle factory; a stereotype foundry; a soda water factory, and the Madison Woolen Mills. We have in all 450 business houses. The city has not reached the limits of its prosperity. Our agricultural resources are boundless, and the water powers have not been utilized to more than a tithe of their capacity. One man, whose name carries weight, says that we must not look to manufactures for a success, which will come much more surely and speedily to Madison as a watering place.

With proper deference, we look to both sources for a great prosperity in the future. The beauty of Madison is unsurpassed, but she must also grow rich by her factories.

The railroads in operation are, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, and the Chicago and Northwestern. The traffic is extensive. The demand for hotel accommodation is so large that years since that fact was advanced as a reason why the government should be located elsewhere. Several prominent citizens procured the incorporation of a company to erect and furnish the elegant building which is now our leading hotel. The enterprise was completed in 1871, being opened in August. The Park Hotel arrangements for the comfort of visitors have not been surpassed in the west, and for the number and variety of beautiful views from every window, the whole world hardly contains its superior. The first lessee, Mark H. Irish, commenced his tenancy in August, 1871, ending in the corresponding month of this year. He has been succeeded by Mr. A. H. West. The extensive frontage on Main street is ninety-five and on Carroll street one hundred and sixteen feet. The building consists of four stories above the basement, and is seventy feet high, built of Milwaukee pressed brick, containing one hundred and eighteen sleeping rooms, twelve private parlors, one reception room for ladies only and one for ladies and gentlemen, a general dining room and a ladies ordinary, general and private offices, bathrooms and suites of

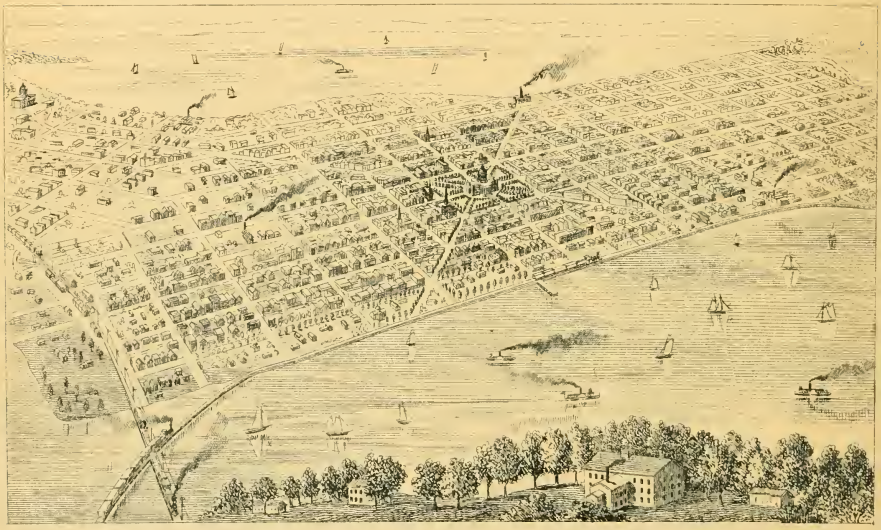
apartments with bathrooms attached. It is no disparagement to the other hotels in the city to say that the Park is the best. Capital, sufficient for such a building, could only be obtained by coöperative effort, and the support afforded from the beginning has been quite satisfactory. Mr. D. K. Tenney says, very wisely, as to the charms of this locality: "Madison and its surroundings are the handsomest on the face of God's green earth. This is our capital and should be turned to profitable account. No other place in the west possesses it. For all the purposes of pleasure seekers, for rest and recreation, for quiet, beauty and delight, for sporting and fishing, for sailing and swimming, for the intoxication and relief of all the higher senses, Madison has no equal; none to approach her west of the sea side. Madison, says a writer, 'rises between her beautiful lakes, like a gem pillowed on the bosom of a queen.' But thousands who ought to know our attractions are ignorant of them. Twenty years ago, Madison was written up, and people were acquainted with its charms but could not get here. A dozen fresh crops of tourists have sprung up since who have never heard of us; a new crop is on the road every year. Thousands would come to us for recreation, and spend their money here to the reviving of every channel of trade and prosperity."

"PARK HOTEL" SOUTH CORNER CAPITOL PARK



Madison, Wis. A. H. West, Proprietor.

BIRDSEYE VIEW OF MADISON, WIS. AND ITS SURROUNDINGS.



CHAPTER X.

SCHOOLS, LITERATURE AND ART.

Those who came to build the capitol and make homes in its vicinity were mainly from eastern states where they had enjoyed the advantages of school training. Many had taught school, and it was a privation to be removed from books and other intellectual delights. Schools for the young were provided in due time, but the first want was an association for adult culture. Whist, euchre and "old sledge," were diligently pursued by skillful amatuers, who straddled a fallen tree all Sunday, engaged in that absorbing occupation; but the pasteboard ministers of pleasure would not supply all demands. The pioneers established a debating society with stated meetings, chosen subjects formally announced, and a regular organization, that afforded better employment for leisure. The log shanty sleeping room in the park, already named, thirty feet by twenty, was the hall in which the weekly tournaments of wit and wisdom were provided. The club house athenæum was a popular rallying place, and few lyceum courses have proved more interesting. There were no attractions elsewhere to militate against the popularity of the movement. The summer of 1837 saw the debates in full swing, and

they continued until November, when all the workmen except Darwin Clark were paid off. During the winter there were no meetings, because the debaters and audience had gone to Milwaukee, and the understandings of the minority were exercised in a dancing academy, the members of which celebrated Madison's first New Year, with two days devotion to Terpsichore. The zeal of the devotees may be gathered from the fact, that on the second day, shoes were dis pensed with. Mr. Turveydrop would perhaps have found fault with such freedom of deportment.

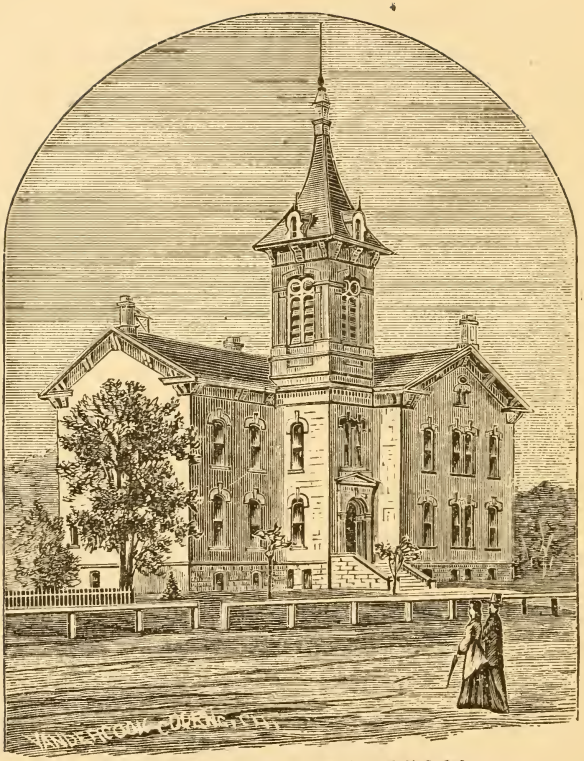
There was a renewal of the debating society in the spring of 1838, and many new members joined. Work did not absolutely cease the next winter, and the meetings continued. When the legislature held its first session in the village, home talent in the log shanty was pitted against imported eloquence, in the frozen capitol, and the more dignified assemblages were not always the winners. Sheriff Childs stirred up Morrison's pigs in the basement of the capitol, to drown the voices of some of his associates, but in the little athenæum, there was choicer music, as well as more courtesy. The leaders in literary debate were not called on to compete with vivacious porkers. There was an idle time in the summer of '39, work was scarce, and the weekly meetings tended to become permanent clubs, for retailing stories. Some of the master spirits of the "Thousand and one" were on hand. One of the latest efforts under the old auspices was George Stoner's interesting lecture on phrenology, il-

lustrated by phenomena. The lecture was published. The lecturer may again be heard from. His younger brother, James Madison Stoner, was the first white boy born in the village. The Madison Institute was an outgrowth of the minds that originated the debating society, an intellectual successor. Incorporated in 1853, its rooms were in Bruen's block, now Brown's; and the leading papers and magazines with some few books were procured for members and visitors. The winter of '54–5, was signalized by a course of lectures in which Horace Greeley, James R. Lowell, Bayard Taylor, Parke Godwin and John G. Saxe appeared. The library had then one hundred volumes, and other collections made up a total of about 13,000 in the hands of the state, the executive, the university, the state superintendent, the historical society, the agricultural society, the natural history association, the district school, and Mr. Draper, the invaluable collector and corresponding secretary of the historical society. The library of the Institute has largely increased, and is now located in the city hall, where it is open every afternoon, and on Saturday evenings. Some years have elapsed since the last course of lectures was undertaken by the society, and it is time to fix a date for resumption.

The first schools have been named elsewhere. Miss Pierce taught the girls in a building near the site of Dean's Block in 1840. There were then only thirteen pupils in the village. Mr. Searle opened his school for boys in 1839, and was succeeded by Mr. William-

son. David Brigham, Jas. Morrison and Burk Fairchild, as school commissioners in December, 1841, set off school district No. 1, which was subsequently enlarged, including a wide area besides the village of Madison. In the next year, Mrs. Gay opened a select school for young ladies. Two years later, the public schools were so crowded that tuition was kept up all the year to meet the demand. Four months had been the maximum. David H. Wright was the first teacher to carry out the extended term. The school room had a kind of shelf, called a gallery, on which the smaller pupils were placed when the more advanced scholars required the floor, and ventilation, on any principle, was neglected as an extravagance. Miss Smedley taught during 1845, and a larger building was found indispensable. The "Little Brick," school house on Butler street was a palatial structure in its day, but that also became too small. Jerome R. Brigham and Royal Buck taught there in succession for three years. Madison Academy had been incorporated, the village made a school district, and soon afterwards the preparatory department of the state university was opened by Prof. Sterling. The first graded school dates from 1850, with Jas. L. Enos, principal, at a salary of $30 per month, and Mrs. Church had control of the primary. Damon Y. Kilgore, superintendent, urged an increase and improvement of school accommodation in 1855. There were 1,600 persons of school age in the district, less than half of whom were attending school. Three grades were established by the board,

and there has been no material change since. The school board and trustees could not agree as to an authorized outlay of $10,000, and plans for new schools languished; but two years afterwards, Mr. Kilgore reported eleven schools employing fifteen teachers, the number eligible for tuition being nearly two thousand. School houses in the First and Third wards were finished and others sanctioned, but the money difficulty stood in the way. High school was taught in the old Congregational church, employing eight teachers for 133 pupils. That institution was in better quarters in 1860, but was then discontinued for want of funds, and for the same reason the summer term of the ward schools was abandoned. Miss Cones procured the use of the building and furniture from the board, and, at her own risk for a time, conducted a high school for young ladies. When Prof. C. H. Allen asked the city to provide better school training in 1863, there were nearly 2,000 of school age in the district beyond the number in average attendance. High school was reopened with about one-third of its former total, and soon afterwards the Fourth ward school house was commenced. State Supt. McMynn pronounced that building "the best in the state," and the Second ward was supplied with a like structure on the same plan. The school house in the university addition was finished in 1870. Three years later the high school on Wisconsin avenue was erected on the old site, and is much praised; but modern science suggests the desirability



MADISON CITY HIGH SCHOOL.

of more floor space and less stair climbing for all pupils, but more especially for girls, as more important than architectural beauty. Widely extended buildings of only one story, would not be so ornamental as the average of our school buildings, but they would be easier warmed and ventilated, and the results, in a physiological sense, would far outweigh every other consideration, among the best informed.

The High School is at present under the direction of Professor Shaw, whose efficiency as Superintendent of the city schools is a matter for the school board as well as our citizens to be specially proud of. The denominational schools connected with the churches of St. Raphaels, St. Regina and the Holy Redeemer, deserve special mention. There are excellent private schools, whose merits can only be glanced at. R. F. George is the principal of the Commercial School on Wisconsin Avenue and Johnson Street, and the Northwestern Business College in Ellsworth's block, of which Messrs. Wilmot, Demming & Boyd are proprietors, are schools of high standing. Add to these several institutions the college just opened by the Norwegian church in the old Farwell residence, and it will be seen that the sum total of facility for tuition in this city is scarcely excelled by any other place of its size in the Union.

The Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters was originated by a convention in the state agricultural rooms in February, 1870. The purposes aimed at are explained by the title, and the spirit in

which the work has been prosecuted, justifies the assumption that "the foundations may be laid for an institution that shall be of practical utility, and a lasting honor to the state." The transactions of the academy have been published by votes of the legislature, and among the many valuable papers are some that would do honor to any institution of the kind; but which would hardly commend themselves to the directors of the daily press as popular reading, from the recondite matter introduced. Madison has given a large proportion of the officers of the academy for the current year. Professor Davies of the State University is General Secretary; Prof. S. H. Carpenter, Vice President for Department of Speculative Philosophy; Dr. J. W. Hoyt, Vice President for Department of Fine Arts; Gen. Geo. P. Delaplaine, Treasurer; C. N. Gregory, A. M., Librarian; and E. T. Sweet, M. S., Director of Museum.

The State University has added largely to the aggregate of literary culture, for which our city stands preëminent. It is our purpose to name some of the more prominent among our men and women of letters, briefly noting their contributions, and it is due to the University that we begin with a sketch of its accomlished president. John Bascom was born in Genoa, N. Y., on the first day of May, 1827, as we learn from "Durfee's Biographical Annals of Williams College." He is consequently now in his fiftieth year. Having fitted for college at Homer Academy, N. Y., he entered "Williams" in 1845, and graduated four years

later. Severe study, and the necessity to teach while pursuing his course as a student, weakened his visual organs, as in 1853 he partially lost the use of his eyes so that he was dependent on others for his reading, and for five years sight was not fully restored. Steadfastly pursuing his studies, Mr. Bascom graduated at Andover Theological Seminary in 1855, and was called to the professorship of rhetoric in Williams College. In the year 1858, he published a work on "Political Economy," to which his mind had been specially directed, while serving as tutor at Williams College in 1852–3. Four years later his second book appeared, a treatise on "Æsthetics," followed in 1865 by a volume on "Rhetoric," and in 1869 by "Psychology," a work treating one of the most engrossing subjects of modern thought. "Science, Philosophy and Religion" in 1871, the "Philosophy of English Literature" in 1874, and the "Philosophy of Religion" in 1876, may be taken as evidences that the lesson of five years in semi-darkness has not been construed into an excuse for taking things easily. The university duties devolving upon President Bascom are onerous, but they do not exhaust his mental force, and the superfluous energy of the scholar finds expression in additions to our literature, such as will cause the name of the writer to be remembered in future years. President Bascom is a diligent contributor to some of our leading quarterlies.

Prof. R. B. Anderson has long been a successful author. His graphic work, amplified from a lecture,

"America not discovered by Columbus," won recognition on both sides of the Atlantic. It is now out of print, but a new edition is demanded, and may be looked for shortly. "Norse Mythology" has gone through its second edition, and a third is in the press. "Viking Tales of the North" is just out, and the demand attests the author's reputation. Besides these works, by which Mr. Anderson is best known in this country, he has produced many pamphlets and larger works in the Norwegian tongue, including "Julegave," or "Yule Gift," and "Den Norske Maal-sag," or "The Norse Language-Question." His translation from the Swedish of the "Handbook for Charcoal Burners," a combination of prize essays on the subject, has attracted much attention. Mr. Anderson is professor of the Scandinavian languages, and librarian of the State University, in which capacity he has twice visited Europe, and will repeat the tour shortly, as a member of the Congrés des Americanistes, which will assemble in the Duchy of Luxembourg. The professor is a lecturer of considerable merit, honorary member of the Iceland Literary Society, participating in all the publications of that association, Scandinavian editor of McClintock & Strong's Cyclopedia, and of Kiddle & Schem's Educational Cyclopedia; contributor to numberless Scandinavian papers in Norway and this country, and well known as a reviewer for magazines, of acknowledged merit. Circumstances have brought the professor in contact with many of the world's most renowned scholars and poets,

such as Max Müller and Whitney, Bjornson and Longfellow, and his collection of autographs is most interesting.

Prof. W. F. Allen was associated with T. P. Allen in producing the "Handbook of Classical Geography," in 1862, and with Chas. P. Ware and Lucy McK. Garrison in a volume of "Slave Songs," in 1867. In 1870, Mr. Allen produced an "Introduction to Latin Composition." Joined with Jos. H. Allen, in 1868 and 1869, he wrote a "Manual of Latin Grammar," "Latin Lessons" and a "Latin Reader," and during the current decade, associated with Jos. H. Allen and Jas. B. Greenough, has added to our literature six works on Cicero's Select Orations, *De Senectute*, Sallust's Catiline, Virgil, Ovid and Cæsar. Prof. Allen ranks among the most prominent Latin scholars in America, and is a constant contributor to *The Nation*, *North American Review*, and other such publications.

Prof. S. H. Carpenter was born at Little Falls, Herkimer County, N. Y., and at the age of twenty-one graduated in Rochester University, receiving from that institution in 1855 and 1871, the degrees of A. M. and LL. D. The professor commenced his career in our State University as a tutor in 1852, and has been identified with the interests of education ever since. His publications can only be glanced at, but their titles are descriptive: "Education a Mental Possession," "The Moral Element in Education," "Education a Necessity in a Free Government," "The Evidences of Christianity," "University Education,"

"The Drama," "An Address to the State Teachers' Association," "The Relations of Skepticism to Scholarship," "Conflict between the Old and the New Education," "Metaphysical Basis of Science," "Relation of Educational Institutions," "Philosophy of Evolution," "Industrial Education," "The Educational Problem," "Historical Sketch of the University," "Our National Growth," and still unpublished an address on "The Duty and Difficulty of Independent Thinking." Prof. Carpenter's "English of the Fourteenth Century," and "Introduction to the Study of Anglo Saxon," cannot fail to live as standard works; and he has translated from the French of Émile de Laveleye, "The Future of Catholic Nations" and "Political Economy and Socialism," besides contributing largely to periodicals of the highest type.

Dr. James Davie Butler, LL. D., was born in Rutland, Vt., and graduated at Middlebury College at twenty-one. Having studied theology in Yale and Andover, he next became a traveler in Europe, Asia and Africa, extending his researches into Polynesia by visiting the Sandwich Islands. Returning to his *alma mater*, he became a tutor in Middlebury College, and, in succession, professor in Norwich University, Wabash College, and in our University, in all, about eighteen years. He officiated as a Congregational pastor at Wells River, Vt., Peabody, Mass., and at Cincinnati, O. He has published "Armsmear," a memorial of Col. Colt; "Letters From Abroad," which appeared in Boston, New York, Cincinnati, Chicago and Mad-

ison, and valuable papers in *Kitto's Cyclopedia Bibliotheca Sacra*, *Quarterly Register*, and in connection with the American Institute and our State Historical Society. The professor is well known as a lecturer, and his occasional sermons are always listened to with profound interest.

Lyman C. Draper, A. M., LL. D., has rather aimed at preparing material for future historians, than at becoming a writer of books; but he has won for himself the title of "The Western Plutarch." His attention was early directed to the want of efficient collection, which prevented masses of facts, once well known, from being authenticated for historical use, and much of his life has been devoted to the rectification of that class of errors. Circumstances have aided him in some degree in becoming acquainted with notabilities, and his personal reminiscences of La Fayette, De Witt Clinton, Gov. Cass, Chas. Carroll, Daniel Boone, and others equally celebrated in their several spheres, would make one of the most readable volumes of the day. His collection of MSS. is certainly the most valuable in the west, and in the hands of a skillful writer, might be wrought into works of engrossing interest and great literary value. Mr. Draper has seen service in the field; has been justice of the peace in Northern Mississippi, editor of a newspaper, farmer, and since his removal to this state, has been identified with the State Historical Society, as we have elsewhere recorded. As state superintendent of public instruction, his labors deserve honorable mention.

His published works consist of pamphlets and school reports, evincing much research, the seven volumes of collections of the Historical Society with valuable notes, "The Helping Hand," a work in which Mr. Croffut assisted, and two works are now ready for the press; one, in which Mr. Butterfield was his colaborer, entitled "Border Forays," and, though last, not least, "The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence," a book full of careful compilations on the daring assertion of independence enunciated at Mecklenburg, N. C., more than twelve months prior to the time from which we date our centennial.

Dr. J. W. Hoyt, A. M., M. D., LL. D., is already known to our readers as editor of "*The Wisconsin Farmer*," but he has served the state in numerous other capacities. Worthington, Ohio, was his place of nativity, and in that state he was Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence in the Cincinnati College of Medicine, as also, at a later date, Professor of Chemistry and Natural History in Antioch College. The doctor was Secretary of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society; was founder and President of the Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, besides holding many other appointments of honor and usefulness, which defy enumeration. His services to the State University alone would require more space than we have at our disposal for this brief notice. His works consist of thirteen annual reports of the State Agricultural Society, and other reports on the resources and progress of Wisconsin; on the London

International Exhibition; on the Paris Exposition *Universelle;* on the Railroad Commission; as chairman of the National University Committee; a work on "University Progress;" and numerous monographs, industrial, educational and scientific. The doctor has a well stored mind, and its resources are ever at his fullest command for the work of the hour and the age.

Mr. H. A. Tenney has figured in many other chapters of our history, and he must not be forgotten among our authors. To him are due the earliest sketches extant of Dane and Pierce counties, and innumerable contributions preserved by the State Historical Society. He has been a Wisconsin man from a very early date. He has now almost ready for the press, a volume on "Early Humor in Wisconsin," which should have a good sale.

D. S. Durrie, whose unobtrusive labors in the State Historical Library have been too little noticed, deserves more than a passing mention. He has long filled the position of Librarian. His works consist of the "Bibliography of Wisconsin;" "Early Outposts of Wisconsin;" "Bibliographic Genealogy of America;" "The Steele Family;" "Holt Genealogy;" "Utility of the Study of Genealogy;" "History of the Four Lake Country;" and parts of the "History of Wisconsin;" of Iowa and Missouri. Mr. Durrie compiles with faithfulness, and has a conscience in his literary labors.

C. W. Butterfield was born in July, 1824, and has

prosecuted his literary labors with much good fortune. His principal works are the "History of Seneca County," Ohio; "A System of Grammatical and Rhetorical Punctuation;" "Crawford's Expedition against Sandusky, in 1782;" and in conjunction with Mr. Draper, Mr. Butterfield has produced "Border Forays." A new edition of Crawford's Expedition may be expected shortly from the pen of this able writer.

Rev. J. B. Pradt has long been a resident in this state. He has issued ten volumes of the *Wisconsin Journal of Education*, from 1860 to 1865, as editor and publisher, and from 1871 to the present time, as co-editor and publisher. Mr. Pradt has also assisted in issuing eight annual reports of the Department of Public Instruction; and an edition of the Constitutions of the United States and Wisconsin, with historical notes, questions and glossary.

Rev. Ames C. Pennock came to Wisconsin in 1844, and four years later, joined the M. E. Conference, preaching in this state and in Minnesota until 1862, when in consequence of impaired health, it became necessary to abate his labors. Mr. Pennock has had experience as a farmer, merchant, agent, author, editor and newspaper correspondent. He is now a publisher of books as well as a writer. His mind revels alike in poetry and prose, and those who have encountered him in theological controversy will long remember the event. He has published a brief, but very exhaustive work, on "The Fall and the Rescue

of Man;" has now in course of publication, "The Problem of Evil, or Theory and Theology," and has written a volume of poetry.

Professor Nicodemus has now ready for the press a translation of "Weisbach's Engineer," a work of admitted value, which cannot fail to be recognized as a standard production. The translation from the Swedish, by Professor Anderson, of Svedelius' "Handbook for Charcoal Burners," was edited by Mr. Nicodemus, who contributed copious notes from the writings of acknowledged authorities. Many articles in the published proceedings of the Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters are due to his industry, and other additions to our current literature might be given, were it necessary to complete the catalogue.

Prof. Searing, superintendent of public instruction, was one of the faculty of Milton College, in this state, prior to his election to the office now worthily filled by him. His published works consist of an address on the "Character of Abraham Lincoln," delivered shortly after the assassination of the martyred president, and a school edition of Virgil's *Eneid*. The great success of the book last named, led to the preparation of an edition of Homer's *Iliad*, which was nearly ready for publication when Mr. Searing was elected. In consequence of his call to the unsought honor, the book has not yet seen the light, but its appearance may be anticipated shortly, and its success looked upon as assured, so great and well applied has been the labor, and so exceptionally elegant will be the

illustrations. Prof. Searing deserves high honor for the strenuous personal efforts by which he has earned his own advancement in the department of letters. His official services have been properly noticed elsewhere. His career has been highly meritorious, and substantially successful; he is yet only on the threshhold of his literary eminence.

Mr. John Y. Smith, who wrote a history of Madison, in brief, for one of the earlier Directories, was a writer of great force, and fineness of intellect; but want of space precludes a becoming notice of his merits.

Col. Slaughter has been frequently mentioned in our pages, and it remains only to say that as a writer, he is a gentleman of high repute. He is now engaged on a series of Wisconsin Biographies, which will widely extend his fame.

Jas. R. Stuart is a native of South Carolina, where his forefathers settled in the first half of the eighteenth century, hence probably his adhesion to the "lost cause" for which he fought. His scientific training was procured in Harvard, his first instruction in art in the studio of Joseph Ames of Boston. After some years of school teaching in Savannah, he was enabled to prosecute his art studies in the academies of Munich and Carlsruhe. Mr. Stuart came to Madison in 1872, and many of his pictures have commanded admiration. Judges Dunn and Paine, in the supreme court rooms, are from his studio, and he has also painted Gen. Allen, of Oshkosh, Judges Miller,

Smith and Jonathan E. Arnold, of Milwaukee, besides others whose names could not be given without express permission. The fineness of touch for which Mr. Stuart is justly praised does not detract in any degree from the faithfulness of his presentations.

It may be thought that the ladies should have been preferred to the gentlemen in noting the literary and artistic workers in this capital; we propose always to keep the more precious to the last. Miss Ella Augusta Giles, authoress of "Bachelor Ben," and "Out From the Shadows," has been honored with copious notices in metropolitan journals accustomed to wield the scalpel of criticism with little mercy. Her books survive such scrutiny, and further contributions from her pen may be anticipated. Miss Giles has now assumed the role of editress of the *Milwaukee Magazine*, which with the commencement of the coming year will put on a new dress, and become much more widely known as the "Midland."

Mrs. Sara C. Bull has recently entered the field of literature, and has already established for herself a brilliant record by her excellent translation of Jonas Lie's "The Pilot and his Wife." The leading periodicals on both sides of the Atlantic are loud in their praises of Mrs. Bull's book, and indeed she has chosen for translation a novelist whose pictures of Norse life cannot be surpassed. They are like the music of Ole Bull played by Ole Bull himself, or like sky rockets that burst in the zenith and fall in gentle showers of fiery rain. The Pilot and his Wife is already in its

second edition, and more books may soon be looked for from Mrs. Bull's pen.

Miss Ella Wheeler has won triumphs as an authoress in this city, and her residence in Dane county enables us to include her name among the *Littérateurs* that adorn the history of Madison. The young poetess came before the public first in New York in 1873, when "Drops of Water" was the significant title of her work. During the same year, and almost at the same time, her second book "Shells" was being published in Milwaukee, so that east and west were alike doing homage to her genius. "Maurine," her third production, has evoked much friendly criticism, but we believe that "The Messenger," a piece published by Harper and Brothers, New York, will hardly be excelled by any of her later productions, bright and telling as they prove.

Miss Wilhelmina Fillans, an artist of considerable merit, has been already referred to as occupying a *suite* of rooms in the capitol; but since that mention was made, Miss Fillans has removed to other quarters. The lady comes of a family of artists, and her skill is beyond question. Many of her paintings grace the homes of Madison, and her modelings are no less fine. It would have afforded us much pleasure to have named a few of her works, but the lady's modesty forbids us that pleasure, and we can only refer our readers to her studio, where her labors will speak for themselves.

ROSEBANK COTTAGE.

CHAPTER XI.

MADISON HOMES.

Our title would justify a long chapter, but the limits allotted to our lucubrations have been reached, and we deny ourselves the pleasure of communicating to our readers many interesting details compiled with care. It would be strange if the charms of scenery, which have been praised by all observers from every part of the Union; which determined the location of the Capital and its retention here; and which won the admiration of the Antocthonous mound builders so completely, that they abode here for several centuries until war drove them out; had not induced many of our private citizens to erect elegant residences and almost palatial homes. Architectural beauties salute the sight on every hand in such numbers that it would be an endless task to name them all, and invidious to make selections. We content ourselves with doing homage to the general beauty which richly deserves more particular praise, and pass on to note the several societies which in a secondary sense become homes to wayfarers and new-comers; such as Goldsmith has immortalized in the line referring to the wanderer:

"Remote, unfriended, melancholy, slow;"

who but for such institutions would find no welcome

among strangers, but by every incident would be compelled to remember with sorrow the home of earlier days, hard to be effaced by new associations. Poor Oliver realized the fine poetic sensibility which made his traveling experience a

"Ceaseless pain,
That drags at each remove a lengthening chain."

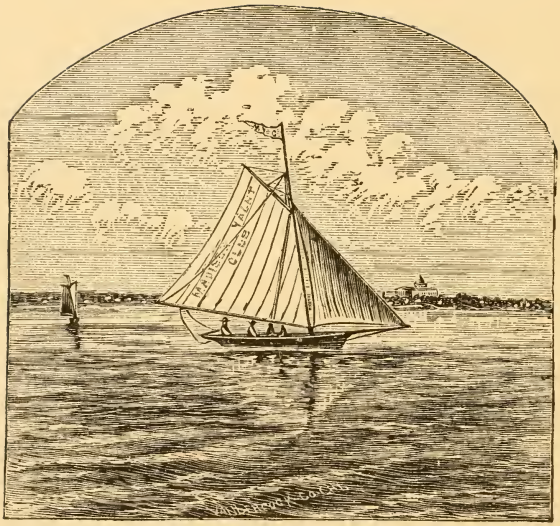
The old time prejudices have been well nigh removed in this vast caravanserai of nations and peoples, and every man who comes well vouched for, finds a home that may be made as happy as his first.

Society in Madison has been largely made up of men who have represented other parts of the state in some capacity, and coming here, have been tempted to prolong a temporary sojourn into a life residence. Men who can command the suffrage of their fellows must, as a rule, possess some excellence. The congregation of such minds makes a city a metropolis. The state officers make their homes in Madison and are, as a rule, handsomely lodged. The city officials include not a few who began adult life in this settlement, and have grown up with their surroundings, accumulating wealth with sound ideas as to life's enjoyment. The same may be said to a large extent of other officials, and it is still more true of our professional classes. The development of elegant tastes has resulted in beautifying this city until it challenges comparison with others of like dimensions and wealth, certain of victory.

The masonic fraternity dating its claim on human regard from Solomon's temple, and the fidelity of the Grand Master, Hiram Abiff, has three blue lodges, one Royal Arch Chapter, one Council, and one Commandery in this city. Brethren of the mystic tie make the five points of fellowship a sober reality in this region, and where the hailing sign becomes necessary, there is never a lack of response to the call. Labor and refreshment are alike regarded as sacred duties, and free and accepted Masons who understand the golden rule of life make the society which they tincture a desirable place of abode. Masonic Lodges, and the celebrations arising therefrom, were among the earliest social gatherings in this community, and they retain preëminence. Other organizations founded on the same general idea of brotherhood have a large aggregate of members. Knights of Pythias are well represented. Sons of Temperance abound in good works; and Good Templars are more numerous than, and as well organized, as the Templars of old time.

The Odd Fellows have three Lodges and one Encampment; the Druids have a Grove; the Germans have a Scheutzen Club, a Mænnerchor, a Dramatic Society, a Turn Verein, a Literary Society and other associations. There are also a Grand Army of the Republic; a County Bible Society and other affiliations so numerous in connection with the several churches, that no person desiring fellowship can long remain a stranger. The city has innumerable attractions for every variety of taste. That must be a strange intellect that would

find nothing congenial in the numberless societies that open their circle to the worthy; nor any objects of interest in the vast collections in the rooms of the Historical Society, the Agricultural Association, and the Academy. The schools and churches have been named in their order, but their social value as organizations would deserve whole pages of comment and laudation. Our illustrations must afford some faint idea of the architectural beauty of this city, and the discreet reader will argue from the less to the greater. The University overlooking Lake Mendota tells its own story. Lake Monona, and the vessels of the Yacht Club furnish a handsome picture. One church must stand as the representative of many. The streets and principal stores are not entirely wanting in our illustrations. The view of Lakeside over Monona is beautiful as a scene in dreamland. The old house of Eben Peck, long since torn down, reappears as it stood in 1837. The view of the Post Office and City Hall, with Lake Mendota in the distance, is a charming representation which, in a general way, will give the distant observer an idea of the capital of Wisconsin. The presentation of the Capitol itself comes as near as the circumstances will permit to a reproduction of the original; and but that the expense would have been such as to have largely increased the selling price of the work, it would have been a pleasure to have completed the pictorial circle, so that the artist's pencil and graver might have done justice to beauties which the skill of the writer fails to present in adequate language.



LAKE MONONA.

(Or Third Lake)

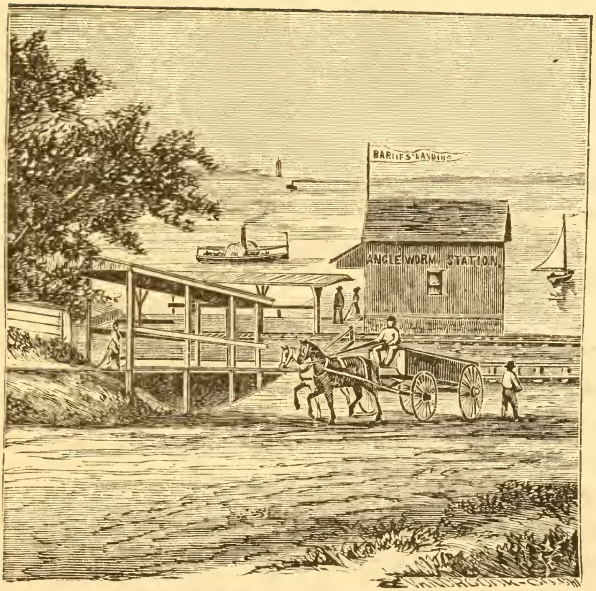
LOOKING TOWARD MADISON.

CHAPTER XII.

VISITORS AND THEIR PLEASURES.

Pursuit of health has brought thousands to this city, who have found hygienic conditions not often combined. Beauty is a large element in relieving the pressure of nervous complaints by calling attention from real and assumed disorders. That charm is here in the superlative degree, and, in addition, a mild and salubrious atmosphere. There are exquisite nooks for bathing, and enclosures in which art has assisted nature in making the pellucid waters attractive, so that swimmer and nonswimmer can enjoy the health giving plunge. The amateur fisherman could hardly find better sport than here, and while patiently waiting for a bite, his eyes can feast on beautiful impressions, which can never be effaced. The lakes invite rowing and sailing; the shores unfold new attractions with every change, and steamboats make excursions with modest speed, lest visitors should not enjoy the landscape inclosing the crystal gem. Citizens propose to improve the drives which girdle the city and lakes. One suggests a road round Fourth Lake, following the shore, which would give "a drive of twenty-five miles, absolutely unrivaled for beauty." A second proposition contemplates a new

lake shore drive of five miles, to the charming site of the State Hospital for the Insane, and there is good hope that the idea will be realized. The beautiful university drive is likely to be extended to Picnic Point. There are rural retreats, easy of access from this capital, which shut out the city, yet within an hour's transit, all the advantages of social science and material advancement can be reached. Visitors are attracted by our university and pleased with our graded schools. The church spires pointing to the stars challenge admiring notice. The railroads and postoffice, with always increasing facilities, and the telegraph wires by which the world is girdled, bespeak the obedient spirit of science, more apt than the fabled Ariel. The Capitol, whose form of beauty compels admiration as soon as the eye lights on Madison, offers substantial evidences of civilization connecting us with the great world which we daily miniature. Here, in the several libraries, are choice books, newspapers and periodicals; the best works of jurisconsults; the treasures of common and civil law, expressed essences of knowledge from the days of Justinian to our own; and by their side the liveliest essays of magazine contributors, separating them from works of profound historians and scientists. On the desks are our best newspapers, in many respects the foremost in the world, filled with vigorous assaults of partisan editors, who anticipate the final cataclysm unless their measures and their men are sustained; yet reassuring us by the news flashed along the wires,



ANGLEWORM STATION.

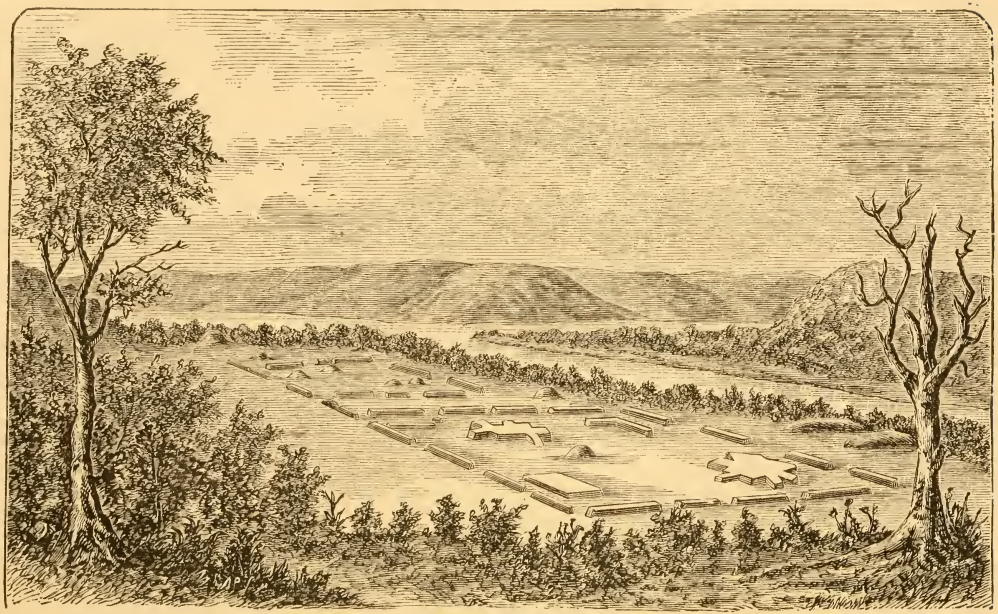
through mid air and under the sea, which, in revealing the condition of every country on the earth, from New York and London to Japan and "Far Cathay," unfold the fact that a thousand such jeremiads daily reach the limbo of nonfulfillment.

It has been objected that our population of ten thousand has not originated a line of steamboats that will compare, for beauty, power and convenience, with the Atlantic glories of Cunard or White Star; but the *Scutanawbequon* possesses a name that rivals the finest on the sea, and our boats, if not numerous and large as the Spanish armada, are equal to the occasion and will increase with the demand.

The names of celebrities who have visited us, as revealed by the books of the Park, the Vilas House, and the Capitol, would fill a volume, but few would peruse the record. Prince Napoleon, who passed through our city to Saint Paul, accompanied by his beautiful wife, the daughter of Victor Emanuel, *Il Re Galantuomo*, as Garibaldi named him, could hardly be considered our visitor, for he and his *suite* were closely cooped within locked doors, during the stay, but that could not prevent a cheer of welcome before the distinguished Prince *parvenu* moved on. It is more to our purpose that such men as Secretary Seward and Charles Francis Adams have been our guests, and raised their eloquent voices to infuse their spirit into the people. The balcony of the Vilas House, and the eastern steps of the capitol had on that day immense assemblies. Frederika Bremer was for

months a delighted visitor to our city and lakes. Louis J. D. Agassiz, the eminent Swiss naturalist, of whom Whipple says: "He is not merely a scientific thinker, he is a scientific force. ..... The immense influence he exerts is due to the energy and geniality which distinguished the nature of the man. He inspires as well as performs; communicates not only knowledge, but the love of knowledge." He was an appreciated and appreciative visitor, and many in this city can testify to those truths from personal experience, who grieved as for a dear friend when Agassiz died. The magician Ole Bull, whose wand is the wonder working bow, has on the shores of those lakes a home, to which the demands of a music loving world make him a rare visitor; but when leisure on this side of the Atlantic permits, he can forget Oleana in the witcheries of this region. The praise bestowed upon Ole Bull by Longfellow in his "Tales of a Wayside Inn," beggar any tribute that we could render. We content ourselves with claiming the distinction that belongs to Madison. Horace Greeley and Bayard Taylor visited us as lecturers; during the same season Jas. Russel Lowell, Parke Godwin, John G. Saxe, and other national celebrities were with us, and their appreciative words are treasured. Sumner lectured here on the question, "Are We a Nation?" Gen. Sherman was with us as the guest of Col. Reynolds, when the famous "March to the Sea" was the topic of all talkers; and Philip Sheridan, not less famous for his dashing exploits with cavalry, could

testify to the charms of which we boast. Hardly a day passes without the advent of some celebrity, attracted by our Historical Society, the reputation of our University, the beauty of the country, or the health giving charm that more than all else should vastly increase our popularity. There is hardly a city of the same dimensions in the Union that can show so excellent a record as to the number and eminence of its medical practitioners, side by side with such hygienic conditions in the resident population. Fain would we say more concerning the attractions which concentrate on this lovely spot, but space forbids. This will be, as its excellences become known and improved, by added wealth and numbers, one of the fairest cities in the world; our parks, eloquent with the plash of waters from numerous fountains, musical with the charms of art and nature, will hereafter remind the traveler of the vast outlay with which the *Grande Monarque* built up a far inferior beauty at Versailles. We have no palace of marble, such as he has left, no *Grande* nor *Petite Trianon*, no treasure of a nation spent in lakes and mountains; but there are glories from the hand of nature herself, grouped in this county, and visible from this spot, that beggar the triumphs of art, and we cannot better close this brief tribute than by saying to whosoever can appreciate all that is most excellent, come and help us to make the setting, worthy of the gem.



MARIETTA.

CHAPTER XIII.

MOUNDS, MONUMENTS, CAVES AND RELICS.

We live surrounded by monuments which point to the almost forgotten past, telling of our remote predecessors, the mound builders. The site occupied by our city was for a prolonged term, thousands of years ago, the abode of a people whose semi-architectural remains connect them with the civilizations of Aztecs and Toltecs, in Mexico and Central America. The *Teocallis* or temples, and the *Pueblos* or village houses, preserved by the more enduring character of their materials, in some cases, as at Palenque, Copan, Uxmal, long buried in impassable forests, are the wonder of the explorer; our monuments are only less complete. Where the central building of our State University stands, was a large mound crowning the eminence, but necessity compelled its removal. In other supremely beautiful positions, such mounds, all that remain of more extensive erections, bespeak identity in taste and judgment between the aboriginal occupants and ourselves. St. Louis was once called Mound City, because of the large number of eminences standing where that city unfolds her vast proportions. There are mound cities in many of the states. Cincinnati, Chicago, Milwaukee, among oth-

er cities indicate like agreement with the building of this city upon a spot on which the mound builders congregated. That fact is repeated in almost every large town in the Mississippi valley. Napoleon told his soldiery that from the pyramids, four thousand years looked down upon them; and not forgetting the words of Fuller, that those structures, "doting with age, have forgotten the names of their founders," it seems probable that this continent had an older civilization than that of the Ptolemies. Possibly this was the first habitable land then connected with Europe and Asia, and the home of a people who never dreamed of submergence by the barbarism, which has omitted to preserve, where it has not expunged their records. There are strange agreements, and variations no less curious, between some of the Egyptian structures and our mounds. Should the sands that flow on that land as the sea once rolled over Sahara, ebb back from the works which they partially cover, more significant resemblances might appear. We find no traces to determine the relationship between the people, unless the Ethiopians from Arabia Felix were the founders of both civilizations; but the likeness and unlikeness of their works afford evidences that similar ideas prevailed in the same or succeeding cycles in widely distant quarters. The discovery of America by Columbus, and by his predecessors, the Norsemen, are affairs of yesterday, compared with the primitive occupation to which the mounds bear testimony, dating from thousands of years before the Christian era.

Settlements in this region must have been large, so great were the remains that had defied "the tooth and razure of oblivion," until our civilization, with buildings and cultivation of the soil, made demolition rapid. Animal shaped mounds were here first noted. Dr. Lapham wrote on this subject to the papers in 1836; subsequently, Mr. Taylor communicated to the *American Journal of Science*, describing eminences with outlines of man and the lower animals, at distances ranging six, ten and twelve miles from the four lakes. So marked were the differences between our mounds and those in other states, that many concluded they were relics of a distinct race; but investigation showed agreements between the structures that dot the country from the great lakes to Mexico and Central America. Some of the curious mounds in this region that were in existence at recent dates, or are now, may be mentioned; but a complete record will not be attempted. Visitors coming to explore, will find no lack of indications to put them on the track of discovery. Dr. Lapham, assisted by the resources of the Antiquarian Society and the Smithsonian Institution, omitted surveys which would have been as interesting as any in his "Antiquities of Wisconsin," and Messrs. Squier and Davis, in the "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley," were similarly unable to complete the catalogue.

A great mound on State street was used grading the hollows in that locality. Near Lake Monona, adjoining Ex-Governor Fairchild's residence, was a liz-

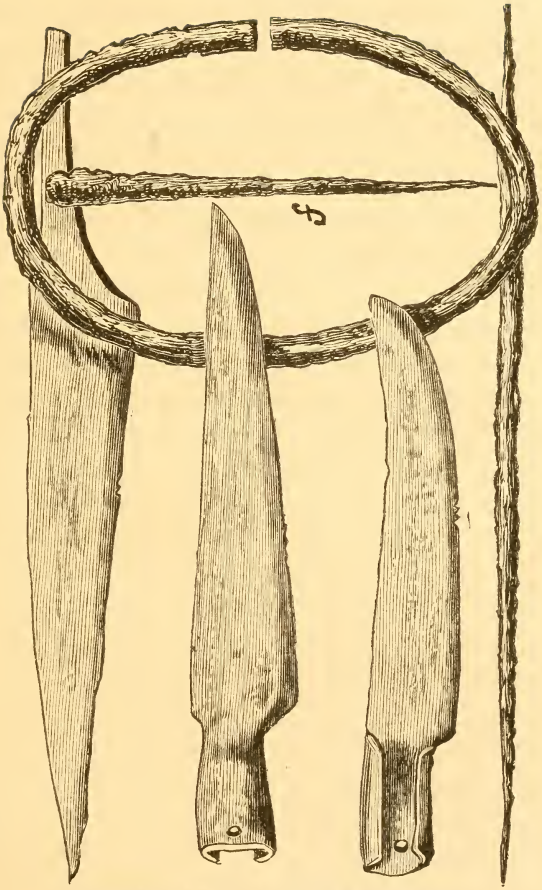
ard 318 feet long. The figure was rude, but not more so than was inevitable, considering that the mound was formed of surface soil, nobody knows how many centuries ago. It was removed in grading Wilson street and Wisconsin avenue. The mounds near the Hospital for the Insane are too well known to require description, and moreover, too numerous. North of Lake Wingra there were many mounds, embodying specimens of almost every variety, except works for defense. Five of them were oblong, twenty seven circular, one circular with lateral projections, one a bird, and two quadrupeds. Every writer on this subject is indebted to the surveys made by Dr. Lapham, whose work adorns the shelves of the Historical Society, with those of other authors who have made mounds their specialty. The south angle of Third Lake has extensive and regular works, in rows parallel with the ridges, occupying ground that slopes from the lake, like the seats in an amphitheatre. Back of these mounds is another, uniting the forms of a bird and a cross. At the foot is a sandy ridge having twenty-four elevations, on some of which additional eminences appear, representing animals. The twenty-four elevations may have been accidental, but they do not bear that appearance. The animal-shaped mounds upon them are clearly artificial. Dr. Lapham noticed a modern grave on one of the eminences, and on another the poles of an Indian wigwam, but no Indian can give an idea as to the origin of the mounds. The third volume of Bancroft's "United

States" contains a suggestion from Prof. Hitchcock that accident and natural action would account for many supposed antique works. There are earthworks that will not admit of any such explanation, and numerous circumstances connected with the majority are conclusive as to human ingenuity aiding their construction. Probably some of the twenty-four mounds were natural elevations, others having been added. All of them were covered with soil, and forest trees were growing on some of them when Dr. Lapham wrote. A ridge of land near the margin of a lake might be ascribed to the frosts of succeeding winters, but no such action could produce a series of mounds. The First, Second and Fourth Lakes have eminences that will repay inspection.

The world-famous "ancient city of Aztalan" demands greater space for description than can be afforded. The visitor cannot do better than spend a portion of his time in the rooms of our Historical Society, consulting the volumes mentioned and others yet to be specified, after which he will undertake inspection more intelligently, with much increased pleasure. Nothing short of actual examination can give an adequate idea of those earth-works. Between Williams' Bay, on Lake Geneva, and the head of Duck Lake, overlooking both waters, is a mound representing a bow and arrow, aimed at Lake Geneva. The span of the bow is fifty feet, the work, finely outlined, is in proportion. Lake Koshkonong skirts Dane county, miscalled Dade, in the "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi

Valley," and the mounds in that locality have been visited by President W. C. Whitford, of Milton College, and Mr. W. P. Clarke. The party cut through some mounds, and were repaid by relics of great archiac value. A skull of excellent type was removed by them, and many fragments of pottery similar to the *debris* in the remains of the Pueblo Indians, besides tools, ornaments and weapons, which will reward a visit to the college. Some of the mounds have been used for sacrificial purposes, and others for burial, but whether originally constructed for those purposes must be matter of conjecture. Residence, fortification, burial and worship have been served by the mounds in varying proportions.

Assume a common origin for Mound builders, Aztecs and Toltecs, an affiliation which becomes easy now that the mounds have been traced to Mexico, and we can comprehend the purposes for which many of those elevations were prepared. In Mexico, and along the line by which the Mississippi valley mound builders must have migrated if they reached or departed from the magnificent cities of Palenque and Uxmal, there are wrecks of dwellings in advanced stages of decay, which illustrate the service rendered by the foundation mound. The earthworks were floors on which were erected the pueblos, supposed by the Spaniards to be palaces of nobles, attended on by armies of dependents; but in reality, common abodes, in which whole cities, towns or villages found lodgment, pursuing customary avocations, living together in com-



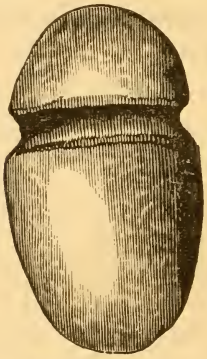
KNIVES, AWLS AND BRACELETS.

munistic equality. Some of those buildings would accommodate five hundred, in others five thousand could find room. The mound, sometimes faced and covered with stone, was itself a fortification, difficult of access, unless the visitor was aided from within. The platform being reached, the assailant, supposing war to be his object, found himself confronted on three sides by buildings, each story receding from the building line beneath, so that a stage remained available for defense. The edifice could not be battered down, the enemy possessed no artillery; could not be set on fire, it was faced, and to a great extent constructed with stone; could not be stormed, there were no doorways and stairs, the upper floors being reached by ladders and window entrances, which could be made unapproachable. Within that fortification the Pueblo Indians found safety against aboriginal war; and from windows and stages, as well as from occasional apertures for defense, missiles could be propelled with deadly effect. We find the floors of such buildings scattered through the valley of the Mississippi, but the vast deltas not being prodigal of stone, wooden buildings or mud walls were substituted. These materials decaying, the mounds alone remain. The Natchez Indians lived in houses of wood erected on mounds, which may have been their own handiwork, or that of long forgotten predecessors, when Tonti and La Salle observed their worship of the sun, and other indications of Mexican fellowship. The long house of the Iroquois, in which the tribe lived in com-

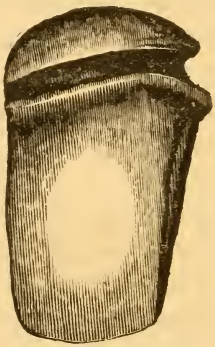
mon, with a fireplace for each family, shows that there may have been a time when nearly all were one brotherhood, acquiring customs since modified by circumstances, never wholly changed. The *Teocallis* or Temple mounds, of which there are many examples, had also crowning edifices. Features of resemblance remain where compatible with the partial use of perishing materials. The truncated pyramids approached by graded ways, and the final stages upon which sacrifices were offered, continue, because their constituents are little subject to decay. Professor C. G. Forshey followed those works with minute annotation through the Mississippi valley, and the reader can find the results in "Foster's Pre-Historic Races." Many of the mounds support trees estimated at from four hundred to a thousand years old. Capt. Jonathan Carver was first to invite attention to the mounds in the great valley, having examined works of defense near Mount Trempealeau. He also discovered the cave of Wakan Tebee, since destroyed by railroads, which had hieroglyphs or pictographs on its walls.

Much that pertains to this subject is omitted. Our book can be little other than a fingerpost, pointing to localities and monuments that will not permit of enumeration. The undeciphered hieroglyphs on Gales Bluffs, near La Crosse, are monuments that will not serve their purpose until the signs have delivered up their meaning. Sun dried bricks, bearing impressions of the hands of workmen; clay that served as a casing for a great man defunct, bearing

similar impressions of hands that shaped it over the corpse, preparatory to the burning which gave the consistency of brick; the burnt clay that is found mixed with charred straw, in the works at Aztalan; the ornaments of copper, silver, obsidian, porphyry and green stone, the tools and weapons by which men sustained themselves and little ones, are of the highest interest. The telescopic tube of stone, with which the mound builders examined the heavenly bodies, as



PORPHYRY.



GREENSTONE.

appears on a Peruvian relic, showing a figure carved on silver, bespeaks high civilization. The stone battle axes found at Kenosha; stone hatchets from Cottage Grove, from Green Bay, and from our immediate surroundings, are replete with human interest, because full of mystery from an age unknown. Some day we may master the problem which, sphynx like, demands solution, as to the tumuli systematically raised, enclosed in mathematical figures and lines of

circumvallation, builded by men who were conversant with mining operations, who could procure their own copper from the matrix, as well as shape it into artistic forms; who wove cloth probably when the lake villages of Switzerland were first settled; who could prepare designs in stone and clay, expressing thoughts that approach the sublime, and evince a comprehension of the beautiful; yet have fallen below the realm of history, leaving to generations now remotely following them, the task to discover "Whence came they?" "Whither did they go?"

DRINKING CUP.

By the kindness of S. C. Griggs & Co., the well known publishers, we present engravings of earthworks and other relics of the Mound Builders from "Foster's Pre-Historic Races," a book which should be in the hands of every thoughtful reader. The Mound Builders could not be omitted from our record, but a complete statement within our limits is im-

possible, and it affords us pleasure to refer the student to the fascinating pages of Foster. The works at Marietta were examined by Lyell in 1842. On that spot Dr. Hildreth saw a tree which showed eight hundred rings of annual growth. Prior to that time President Harrison had written a memoir, which went to show, that thousands of years must have elapsed from the first formation of the mound before such growths were possible. Every circumstance connected with the mounds points to a remote antiquity. Illustrations of utensils, weapons, tools and ornaments, might have been indefinitely extended, but enough has been given to suggest the degrees of civilization attained by the builders and occupants of the mounds in the Mississippi valley. The times in which they flourished cannot be safely computed, but Dr. Dowler found a skeleton at New Orleans, for which he claims an antiquity of fifty thousand years; and Agassiz gives an estimate of ten thousand years, at the least, as the age of human remains in Florida. The wondrous transmutations witnessed by this continent cannot be better illustrated than by the fact that the fossils of our rocks alone, reveal the form of the ancestors of the horse and ass; although there were no horses on this continent when the Spaniards landed in South America, save those which were brought by the invading soldiery.

Enough as to our predecessors, although enough has never yet been said. We turn to other features of interest. Eleven miles a little to the south of

west of Madison, in the ridge dividing the valley of Sugar river from the lake country, is a wonderful cave, which unlike the "cave of the Great Spirit," discovered by Captain Carver, has not been destroyed

SEPULCHRAL URNS.

by railroads. The basin of a lake covering an area of four thousand acres, discharged its volume ages since into the bluff by which it was bounded, and has worn the channel into a series of chambers and passages, which have been penetrated two thousand feet

by explorers, who do not know the extent of the cavern. There is no lake to fill the basin, nor has it been ascertained where the waters found egress below. The Four Lakes are five hundred feet beneath the level of the basin, and Sugar river flows at a distance of about a mile and a half; but nothing indicates that the riparian current is augmented from the old lake level. Explorers, with proper appliances, will find within the cavern a field for romantic adventure and curious observation. The grotto opens in the upper magnesian limestone, beneath which a stratum of sandstone has been reached, and the action of the water cannot have failed to shape vast halls, which imagination may people with gnomes, fairies and dwarfs, sufficient for unnumbered nursery stories. The entrance is obstructed by *debris*, but four narrow passages remain; within, is a succession of chambers, ornamented by stalactite and stalagmite, that glisten in fantastic shapes when torches are introduced. Voices of visitors can be heard distinctly on the ground overhead, the roof is in some parts much attenuated. After a storm, when the waters have been dammed back from underground fissures, the air escaping, roars like a steam whistle. It is probable that fossil remains may be found in the many storied cavern, sufficient to fill our museums.

Two hours ride from this city conveys the tourist from this placid beauty, to the bluffs of Baraboo and the wild aspects of Devil's Lake; which none fail to admire. Few localities offer so many charms within

a space so easily traveled. The Four Lakes are of course unrivalled; the mounds tell of hoar antiquity, when antediluvians may have peopled the country; the cavern suggests fossil treasures never rendered to the eye of man; and the Devil's Lake, even Lucifer must look upon with delight.