PRAIRIE DU CHIEN

LOCATION.—The town of Prairie du Chien, organized in its present limits in 1872, occupies part of township 7, ranges 8 and 7 west, in Crawford County. It had been created as early as 1849, including that at that time nearly all of the present Crawford County. It was gradually restricted in size, until in 1872 the town of Bridgeport was created out of its southern portion. It is bounded north by Eastman, east by Wauzeka, south by Bridgeport and a part of the city of Prairie du Chien, and west by the Mississippi River. The city of Prairie du Chien, a part of which is in the town of Prairie du Chien, is one of the oldest settlements in the state. It lies on the Mississippi River just above its junction with the Wisconsin, and is 300 miles below St. Paul, 70 miles north of Dubuque, 600 miles north of St. Louis, 98 miles west of Madison, and 198 miles from Milwaukee. For many years it was the most northerly landing on the Mississippi and the farthest west of the American frontier posts. Originally an Indian village, named after a chief of the Foxes, it was used as early as the middle of the eighteenth century by French traders who came there in the summer to exchange furs and game for supplies. Throughout the earliest period of settlement Mackinac was the source of supplies. Farming was gradually begun as a means of providing food. After 1816, as it developed into an American settlement, trade shifted from Mackinac to St. Louis, and the military posts, Indian settlements, and mining districts were also used as markets. At that time it took from twelve days to a month to make the trip from St. Louis to Prairie du Chien. The trip down the river could be made in from six to ten days. Boats could make 110 miles a day up stream with a favorable wind, with poles and sails. In 1829 the first upper river steamboat ascended the Mississippi to Prairie du Chien and beyond. In 1839 a horse ferry was established by Alexander McGregor between Prairie du Chien and the Iowa side of the river. About 1840 Bass and Rice operated a ferry for a short time in competition with McGregor. In 1857 the dependence of this western post on the river for markets was broken by the extension to Prairie du Chien of the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad. This was the most northern point on the Mississippi River to which a railroad had as yet been built. The same year a steam ferry was established between McGregor and Prairie du Chien. This was later bought by the railroad. In 1838 the La Crosse road was extended to La Crosse and was a rival of the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad (the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien after 1861) until 1866, when they were consolidated as the Chicago, Milwauk ee, and St. Paul. In 1859 the first shipment (ten carloads) of wheat from Minnesota to the Great Lakes was made by way of Prairie du Chien. Within two years 100 carloads were shipped daily from here. In 1873 Lawler's pile-pontoon railway bridge was completed. It was 8000 feet long, and crossing both channels of the river and an island (one about a quarter miles at this point), connected the Iowa and Wisconsin branches of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad. At this period Prairie du Chien was one of the largest freight depots in the state. It had a grain elevator with a capacity of 250,000 bushels, and 275 carloads of wheat were shipped a day. Bridgeport, in the adjoining town of Bridgeport, was also one of the principal shipping points of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad.

SURFACE AND DRAINAGE.—The town lies in the Driftless Area and is generally very rough and hilly, although the portions on the banks of the Mississippi are level. This level area above the river has much sand and gravel in its soil. Bluffs of magnessian limestone back of this plain, which is about a mile and a half wide, rise to a height of almost 250 feet. Above these bluffs, a slope of St. Peter sandstone over Trenton limestone rises another 100 feet. At the foot of these bluffs such fertile soil as there is in the town is to be found, and the early farms were here laid out in narrow strips from 40 to 80 rods wide and from 5 to 7 miles long. The town is watered by little streams, and there are many springs. Lagoons of the Mississippi in the western part cut into the town.

TYPES OF SOIL.—There is no regular soil survey of Crawford County. The government surveyor in 1840, Orson Lyon, in describing the quality of the land in range 6, called it all second and third-rate, in places mountainous, rocky, and broken, with the exception of the first 66 chains of the line passing through farm lot 20 between sections 17 and 20, which was level and first-rate. Descriptions of the soil give the soil along the Mississippi as sand, and on the ridges as heavy clay. The sides of the bluffs were often rocky and could not be used for other than grazing purposes or timber. The small proportion of improved to unimproved land as late as 1904 emphasizes these characteristics.

 Timber.—Parts of the town, in range 6, the surveyor found thinly timbered with white and burr oak. A small area in this range, in the northern part, was well timbered and in most of it he noted some white, black, and burr oak, some hickory, and not much undergrowth. Between sections 18 and 19 he found it too rocky for timber.

BEGINNINGS OF SETTLEMENT.—Prairie du Chien was one of the first French settlements in the state, and its beginnings are lost in the mists of tradition. Without doubt it is more than two hundred years old. In 1686 Nicolas Perrot built Fort St. Nicolas on this site, which was garrisoned for a year or more by Canadian militia, at one time under the command of Boisguillot. The remains of the old French fort were visible into the nineteenth century; it was located in the southern part of the prairie at the edge of the survey of 1820. This may possibly be the only trading post of Revolutionary times, but we are inclined to believe it was the military post of the seventeenth century. Although no records of a settlement are found before the middle of the eighteenth century, there is reason to believe that retired fur traders and voyagers dwelt here even before that time. Carver in 1766 mentions no white settlers, but he does not explicitly deny their existence. During the British period a considerable settlement of French-Canadians grew up contiguous to the fur trade mart, and raised supplies for the traders. The first settlers to obtain title from the Indians were Basil Giard, Pierre Antaya, and Augustin Ange. Giard also had a Spanish grant on the river opposite Prairie du Chien. Other early settlers were Michel Brabois (1781) and Pierre la Pointe (1781). The settlement as known in the nineteenth century may thus be said to date from 1781, although Jean Marie Cardinal and others claimed to have dwelt there as early as 1768. During the American Revolution Prairie du Chien was a station for recruiting Indian auxiliaries both for the campaign in Canada and for the attacks on St. Louis and the Illinois. Some of George Rogers Clark's officers also recruited in this neighborhood, and in 1780 a large number of furs were burned to prevent their falling into American hands.

The village was begun on the island about a mile and a half wide, cut off from the mainland by a lagoon called the Marais de St. Pierre.

Notwithstanding the early settlement of Prairie du Chien, it grew very slowly. Until the close of the War of 1812 there were almost no American settlers, connections being mainly with Mackinac and Montreal, and with the French villages of Illinois and Wisconsin. In 1806, after Pike's visit, the governor of Indiana Territory appointed several of the traders justices of the peace under United States laws. The first county was formed in Wisconsin in 1819, and then Crawford County. The town of Prairie du Chien was organized in 1872. The town was platted in 1849. The town is named for the river which flows through it.

1 Wisconsin Historical Society, History of Crawford County, 255.
2 Jonathan Carver, Travels through the Interior Parts of North America in the Years 1766, 1767, and 1768 (London, 1778), 50.
3 Wisconsin Historical Society, History of Crawford County, 255.
4 Ibid., 255.
5 Carver, Travels, 50.
6 Wisconsin Historical Society, History of Crawford County, 255, where it is stated this claim was bought by Sinclair at Mackinac. Brabois continued to make claims on Mackinac Island from the Indians for the British government; second, Giard and others' purchase of Prairie du Chien from the Indians, without government sanction. See Wisconsin Historical Society, History of Crawford County, 255.
7 Early Families of Prairie du Chien, by Rev. M. E. Fraser, MS. in Wisconsin Historical Library.
8 Ibid., 404-411.
States authority; these men, however, were so closely allied with the British, that they went over to the English side in the War of 1812. This was true even of Henry Monroe Fisher, who stayed at his post as long as possible, and then went down the river to St. Louis. Among the principal Canadians at Prairie du Chien before the war were the Brisbois family, James Aird, Joseph Rolette, Duncan Graham, and Nicolas Jarrot. All these except the last served under the British flag from 1812 to 1815. In 1816 the government sent a force to build Fort Crawford and to occupy the upper Mississippi for the United States. Therewith the American settlement began. One of the earliest American visitors was Colonel John Shaw, who ascended the river to this place in 1815, and in 1818 built the first water gristmill. In 1816 came James H. Lockwood, who from that time onward became the leading American of the town. Lockwood found not more than thirty houses, and his estimate is corroborated by that of Keys in 1817. Pike in 1805 estimated the population at 370, and Schoolcraft in 1820 at 500. This means that the French had large families.

As, by the early land acts, no land could be sold before it was surveyed and no land could be surveyed before the Indian title was extinguished, some provision had to be made for early settlers holding land under foreign grants or by long occupation. Therefore, by an act of Congress of March 3, 1807, claims were recognized on proof of continued occupation from June 1, 1796 (the date of evacuation by the British of all garrisons and posts, according to the provisions of the Jay Treaty) to March 3, 1807. The treaties of St. Louis with the Indians, of June 3, 1816, and August 24, 1816, ratified purchases made from them by French and English. The French-Canadians about Prairie du Chien seem to have known very little about these provisions to safeguard their rights, and in 1816, because of evictions by the American commander on his taking over the post at Prairie du Chien, various petitions were sent to Congress. In 1820 an act was passed reviving the act of 1807, and commissioners were sent to Prairie du Chien to verify the validity of disputed claims on the basis of occupation. The commissioners recognized the claims in the upper village, of Joseph Rivard, Augustus Hebert, Alexander Dumont, Francois Vertefeuille, Pierre Charlefeu, Benjamin Cadotte, and Michel Brisbois. Other claims recognized were on farm lot 70 and on farm lots 1 through 24. The claimants were James McFarlane, Augustus Hebert, Francois Vertefeuille, Joseph Rolette, Jean Bte. Albert, Francois Cherreviere, Michel Brisbois, Benjamin Cadotte, John Simpson, Denis Courtis, Magdelene Gauthier, Jean Fisher Rolette, and the heirs of Claude Gagnier, of Pierre Joudron, of John Campbell, of James Aird, and of Felix Mercier. These lots were not again surveyed when the rest of the town was surveyed and the titles to them were duly entered in the land office.

In 1828 Joseph M. Street came as Indian agent and remained four or five years, and in 1830 came his brother-in-law, Thomas P. Burnett. The year 1836 was a period of speculation in Prairie du Chien as well as elsewhere. Two land companies were organized, which bought up all they could get of private land claims below the fort, and laid out this land in city lots. Alexander McGregor arrived in 1836, laid out the lower village, and established a ferry across the river. Another settler in that year was Reverend Alfred Brunson. In the fall of 1836 the total population of Crawford County, outside of Fort Crawford, was 537; in 1850 it was 2500.

The first land entries, aside from those made valid in 1820 by act of Congress, were made in 1841, the year after the town was surveyed. In that year Edward Hughes, Abraham Trepourier, Joseph Lessard, David Drew, Hyppolite Martin, Joseph Martin, Pierre Grimald, Oliver Cherrier, William Dunn, Joseph Rolette, Baptiste Lariviere, Antoine Boisvert, George P. Brisbois, Michel St. Cyr, Stephen Tainter, and Mary Taylor entered claims in sections 2, 8, 9, 10, 15, 22, 23, 26, 28, 29, and 30. Of these apparently only three remained in their original owners' hands and were developed. Edward Hughes in 1860 still held the tract of approximately 290 acres on section 2 which he had entered in 1841; Oliver Cherrier held the south half of the southeast quarter of section 10, and William Dunn the west half of the northwest quarter of section 15. Cherrier raised 900 bushels of wheat in 1850 on this particular piece of land on section 10 —the largest amount recorded at that time in the town.

Very few land entries were made between 1841 and 1855, but in that year and the next a great number of claims were entered by settlers who were encouraged by the building of the railroad in those years.

**Conditions Affecting the Purchase of Lands.**—The first settlement of Prairie du Chien followed the location of the fur traders' post. Land taken after this was along the river and at the foot of the bluffs, where the most fertile portions were found. In 1841 the first land taken up after the survey of the town followed the same general lines. The choice of fertile tracts was very small. Although by 1860 most of the land had been entered, very little of it had been improved, and the town—including the present Bridgeport —although its first settlement had been made so long before, had only 40 farms.

**Progress of Farm Making.**—The farms of Prairie du Chien in 1860 had an average of 56 acres improved land and 146 unimproved land. This was, proportionally for the size of the farms, one of the lowest averages of number of improved acres among the towns studied. Those in Door, Richland, and Iowa counties also had low averages, while the towns of Mount Pleasant and Norway, in Racine County, had the highest averages of improved acres. The largest number of improved acres in Prairie du Chien was 160. Three of the 40 farms had that much, one had 150 acres, and one had 125 acres improved. In 1870 the number of farms was 161, the total improved area was 6495 or an average of 40 acres, and the total unimproved 21,866 or an average of 135 acres. This was an even smaller average of improved acres proportionally for the size of farms. At this period 6 farms had more than 100 acres improved, the maximum being 500 acres, and 23 farms had from 61 to 100 acres improved. Ten years later there were 113 farms, the improved acres numbered 4892 (a decrease of 1668 acres in 10 years), the unimproved 12,550, the average being the still very low proportion of 42 and 111 respectively. In actual average number of improved acres only one of the towns studied, Sebastopol, had less. The number of improved acres gradually increased during the following years and in 1905, according to the state census, Prairie du Chien had 131 farms, 6514 improved acres and 15,266 unimproved. This was practically the same proportion as in 1880 and an actual increase in number of acres of improved land for the whole town of 1682, in 25 years.

**Classification of Farms According to Area.**—In 1860 there were no farms under 20 acres in size. There were 5 farms between 20 and 49 acres, 10 between 50 and 99, 10 between 100 and 174, and 10 between 175 and 499 acres. There were 5 farms of 500 acres and more. These contained 500, 535, 600, 640, and 700 acres respectively. The largest farm, 700 acres, was owned by Samuel Basset; the 640-acre farm by Edward Hughes, one of the early settlers. Although this town was not distinguished at any time for agricultural development, a predominating characteristic has been the large-sized farms, even at this early period. The contrast is sharp with the very small average of cultivated acres. In 1870 there were 10 farms under 20 acres, 21 farms of 20 to 49 acres, 49 of 50 to 99, 41 of 100 to 174, and 30 of 175 to 499. Ten farms contained 500 acres and over. The largest farm, which was owned by Oliver Cherrier, had 3200 acres. Another large farm was owned by H. L. Dousman and had 1600 acres. Both of these men were among the earliest settlers. In 1880 there were 6 farms under 20 acres, 5 farms of 20 to 49 acres, 27 farms of 50 to 99 acres, 48 of 100 to 174 acres, and 24 of 175 to 499 acres. Three farms had over 500 acres, the largest one reaching 1672 acres. There were not so many very large farms, but the percentage of farms of 100 acres and more was 75 per cent of the total, whereas in 1870 it had been 50 per cent of the total.

In classifying by number of cultivated acres we get very different results. Although half of all the farms in 1870 had 100 acres or more in area, less than 4 per cent had over...
100 acres cultivated, and in 1880 less than 2 per cent had that much improved. In 1870, 18 per cent had over 60 acres improved and in 1880, 14 per cent.

The actual classification by number of improved acres is as follows: In 1860, 23 farms had 40 acres or less improved; in 1870 there were 113 and in 1880, 72. In the class of 41 to 60 acres there were at the three census periods 6, 17, and 23; of 61 to 100 acres, 6, 23, and 14; and over 100 acres, 5, 6, and 2.

**GENERAL PRODUCTIONS.** In 1859, according to the census, Prairie du Chien produced 3213 bushels of wheat or 130 bushels per farm on the average. Six towns among those studied had a lower average per farm. The 1870 census shows a production of 12,736 bushels or an average of 78 bushels per farm. Only two towns, Orion and Sevastopol, had a lower total and average per farm production than this. In 1880, with a total production of 18,232 bushels Prairie du Chien stood seventeenth among the towns studied. In 1884 the production had fallen to 13,163 bushels on 958 acres. In 1894 this had fallen to almost half, in acreage and yield. In 1904 the yield was cut to 2307 bushels from 246 acres. Prairie du Chien was never one of the leading wheat towns.

In corn production the town did not rank much better. Only three towns had a lower total production in 1879, and six had a lower average per farm. In 1859 Prairie du Chien ranked fifteenth in total production and third in average per farm. Ten years later eleven towns had a higher aggregate and twelve a higher average per farm. Oats are another crop in the production of which Prairie du Chien has stood almost at the bottom among the towns studied for all the census periods. In total number of sheep and swine, and in average per farm, Prairie du Chien stood almost last in 1870 and 1880, but in 1895 it ranked eleventh among the towns in number of swine. In 1905 it had dropped again to lowest rank. In stock cattle it ranked with the two or three towns having the very smallest number. Only Sevastopol and Orion had fewer milch cows in 1880 and 1895, and in 1905 Prairie du Chien stood at the bottom of the list. Practically no cheese production was recorded for the town by any of the censuses, and the butter production was only 14,080 pounds in 1894— the lowest of all the towns.

**VALUE OF PRODUCTIONS.** In 1869 the value of all farm productions in the town was $7,534 or $468 per farm on the average. In 1879 this had shrunk to $97,745 and the average was $834, the lowest of all the towns studied. At the first named census period there were 1960 dollars of $1000 or over, the maximum being $6000. This was probably made up in part from other than agricultural sources. The next highest was $2500 and the next $2000, these two being made out of general farming. Twenty-two incomes were between $600 and $999, 31 between $400 and $599, and 36 between $200 and $399. There were 33 incomes of less than $200. Twenty-one farms reported no incomes. More than half the farms of this period yielded an income under $600. More than one-third were in the two lowest income groups. In 1879 the largest income was $5000, made out of general farming and dairying; the next largest was $1100. Five incomes were between $600 and $999, 22 between $400 and $599, 50 between $200 and $399, and 34 fell below $200. Three-fourths of the farms were in the two lowest income groups.

In 1904 the average farm income was $295, by far the lowest of all the towns studied. The next lowest was Sparta, with an average of $488. There were 381 cows in the town in 1905, and the average dairy production came to $30. Other livestock products amounted to $138 per farm, and crop incomes to $665 per farm. In 1919, with greatly increased prices, average farm productions totaled $1394, which even after an allowance is made for inflated values shows an increase in income. The number of cows at this time had gone up to 897, dairy products to $585 per farm, other livestock to $685, and crop incomes to $714.

**MANUFACTURES.** In 1810, according to early accounts, the first flour mill, called a "band mill," was built by François Cherriere. He charged one-third for the grinding, which was done with two horses hitched to a sweep with a band. In 1818 the first water-power flour mill was built by Colonel John Shaw on section 6 in Mill Coulee. This was the only one in the town. It was rebuilt in 1840 by Joseph Rolette, and in 1883 by George E. Jacoba. The first regular gristmill in the city of Prairie du Chien was built in 1847, by Edward Pelton. In 1878 a gristmill which was run by arsman well power was built in the city. The first sawmill was built in 1837. The second one, built in 1872, was a very large one, cutting 8,000 feet of lumber in a day. The logs used were mostly rafted down from the Chippewa valley.

The city of Prairie du Chien is divided into "Upper Town" and "Lower Town." In 1872, because of dissatisfaction over taxes, the southern portion, which contained Lower Town, was detached and made a part of the new town of Bridgeport. The earliest trading in Upper Town was done in a stone building which was the headquarters for the Indian traders in the main village, the site of the first settlements. In 1839 the first general store was opened by Edward Pelton. In 1847 Thomas A. Sawyer opened a general grocery, Martin Neinhardt an exclusive grocery, O. P. Martin a drug store and grocery store combined. Other stores were opened in the forties.

In 1830 the Prairie du Chien Ferry Company, a wild-cat banking venture without a charter, was started, with George W. Pine president. In 1850 the Bank of Prairie du Chien was opened by Anson Eldred of Milwaukee, but it failed soon after. In 1856-57 the Exchange Bank was opened by Chase Brothers, but this also was closed in a few years. Another Exchange Bank was opened in 1872 by C. M. Sely. Its cash capital in 1883 was $10,000, and it was then the only bank in Prairie du Chien.

**POST OFFICES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, AND NEWSPAPERS.** The first post office in Crawford County was established in 1825 in Prairie du Chien village, with Judge James Duane Doty as first postmaster. This place was incorporated two years earlier by act of the Territory of Michigan.

The first school established was a private one. It was opened May 25, 1818, by Willard Keyes and continued about three months, with approximately thirty students at $2.00 a month." The first public school district was created in 1842; the first school in it was taught in a private building by Miss Rice. In 1857 a new two-story school was built, and in 1875 a high school. In 1884 there were three full school districts on sections 12, 10, and 9; there were also four joint districts—one on sections 23 and 29; one on section 30 jointly with the city of Prairie du Chien; another in the town of Wauzeka, jointly with Wauzeke; and a fourth in the town of Bridgeport, jointly with Bridgeport. There are two Roman Catholic schools in the city of Prairie du Chien. St. Mary's Institute for Girls, established in 1872, is partly in the town of Prairie du Chien and partly in Bridgeport. The College of the Sacred Heart, for boys, opened in 1880, is in the south portion of the city, in the town of Bridgeport. There was also from 1867 to 1878 a non-denominational independent German school, which at one time had seventy-five pupils. Campion College, a Roman Catholic school conducted by the Jesuit order, is one of the newer educational institutions of Prairie du Chien.

The earliest religious services are said to have been held in 1817, when Father Dunand, a Trappist monk from Illinois, baptized 125 persons. In 1825 a Sunday-school was started by Mrs. Juliana Lockwood. As there was no church in the town at this time, the Catholic catechism was taught in the school. This lasted only one year. The family of General Joseph M. Street, which arrived in 1828, was the first Protestant family of which we have a record. In 1880 a Presbyterian missionary to the Indians, and in 1892 a Presbyterian minister, preached occasionally. In 1833 the Reverend David Lowry, a Presbyterian who had been sent to Prairie du
Chien as superintendent of the Indian school, preached Sundays in the village. In 1896 Reverend Alfred Brunson began his missionary work in Prairie du Chien.\(^{16}\) From 1834 to 1839 the Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, and Methodist Episcopalians were organized into congregations, and a Catholic church was built. A Methodist Episcopal church was erected about 1847, an Episcopal church about 1855, a Congregational in 1856, and a Lutheran in 1868. In 1880 St. Gabriel's Catholic Church outnumbered all other denominations combined.

The first newspaper in Crawford County was started in Prairie du Chien in 1846 by O. J. and H. A. Wright. This was discontinued in 1852 and was succeeded in the same year by the Crawford County Courier, edited by Buel E. Hutchinson. Other early papers were the Prairie du Chien Leader, started in 1857 by William Hill, and the Prairie du Chien Union in 1864, by James Green.

**POPULATION CHANGES.**—The population to begin with was mainly French-Canadian. In 1860 there were 461 families in the town, which at this time included the present town of Bridgeport and the city of Prairie du Chien. Of these, less than half were American. There were 119 unattached Americans, again less than half of the total number of single individuals. Ireland furnished the largest number of foreigners at this time, a little over one-third, Germany almost another third, and Canada almost one-fifth. Of the 719 heads of families and single individuals, 110 gave New York as their place of birth, 51 Wisconsin (these being largely descendants of the early French-Canadian settlers), 31 Pennsylvania, 26 Ohio, 21 Vermont, 17 Massachusetts, 14 Connecticut, 8 Virginia, 7 New Hampshire, 6 Missouri. States represented by 5 were Maine and Illinois, by 4 Indiana and Minnesota. Kentucky had 3, Louisiana had 2, and Tennessee, Michigan, New Jersey, and Iowa had 1 each. Over half of the American settlers were from New York and the New England states. Of the total number, however, less than one-fourth were from these states. Another one-fourth were from Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana.

These figures include the city of Prairie du Chien. Exclusive of the city, nativity of the farmers on the 40 farms reported in the 1860 census is as follows: 18 were American and 20 were foreign born.\(^{17}\) Fourteen of the 20 foreigners were Irish, 8 French-Canadians, 2 Germans, and 1 English. Of the Americans the greatest number, 7, were from New York. Four were from New England and 4 were born in Wisconsin (the latter of French-Canadian descent). Two were from Pennsylvania and one from Ohio.

In 1895 the total population of the town, exclusive of the city of Prairie du Chien, was 392. Of these, only one-fourth were foreign born. Forty-two of them were German, 21 Irish, 8 Canadian, 6 English, and 4 Scandinavian. In 1895 out of a total of 581, 130 or 22 per cent were foreign born. Out of the 451 native born, 405 or almost 90 per cent were born in Wisconsin. Bohemians were the largest group of foreign born, with 59, Germans next with 39, and Irish next with 15. There were 9 Swiss, 6 Canadians, and 1 person each from Norway and England.

In 1920 the proportion of foreign born had gone down to 9 per cent, or 46 in a total of 499. Out of the 458 American born, 397 or about 80 per cent were born in Wisconsin. The largest group of foreigners were Bohemians; Germans were next with 14. There were 2 Scandinavians and 6 persons from other countries.

**M. A. K.**

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**PRAIRIE DU CHIEN—POPULATION STATISTICS**

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<th>Foreign</th>
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*1 family unknown.
*2 families unknown.\(^{18}\)

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\(^{14}\) See note 15 ante.

\(^{15}\) The nativity of two was unknown.