C. A. Dewey, Hardware, Stoves, etc.—For a score of years this gentleman has been engaged in the business he is so successfully prosecuting, and occupies a position in the front rank of the trade. His spacious store and well-equipped shop are favorably located, and he possesses every facility and qualification for the prompt and efficient transaction of his trade. Full and comprehensive lines of all kinds of hardware, embracing build- ers' and sheefer's ware, mechanics' tools of every description, the best makes of table and pocket cutlery, and a great variety of similar goods are to be inspected here. "Stewart" and "Splendid" heaters, also "Paris" ranges and other first-class cook-stoves, and a large assortment of the newest and most improved patterns in stoves, heaters and ranges for cooking and heating pur- poses, is also on sale. These goods are the produc- tions of the best and most reputable manu- facturers, and are guaranteed to be exactly as represented. The tin, copper and sheet-iron ware manufactured in the shop, and all the work undertaken by Mr. Dewey, are of an equally re- liable and substantial character. Mr. Dewey is a native of Vermont. During the lengthly period of his business and social career here he has thoroughly identified himself with the interests of this place, and is regarded as one of our most popu- lar and highly-respected merchants and citizens.

A. H. French, Insurance Agency, Masonic Block, Room 2.—The question of insurance is confessedly of very great importance to property owners throughout the country, and closely con- cerns all branches of business. A well-known and prominent insurance agency here is that so efficiently managed by Mr. A. H. French, and which has been in active operation for about five years. This gentleman represents corporations whose aggregate capital is more than $100,000,000, the list embracing the most substantial companies of this country and England. For absolute soundness and responsibility they are unsurpassed by any in the world, are known to be fully comp- etent to any and every risk they undertake, and to meet losses when they occur promptly and squarely, and without scaling or attempt at evasion. Mr. French’s operations are not con- fined to this city, but extend into the surrounding country, and many of the largest and most influ- ential property owners of this section are em- braced in his list of insurers. The office is very elegantly located in Masonic Block, where full in- formation may be had of Mr. French or his as- sistant, Mr. French is known to possess every possible facility and qualification for the position he so ably fills, is energetic and enterprising, with very decided business talent and a very extensive acquaintance.

FOND DU LAC.

The city of Fond du Lac is delightfully situated at the mouth of the Fond du Lac River and the southern extremity of the beautiful Lake Winnebago, and is practically the geographical and commercial centre of Fond du Lac County, of which it is the county seat. This lake is an impor- tant link in the natural chain of navigable waters that connects Lake Michigan and its tributaries with the Mississippi. The city is built upon ground rising gradually from the shore of the lake, and its most remarkable feature consists in the large number of artesian wells, nearly a thousand in all, from 90 to 180 feet in depth, which supply its people with abundance of pure and excellent water. One of them yields "magnetic water," which is noted for its special curative properties. The first white settlers hereabouts, located in the summer of 1836 and the spring of 1837. When one visits a western town so beautiful and attractive as this he cannot help wondering why white settlers from the crowded cities of the East do not continue to flock here in greater numbers for the sake of the pure water, pure air, and the other wholesome and agreeable things that nature and its people have provided. Fond du Lac County contains 450,000 acres of the most fertile and fruitful land in the State of Wisconsin, the most of it well and highly cultivated. The city of Fond du Lac is the natural depot and distributing point for its products, as well as the source whence its people seek their supplies, or that portion of them which they cannot themselves raise. The trans- porting facilities are equal to any and every demand that may be made upon them, and are such as enables it to compete successfully with any city of the second class in this part of the Union. It is here that the main line from Chicago and the Milwaukee Air Line of the Chicago and North- western meet, another branch giving connection with Sheboygan on the east, and all of them opening the way northward to the shores of Lake Superior. The Wisconsin Central also passes through here, and a branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul connects with the trunk line thirty miles south. These afford every needed convenience for passengers and freight traffic, in addition to which is the steamboat connection with Green Bay, and all points on the Fox and Wolf Rivers.

The manufacturing industries of Fond du Lac are very considerable and specially notice
able, most of the leading branches being well and prosperously represented. Several saw, shingle and grist mills, sash and door factories, foundries, carriage and agricultural implement factories, a blast furnace, together with several other similar industries, are in successful operation, involving the investment of a large amount of capital and the employment of several hundred skilled mechanics and laborers. The various departments of general trade are excellently well represented also, and for the most part are operated by merchants of marked ability, ample capital and pronounced enterprise. All the branches of retail trade are exceptionally active and prosperous, and one national, two savings, and two private banks offer every needed accommodation in the direction of finances. The city of Fond du Lac is divided into five wards, is regularly laid out, and, with its many elegant residences and costly business blocks, is really one of the handsomest and most attractive cities in the west. That material interests do not monopolize the attention and regard of its citizens is evident from the number of its religious organizations, schools and kindred institutions. There are twenty churches, forty-eight public schools, two public libraries, two convents, two daily, one German semi-weekly, and six weekly newspapers, two of them German, the Opera House, hotels, the large high-school building, and a fine post-office being very noticeable. The progressive spirit of its people is particularly evident in the attention that has always been given to public improvements. Fond du Lac was one of the first cities in the West to adopt the electric light system, which is now in general use throughout the city, and in public buildings and the prominent business places. The Holly system of waterworks is a new and very important improvement, and the elegant Court-house recently erected on the square, on Main Street, with its beautiful surroundings, is one of the finest buildings of its kind in this part of the country.

Fond du Lac is well named the "Fountain City," for, as the city stands to-day, the designation is more and better than a merely fanciful title. Its beautiful location and salubrious climate, the general good health and superior intelligence of its people, its natural advantages and acquired facilities for commercial operations and business ventures, its excellent municipal government, together with all its means and instrumentalities for the religious, moral and mental advancement of its citizens, serve to give reality to the title and lend it a genuine and actual significance.

Following will be found accurate biographical sketches of many of its leading and representative business men and a faithful record of the industries they govern, which same are for the most part prosecuted with marked zeal and ability, reflecting alike credit upon their proprietors and the city in which they are located. The population of Fond du Lac at the present writing is about 18,000.

Franz Launenstein & Son, Foreign and Domestic Wines and Liquors, 493 Main Street.—An old-established and reliable house engaged in this line in the city is that of Franz Launenstein & Son, importers and wholesale dealers in foreign and domestic wines and liquors, whose well-known establishment is centrally located at 493 Main Street. This popular and prosperous concern was founded away back, over thirty-six years ago, and being conducted on sound business principles, and its management being characterized by foresight and enterprise, its career has been from the start a record of steady progress and prosperity; the trade to-day being large and substantial, and keeps increasing with years. The store is 26x100 feet in dimensions, and a heavy and carefully selected stock of fine wines and liquors is constantly carried to meet the extensive and ever-growing demand, including French wines and brandies, Holland gins, Irish and Scotch whiskies, and also a line of fine Rye and Bourbon whiskies, etc. Mr. Launenstein, the founder, and at present sole proprietor of the business, is a native of Germany, and has resided long enough here to be entitled to the distinction implied by the term "old resident." He is a man of excellent business ability, and of sterling integrity in all his dealings, and stands A1 in the trade.

Henry Scherer, Fond du Lac File Works.—One of the most important manufacturing enterprises in this city is the above-named well-known establishment, which was founded in 1867 by its present proprietor, and which now enjoys a large and flourishing trade. The premises occupied are very spacious and commodious, and are splendidly equipped with the most improved machinery and appliances. Employment is given to a large number of skilled mechanics, and the goods turned out have a wide-spread reputation for excellence. The house is patronized by the most extensive and important machine shops, mills and blacksmith shops in this section, its trade extending to Oshkosh, Marinette, Menominee and throughout the country lying east, north and south of this place. Mr. Scherer, who is a thoroughly practical man, learned his trade at Albany, N. Y., and has been a resident of Fond du Lac since 1867. He is a public-spirited and enterprising citizen, who is very highly respected and esteemed for his strict honor and integrity, and many other good qualities.
Geo. S. Burrows, Carriage Tops, Canopy Tops and Sun Shades; also Manufacturer of Elastic Carriage Top Dressing.—Many inventors have devoted much of their time and earnest thought in the endeavor to perfect a light, convenient, durable and handsome top for buggies and other vehicles, and Mr. George S. Burrows has at last succeeded in accomplishing this very desirable result. His invention is known as the "Two-Bowed Carriage Top," and is conceded by all who are at all conversant with carriage-making to be unsurpassed in usefulness, durability, convenience and elegance. There is no difficulty whatever in getting into the carriage when the top is up or when folded back; one-half of the roof forms the duster, doing away with the old-fashioned duster that is usually buttoned on, thus saving expense and unnecessary trouble. These tops are now extensively used throughout the United States, and are increasing in popularity every year. Mr. Burrows is one of the largest manufacturers of carriage tops, canopy tops and sun shades in the West, and his works contain every facility for making these useful and necessary goods. The building is a handsome three-story structure, 120x140 feet in superficial dimensions, and much expensive machinery is used. Thirty hands, skilled and experienced in their respective departments, are employed, and an enormous quantity of tops are turned out, last year's output being three thousand carriage and canopy tops, of various sizes, shapes and patterns. Mr. Burrows has been engaged in this business, either on his own account or for others, his entire lifetime. Born in Fond du Lac county, he established his business in 1872. In 1875 he entered into a partnership with Mr. A. D. Goddern, and in 1888 dissolved, two years subsequently purchasing his old partner's entire interest and thus becoming sole proprietor of the business. He is favorably known throughout the United States amongst the leading carriage manufacturers, and is highly respected and esteemed in his native city amongst all classes. By his enterprise and industry he has made an independent fortune for himself, and has added in no small degree to the supremacy which Fond du Lac enjoys as a great manufacturing center of the West.

M. O. Sullivan, Harness, Saddles, etc.—The harness shop and horse furnishin empire of Mr. M. C. Sullivan well merits a description in our pages, since it is one of the leading establishments of the kind in Fond du Lac. Mr. Sullivan was born in Ireland and emigrated to this city nineteen years ago. He immediately established himself in his present business, and, being a skilled and experienced harness maker, soon built up a large and liberal patronage. His store is 25x60 feet in superficial dimensions, and is both well fitted up and amply stocked, containing a full assortment of light and heavy single and double harness, saddles, bridles, collars, straps, fly nets, blinds, curricoums, and other furnishings, as well as trunks, valises and traveling bags. The shop in the rear is 25x50 feet in size. It is fully equipped with every manufacturing facility, and eight expert hands are employed. Here are made many of the handsome and serviceable goods contained in the store, and custom work and repairing are also promptly and satisfactorily attended to. Mr. Sullivan has made a great success of his enterprise and has made a most enviable reputation as a manufacturer and dealer. He does a very large general trade, and his order work, which he makes a specialty, is also very extensive. The best leather and other material only is used, and no pains are spared to maintain the reputation which his house has always enjoyed. Mr. Sullivan, both as citizen and artisan, is highly respected.

Bartlett & Carstens, Fresh and Salt Meats, etc.—An old-established and successful house in the meat trade in Fond du Lac is that of Messrs. Bartlett & Carstens, which has been in business here for the past quarter of a century, and which commands a very extensive trade. The firm own and occupy a spacious and commodious building, measuring 24x120 feet, which contains every convenience and facility for the carrying on of their large trade. They keep constantly on hand a large stock of fresh and salt meats of the choicest description, poultry and live stock. Owing to their long experience in the business, and their wide connections throughout the surrounding country, they are enabled to purchase their supplies on very advantageous terms, their customers participating in the benefits thus derived. The members of the firm are courteous, agreeable gentlemen, of the strictest honor and integrity, with whom it is both pleasant and profitable to have business relations.
Joseph Wolff, Manufacturer of Fine Cigars, No. 429 Main Street.—A thoroughly practical cigar-maker is Mr. Joseph Wolff, who began business in this city as long as thirty-two years ago, manufacturing stock for the trade and for his own custom. He now enjoys a good business, extending throughout this section of the State, and he carries a handsome stock of fine cigars of various brands, chewing and smoking tobacco, snuff, pipes, cigarettes, and smokers' articles generally. The store is 25x100 feet in dimensions, the factory being in the rear, wherein are employed from eight to ten hands, and every facility is at hand for the manufacture of first-class cigars. The store is neatly and appropriately fitted up and the the entire building, which is a very handsome one, is owned by this enterprising manufacturer. Customers are promptly served, and orders by mail or otherwise receive immediate attention. This gentleman is a native of Germany, but came to this country early in life. He immediately met with success, and as the city has been advancing and increasing in population and wealth, his business has also been benefited and improved by the general prosperity. He is justly regarded as one of the most skilled and experienced manufacturers in the State, and the brands of his make are unsurpassed for excellence and richness of flavor. Mr. Wolff is one of the most deservedly popular citizens of Fond du Lac, and by his enterprise, push and sterling principles has met with his proper reward, and achieved a well-earned reputation amongst all classes, by whom he is highly honored, respected and esteemed.

Charles Hartmann, No. 317 Main Street, Stoves, Hardware, etc.; also, Well and Cistern Pumps, Sole Agent for Michigan Stove Co.—One of the leading merchants in the city is Mr. Charles Hartmann, the well-known and highly respected dealer in stoves, tinware, hardware, culinary utensils and housekeepers' goods. Mr. Hartmann was born in Germany, and, like so many of his fellow countrymen, emigrated to this country. He founded his fortunes at an early age, and for some time resided in the State of New York. He established himself in this city twenty years ago, the business being conducted under the name and style of Reinig & Hartmann. This firm was dissolved, and Mr. Hartmann is now the sole and exclusive proprietor. His stock is one of the most varied and complete in the city, and his patronage comes from all classes of the community. As many as four courteous and obliging assistants are required to attend to the wants of customers, and every effort is made to supply the wants of the most critical and fastidious patrons. Utility, beauty and economy are sought after in the selection of the stock, and the large and liberal patronage bestowed upon the establishment is fully deserved and well merited. Both socially and in business circles Mr. Hartmann enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is enterprising, upright, liberal and honorable. In seeking his own interests with those of his customers, and in maintaining them he has risen to the highest attainable position in the important industry in which he is engaged.

E. A. Keith, Grocer and Provision Merchant, Main Street.—To conduct successfully a strictly first-class general grocery establishment requires both ability and energy, as well as a profound and complete knowledge of the various influences that effect the trade, and the faculty of anticipating the varied tastes in food products of all classes of the community. Among the houses engaged in this line in Fond du Lac is that of Mr. E. A. Keith, who was born here in 1863, of Scotch descent, and, though a young man, is like all Scotchmen, full of perseverance and energy, which is characteristic of the race. Mr. Keith, although lately established in business (having commenced in August, 1885), has already made his mark in his line of trade. He keeps a full and complete line of groceries, fancy groceries, canned fruit, and everything pertaining to making a perfect stock of groceries and provisions. E. A. Keith's store is very eligibly located, substantially fitted up, 20x100 in superficial dimensions, and parties desiring fresh goods will do well to patronize this establishment, where will be found a large assemblage and at moderate prices. Mr. Keith is well known in the community as a young man of surprising worth and gentlemanly bearing, and well deserves the success he has attained.

A. J. Decker, Dairy Outfits and Supplies, No. 518 Main Street.—Prominent among the mercantile establishments of Fond du Lac is that of Mr. A. J. Decker, manufacturer and dealer in dairy outfits and supplies, who commands a large trade throughout the State. He occupies commodious and centrally located premises, which are fitted up with every convenience for the carrying on of his extensive trade. He supplies complete outfits of the most approved style at moderate prices, his utensils having obtained a wide reputation for excellence. He also does a large trade in cheese and butter, of which he always has a large and first-class stock on hand, and for which he pays the highest market price, making liberal advances on consignments. Mr. Decker is the founder of the Fond du Lac Dairy Board of Trade, on which he will represent factories for the sale of goods when desired, inquiries by mail promptly answered. Mr. Decker is an enterprising, public-spirited citizen, who has won the confidence and esteem of all who have had business transactions with him, owing to his strict integrity and honorable methods of dealing.

REYNOLDS' LIME & STONE CO.,
(2. F. POTTER, J. M. REYNOLDS.)
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN
Lime, Building Stone, Flagging, Flux,
Crushed and Cut Stone, Cement and Hair.

WORKS AT OFFICE, COR. MARION & LIGHT STS.
EDEN, WIS.
OSHKOSH, WIS.
W. H. Wells, General Banker, etc., corner Main and First Streets.—No feature of progress in any community sustains more important relations to the mercantile, manufacturing and financial interests of the same than the banking system. The bank is as indispensable to the development of industry, commerce and trade in this progressive age almost as air is to existence. While the institution altogether, either as a secure and profitable medium for investment or as a storage for deposits, is manifestly most useful, like other departments of progress, some find more favor with the public than others, for reasons at once obvious, and not infrequently it will be found that the less pretentious concerns are the most stable and reliable. In this connection special mention should be made of Mr. W. H. Wells, general banker, etc., corner Main and First Streets, this city, than whom none engaged in this line of business in or around Fond du Lac has been more fortunate in establishing and maintaining a high reputation for sagacity, foresight and sound judgment, as none enjoys a higher reputation for sterling integrity and stability. As a consequence, Mr. Wells deservedly stands in the front rank as a financier in this region, and numbers among his large and influential clientele many of our leading citizens. Prior to establishing in business here, in 1870, Mr. Wells had been engaged in banking in New York State for upwards of twenty years. Being thoroughly conversant with every phase and feature of the business, of wide practical experience and upright and honorable in all his transactions and dealings, and devoting close personal attention to the affairs of those trusting their interests to his charge, it is only in the nature of things that he should have attained to the prominence and prosperity he to-day enjoys. Besides handling deposits and transacting a general banking business, Mr. Wells also attends to collections, etc., the same being made all over the county, and at the most reasonable terms. Those in need of any business in his line should consult him.

JANESVILLE.

There is not a city in the fertile and flourishing State of Wisconsin which has a more flattering record of growth and prosperity than Janesville. With over 10,000 inhabitants, it possesses most important mercantile and manufacturing interests, while, socially speaking, it has numerous advantages and is an important educational centre. As the capital of Rock County, it is the most prominent place in this section, and has a fine court-house, jail, etc.

The city is laid out on both sides of the Rock River, seventy miles west-southwest of Milwaukee, and is noted for the size and architectural beauty of its buildings, both residential and for mercantile purposes. Its municipal affairs have ever been ably administered, and its progress in the line of material improvement has been sure and conservative. It has every adjunct necessary to the substantial growth of a great city, and its advantages have been duly utilized by its enterprising and industrious population. A marked feature of Janesville's facilities is its railroad connections via the great trunk routes of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway and the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. The old Madison & Beloit Railroad Company was authorized, by an act of the Legislature in 1850, to extend its road from Janesville to Fond du Lac. Its name was changed to the Rock River Valley Union Railroad Company. In 1851, the line from Janesville north not being pushed as the people expected, the Legislature of Illinois chartered the Illinois & Wisconsin Railroad Company, with authority to consolidate with any road in Wisconsin. In 1855 (the year the road was completed to Janesville) the above company consolidated with the Rock River Valley Railroad Co., taking the name of the Chicago, St. Paul & Fond du Lac Railroad Co. It afterwards failed and was reorganized and pushed through the rich grain fields of the Rock River valley on to the timber and mineral wealth of the North. After 1855 the partially graded line on a direct route between Janesville and Madison was abandoned. The Beloit people amended their charter and got a branch through to Madison, but not till 1864. Another company was the Racine, Janesville & Mississippi Railroad Company, chartered in 1852. After many vicissitudes it was reorganized as the Western Union Railroad, and is now controlled by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. The city's transportation facilities are perfect, while it has one of the richest agricultural territories tributary of any city in the State, and which affords an active market for the enterprising merchants here located. Janesville's manufacturing interests are of the first importance; her splendid water-power cannot be readily duplicated. It is duly appreciated and more largely utilized year by year by concerns engaged in the production of boots and shoes, carriages, leather, iron products, reapers, cigars, flour, cotton fabrics, woodenware, etc. The steady growth of her industries is a most