SAMUEL BROWN,
President of the “Old Settlers’ Club.”

The subject of the following sketch was born at Belcherstown, Hampshire County, Mass., January 8th, 1804. His father died when Samuel was but nine years old, which left him but little chance of receiving much education.

He commenced early in life to work on a farm till he was eighteen years old, when he commenced to learn the trade of carpenter and joiner, at which he worked for several years. In 1830 or 1831, he joined a colony that was located at Bee Grove, now called Princeton, Ill.

Having left his native state in the fall of 1831, he set out to locate himself at his new home in the West, but having got as far as St. Joseph, Michigan, he had to halt, being unable to proceed farther by reason of the severity of the winter, which by this time had set in. The Indian war having commenced in the Spring of 1832, he was obliged to remain in Michigan for nearly two years, during which time he was employed in building some of the first houses in St. Joseph. In August 1833, Mr. Brown took his departure from St. Joseph to Chicago, where he remained for some time to witness the treaty made with the Indians, which took place in the month of September following. Being urged to commence business in Chicago on his own account, he did so, and succeeded in putting up some of the first buildings there. He built the Tremont House for our fellow citizen, Alanson Sweet, in the Spring of 1834, and came to Milwaukee the following December, where he made a claim, and built himself a log house, and brought his family in the spring of 1835, being the first American family that located in Milwaukee. Soon after his arrival in Milwaukee, he built a warehouse for Solomon Juneau, the founder of the city, on the corner of Wisconsin and East Water Street, where the Ludington brick block now stands. The scarcity of men then in and about Milwaukee, may be judged from the fact, that the builder had to pick up all the men he could find in the county, and all the hands comprising the crews of three vessels that lay in the bay, with all their tackle and ropes to assist him to raise the building. In the fall and winter of 1835 and spring of 1836, the subject of this sketch built the Old Milwaukee House on the corner of what is now called Broadway and Wisconsin Street, and continued to practice his business for a few years, when he gradually declined to take more work, his own business requiring his
personal attendance more and more every succeeding year, till he located himself on the farm where his house now stands, never expecting to be brought within the precincts of the city. But a short time works wonders in this new Western World. In the biographer's own time, wonderful changes have taken place in Milwaukee. When he came here in March, 1849, Mr. Brown's farm and residence might be seen in the distance, bearing North West from the city, but now you must walk on the sidewalk till you come to a comfortable residence on Fond du Lac Avenue, number 1814 where you shall read, Samuel Brown, a name from the enterprise, energy, and perseverance, of the man that bears it, which cannot be forgotten so long as the biographical history of Wisconsin shall fill a place in the archives of the State. The names of the old landmarks of the State should never be forgotten.

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E. B. WOLCOTT

was born in the township of Benton in Yates County, New York, near the village of Penn Yan on the 18th day of October 1804. Having received a good academical education he commenced the study of medicine at the age of eighteen, and received his diploma at the age of twenty-one, giving him legitimate power to practice as doctor and surgeon.

He subsequently graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1833. In 1835, he made application to the War Department for a position on the Medical Staff of the army; was ordered before an Examining Board in New York, and after having passed his examination was commissioned by Andrew Jackson, President of the United States of America, July 1st 1836. The Doctor continued in the service till 1839, when he resigned, and came to Milwaukee to reside.

In the beginning of the late war, Doctor Wolcott was commissioned Surgeon General of the State of Wisconsin by Governor Randall, and has continued in office through all administrations since. In 1867 the Doctor succeeded Hon. George Walker, as manager of the National Asylum for disabled volunteer soldiers, and as resident manager, has directed all the improvements at that institution under the general direction of the Board, and is still in the discharge of the duties as manager. Eminent for his professional skill, as a physician and surgeon, the subject of this brief sketch is kind in disposition, gentle in manner, and inquisitive with the view to ascertain the disease and its producing cause, which laudable qualities in a physician sometimes do more to restore the patient to health, by inspiring him with hope, confidence, and courage, than the most copious use of medicine.