THADDEUS C. POUND.

There are very few prominent men of the Northwest whose versatile experiences represent more interestingly the sharp angles of our civilization than the present Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin. Now one of the most noted lumbermen of that section of the country where lumbermen are the mighty merchants of the land, eminent in the politics of his State, quite notably distinguished among the public men of the great Valley of the Upper Mississippi, he has acquired all he has, and become what he is, notwithstanding early poverty and subsequent difficulties which would have been insurmountable, except by extraordinary ability and pluck. Thaddeus Coleman Pound was born December 6th, 1832, in the town of Elk, popularly known as “Quaker Hill”, in the northwestern part of Pennsylvania. His father and mother, Elijah and Judith, were Quakers, who had recently removed from Rochester, New York. They were poor. We have often heard Mr. Pound speak of his birthplace—a small log house, with an immense fire place; the old-fashioned back log; the boiled or baked chestnuts; the buckwheat cakes on the huge griddle suspended from a crane, and eaten with maple syrup; the inevitable school-mistress, “boarding round”, and all the other accompaniments of log-cabin life which now seem to appertain from an ancient age. In 1838 Elijah Pound removed to western New York, having found the road to fortune difficult to travel in Pennsylvania, and the goal invisible. About a year after the removal of the family to New York, the wife and mother died, when the boy Thaddeus went to live with his grandfather, after whom he had been named. Here he passed four years of boyhood, when his father, having married again, took his children, and made a Fourierite venture with a society then organizing in the town of Clarkson. Six weeks of unbuttered bread and unseasoned vegetables satisfied Mr. Pound’s ambition in this particular, and he then moved to Rochester, where he and his sons were employed in a woolen factory, the wages of Thaddeus being one shilling a day for assorting wool. The lads earned some pocket money by “doing chores” for the neighbors—the labor in this line, in which Thaddeus excelled, being, we believe, washing buggies in the Genessee River. While he was at work in the woolen factory, James K. Polk was elected President of the United States. One of the consequences of that political event, as connected with preceding vicious legislation, was that the prices of woolen goods declined. Wages of factory hands declined also, and in consequence, young Pound became a tariff whig. Whether he still clings to his “boyhood’s faith” in this respect, or has adopted ideas worthy of his vigorous manhood, we have not taken pains particularly to inquire. The “hard times” of this period are matter of general recollection. Poverty knocked at the door.
of Elijah Pound's home. He determined to try his fortune in the western lands. By disposing of much of his household furniture, he was able to secure deck passage for his family to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on a lake steamer. There the family arrived in May, 1847, and proceeded thence to Walworth County, stopping for a while with Joel Pound, brother of Elijah. Here the stepmother soon became sick and died, and not long after a daughter, but two or three years old, of whose beauty and infantile loveliness Gov. Pound still speaks with affectionate remembrance, was buried with her. A farm was rented on what was then known as "Catfish Prairie", in Rock County, about ten miles from the now beautiful and flourishing city of Janesville, where father and sons lived in bachelor style.—Thaddeus performed double duty, being both farm hand and cook. This brings us to an important event in the life of Governor Pound—the turning point, we may say of his history. He had not received, it may well be supposed, from what has already been said, special advantages of education. He had attended the common schools quite regularly during the winter seasons, and in the studies there pursued he was diligent and proficient. He had also read such books as he could borrow, and had become a youth of more than usual intelligence. In the winter of 1847, the young man, then attending district school near the farm, found himself one day promoted to the rank of teacher. The trustees had, for some cause, dismissed the teacher who had been employed, and, in accordance with the vote of the pupils, had selected young Pound to take the position. That he filled it with success, though but fifteen years of age, is a remarkable fact, (unique, as far as we recollect, except in the case of George D. Prentice,) and greatly to his credit. This event added greatly to his educational ambition, and we find him soon afterwards pursuing his studies at Wilton Academy. He had but little ease, however, for he paid his tuition, boarding and clothing with funds gained by teaching public school during the winter, and by working in the harvest fields during summer vacations. An episode of his educational life occurred in 1850, when he and his elder brother, Albert E., made a lecturing tour, in which they performed many interesting experiments, in what was then called Animal Magnetism, as well as exposed many of the humbugging tricks which about this time deluded many people who pinned their faith to this "science". After this the brothers returned to New York state, with the object of further pursuing their studies. This they did at Rushford Academy, alternately studying there and teaching district school and writing school, until the month of October, 1855, when they were severally married by one ceremony to two sisters, the elder to Sarah, and Thaddeus to Angeline Loomis. During the following winter the subject of our sketch and his bride taught a high school
at Caledonia, making enough money, less twenty dollars borrowed, to carry them to Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, where they have ever since resided—as has the brother with his family. Here, also, the father has lived for some years, and still lives with his children and grandchildren—a hale, hearty and happy old gentleman.

Since the time when Mr. Pound went to Chippewa Falls to live, his life has been a steady career of success, whether as respects his private business affairs or his connection with politics. He began these as an accounting clerk. In 1859—60 he was chosen Enrolling Clerk of the Wisconsin Assembly. He is now Lieutenant Governor of the State and ex-officio President of the Senate, and president and chief business manager of the Union Lumbering Company, whose business, amounting to more than a million dollars annually, is conducted over a vast expanse of territory, and embraces the lumber trade in all its branches—from getting the new material from the forest, to landing it, in boards, shingles, and laths, on the wharfs of the Mississippi River cities; merchandizing in about all of its branches; agriculture in all its forms. The company, owning valuable water power and mills, and carrying on an immense business, is the successor of Pound, Halbert & Co., lumber manufacturers and merchants, long generally noted in both those lines of business. Of this firm, Mr. Pound was the senior partner and manager. The firm was in existence, before its business was transferred to the joint stock company, from 1862 to 1869. Its principal trade was in lumber; and if it carried on quite an extensive mercantile operation, and accomplished also no little in practical agriculture, it was because of the nature and extent of the operations and transactions in the manufacture and sale of the products of the pines. Every one knows that the primal operations in the lumber business are performed in the winter season, when the trees are felled by woodsmen, sawn asunder into logs of different length, and carried to the streams and mills on sleds. Many men and domestic animals are required in this branch of the trade. Then, if the mills are in the lumber regions, the logs are sawn into boards, laths, and shingles. This requires many men also. Next is the formation of rafts—that is, the boards are fastened together for the purpose of being floated down the river to market. These rafts are made in "sections", for easy management in the smaller streams. When they reach the Mississippi, the sections are fastened together into a huge structure, oftener worth more or less than one hundred thousand dollars. Then, in charge of a pilot and from ten to fifteen raftmen, the raft is navigated down the river. Thus there are floated down the Mississippi River every year hundreds of rafts, worth millions of dollars. The raftmen form a class of men by themselves—rough in exterior and manners, usually wear
ing red shirts, addicted to drinking when ashore, and other immoralities which have not seldom resulted in fearful crimes; but often of generous disposition, nearly always true to their employers, and invariably skilful in the "manly art" of self-defence.

Sometimes the rafts are assisted down the river by little steamers pushing them. Such has been the case with much of the lumber sold by Mr. Pound. Now it will be perceived that, to carry on this business extensively—from cutting down the trees to the sale of the lumber in rafts at various places along the river—requires in the first place unusual business talents and executive capacity. That Mr. Pound has occupied a prominent position in this business among those engaged in it on the Upper Mississippi is universally agreed by all acquainted with the trade. We do not hesitate to say that it is more difficult to conduct successfully the business which Mr. Pound has carried on, as the head of the Union Lumber Company, than to conduct with credit the chief executive office of the State of the Republic. The statement ought not to be omitted, that Mr. Pound's brother, Albert, has always been associated with him in business, and is now the Secretary of the Lumber Company. They have never kept any accounts with each other; have never quarrelled, and the one is just as well off as the other. While Mr. Pound was thus passing up, by reason of remarkable business capacity, integrity and energy, from the position of an accountant to that of president of a company of great and varied trade—from the grade of simple livelihood to that of affluence—he was also constantly extending his reputation and his influence in the public affairs of the great State of which he is a citizen. He was a Member of the Assembly, the popular branch of the Legislature, in 1848: and was successively re-elected to the Assembly of 1864, 1867, and 1869,—at the latter session being chosen speaker pro-tempore. He has also been quite generally spoken of, meantime, for more prominent, if not more important, official station. At the Republican Convention of 1869 he was nominated for Lieutenant Governor, and was elected in November by a majority of about ten thousand votes. As a legislator he was laborious, popular, influential; and as a presiding officer of the Senate, he is impartial, dignified and efficient. He had not been long in the Assembly before he had shown an aptitude for legislative business, and tact in bringing his views, and measures into favour, which gave him an extensive reputation. He was often spoken of by public journals of the state, with hearty approvals and in connection with the highest office in the Assembly; but he declined to be a candidate therefor. He devoted special attention to the subject of the free navigation of the rivers of Wisconsin, by nature suitable for this purpose; and is known as the champion of several notable successes in furtherance of his views. Mr. Pound is also the author of a very able report, made to
the Legislature several years ago against the authority of individual states to grant railway companies or others the franchise of bridging the Mississippi River—a document whose views have since been indorsed by Congress. In politics, Governor Pound is a Republican of the most radical type. He believes in the political equality of all men, and women. He is a pleasant speaker, and as a conversationalist has a sort of magnetic power little less than fascinating. All who come in contact with him, whether in business, the social circle, or in politics, acknowledge his kindly and genial nature. That he has admirable abilities, is conclusively shown by his success in extensive business, and in the high reputation which he has won among the Citizens of his adopted State and of other States.

The History of Lieutenant Governor Pound is the highest testimony that could be borne to his character, as a man.

In the weakness of early boyhood, he commenced the battle of, and fought his way to manhood with heroic courage, unremitting perseverance, and consummate skill, and came out victorious. Governor Pound now stands before the world, crowned with unfading laurels—a man of much wealth, considerable influence, and a public benefactor, as an employer. He forms a permanent Landmark, to which his descendants will point with pride and pleasure, long after he quits this stage on which he now plays his part of the drama of human life.

Governor Fairchild fought his way up to the executive chair, which he now occupies, and from which he watches, with parental solicitude, the wants and wishes of the people, doing all in his power to remedy the one and satisfy the other. Circumstances did not force him into the hard battle of life at an early age, but when his country required his services, he voluntarily went to fight the enemies of the constitution, and the sketch of his life before published in this Work, will show the part he acted.

HENRY BAETZ.

State Treasurer Henry Baetz, of Manitowoc, was born in Stockhausen, Hesse Darmstadt, in Germany, July 27, 1830 and came to this country in December 1835, settling at Two-Rivers. In July 1856 he removed to Manitowoc and took a place as Clerk in the office of Register of Deeds of Manitowoc county. He was elected Town Clerk of Manitowoc in the spring of 1857 and Register of Deeds for the County of Manitowoc in 1858 and re-elected in 1860; was Trustee, Supervisor of Manitowoc for two years and Treasurer of the village of Manitowoc from April 1866 to 1867. He was elected County Treasurer of the County of Manitowoc