Biography.

Such are the men, after all, who should be intrusted with the guidance of the Ship of State, to steer it clear of the shoals on which so many Common wealths have been stranded—the mismanagement of men of brilliant intellects, but corrupt hearts and selfish purpose. Burns, the Bard of Scotland, after describing the fate of the State under the rule of this class of men, says it will only be safe in the hands of the former, and adds:

“For thus the royal mandate ran,
When first the human race began,
“The social, friendly, honest man,
Whate’er he be,
“'Tis he fulfils great Nature’s plan,
And none but he!”

It is generally thought among the Republican party, that Speaker Smith will get the nomination for Governor at the next vacancy.

LLYWELYN BREESE, Secretary of State.

(We have the facts of the following brief sketch of the life of one of the most worthy citizens of Wisconsin from a personal friend of the subject.)

Llywelyn Breese was born at Obermynach, Merionetshire, North Wales, May 13th, 1833. Came to this country at thirteen years of age, (in 1846) with his parents, who settled on a farm in Randolph, Columbia County, in this state.

His parents and himself being ignorant of any but their own vernacular language and he being extremely anxious to acquire a knowledge of the English, hired out to an American, a farmer and neighbor, and in an almost incredibly short period of time, mastered the English language, to that extent, that it was hard to distinguish between him and an American in speech. But still unsatisfied with this meagre accomplishment he went back to his parents with the double object of helping them during the summer months; and attending the district school winters. Having learned all there was to be learned in such schools, he next left home and took an academic course, and after finishing the latter returned to his fathers farm, until 26 years of age.

In the meantime he held the offices of town supervisor, town treasurer, and justice of the peace. In 1859 he was appointed Under Sheriff of Columbia County, which position he held for two years. In 1860 was elected Treasurer of his county, and re-elected in 1862 and in 1864, and served with the greatest satisfaction to his fellow citizens, managing
the finances of the county with great ability and success, bringing the greatly depreciated "orders" of his county in a short time to par.

In 1867 he entered into business relations with the extensive mercantile firm of N. H. Wood & Co. of Portage City.

In November 1869 he was elected Secretary of State, which position he now holds. He is a man of strong convictions, and conscientious almost to a fault, yet affable and obliging, is industrious and very attentive to business, as may be seen by his first annual report to the Legislature.

His early moral and religious training was of the strict puritan class. His parents being exemplary members of the Welsh Calvinistic connection and to this circumstance may be traced his own moral and religious conviction. He is universally esteemed by his acquaintances, and particularly among his numerous countrymen in this State.

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**SAMUEL FALLOWS**

was born in Pendleton, near Manchester, England, Dec. 13th, 1835. He removed with his parents to Wisconsin July 1848 settling on a farm near Marshall, then Birds Ruins in Dane County.

At this early period in the history of the state, the country was sparsely settled and the inhabitants generally very poor.

For several years Mr. Fallows worked on his father's farm attending District School or studying alone during the winter season. Without any teacher, he began the study of Algebra, and Geometry, and made fair progress in them. Books and periodicals were scarce, and often has our farmer boy walked ten or twelve miles, to pick up some stray newspaper of which he had accidentally heard.

In his eighteenth year he united with the Methodist Episcopal church under the pastoral care of Rev. James Lanson, and immediately began to seek a higher education. He attended towards the close of the same year 1853, the Graded School, then the best in the state at Aztalan, of which Prof. N. G. Harvey was Principal. He frequently alludes to the intellectual stimulus he received from this faithful and accomplished teacher.

The following year he taught his first District School on Fountain Prairie, Columbia Co. The year after he attended the Seminary at Sun Prairie, under the charge of Prof. Mason, and entered the preparatory Department of the State University at Madison. A portion of the year following he attended the Lawrence University at Appleton. Returning to the State University he remained there until his graduation.