It may not be irrelevant to state in this connection, that the rapid progress already made by this comparatively young country in science, literature, art, etc. is, in a great measure, due to the common school system, and to the newspaper press. The common schools enable every one to read and write, and the newspaper press carries useful information to every house at such a rate as to be within the reach of even the working classes. It is astonishing what a visible improvement the short space of thirty years has effected in the editorial department of the American press, which now compares favorably with any in Europe.

CHARLES MAAS, AN OLD SETTLER,

was born in 1836, and came to America with his parents in 1845. His father, Gottlob Maas, purchased a farm in the Town of Wauwatosa, outside the city limits, on the Fond du Lac Avenue, well known as the Maas farm, on which he carried on the business of a farmer, till his death. Charles cultivates a part of this farm and keeps a large dairy.

THOMAS P. COLLINGBOURNE

was born in the city of Leicester, in Leicestershire, England, in 1825, and was educated in the Scientific Institute there. He was apprenticed to the painting and decorating business in said city, for six years. Came to New York in 1845, and from New York to Milwaukee, where he has carried on business on a large scale up to the present. He is at present alderman of the city of Milwaukee, and has the most extensive business in the state of his line.

PATRICK McLAUGHLIN.

One of the Nature's best noblemen has gone from amongst us. Yes, Patsy McLaughlin is dead. Our dearly beloved, and long-to-be mourned Patsy is gone forever. He was peremptorily summoned, at a short notice, to appear before a tribunal where his usefulness and many virtues will be duly acknowledged, appreciated and rewarded. The Chief Engineer of the Fire Department of the City of Milwaukee was a very rare and extraordinary character. Not every day—no, not every century brings forth such a man.

Born of Irish parents, belonging to the working classes, receiving the rudiments of education in New York till he attained the age of eleven years, when he removed to Milwaukee, and finishing it at the Christian