

MRS. ANGELINE COE HILLYER

Author—Jessie W. Scott

Waupun

Mrs. Angeline Coe Hillyer was a factor in the up-building of the social and religious life of the pioneers in the early days of the settlement of the village of Waupun.

Of Revolutionary stock, she had the courage of her convictions, and was easily a leader.

Always opposed to strong drink and liquors, she instituted temperance meetings held every other Sunday in the different meeting houses, where a program of music and readings was given and the Temperance Pledge circulated for every one to sign. She arranged programs for the prisoners at the State Prison, trying in this way to while away their weary hours, also a Flower Day, when every convict received a Nosegay.

Of charitable disposition, her carriage was seen before many a poor settler's home, with gifts of substantial nature for the dwellers therein.

JANE POWERS WALKER

Author—Mrs. Jessie Scott

Waupun

Coming to Wisconsin with an ox team, in 1849, Jane Powers Walker, with her husband and six children, found the country in its primitiveness.

They took up land from the Government, chopped down the forests, grubbed out the stumps to raise a little

grain and vegetables. The mother managed the household, spun yarn to knit the supply of socks and mittens, carded wool for the blankets, and homespun clothing, pieced quilts, covered lambs wool for comforts, and made all garments by hand, and much by candlelight. Candles were dipped, strings of apples were prepared for drying, currants and corn dried, and quantities of meat salted, and smoked, feathers were saved and made into big beds for comfort, also corn husks were dried and used in ticks for mattresses.

In this hospitable home, many preachers and strangers were entertained, at times the house resembled an inn, for the visitors. The pastimes of the period consisted largely of arguments on religion, going to "pound" or "donation" parties and a lodge to which all farmers belonged, called the "Grange."

Sunday meetings and prayer meeting were often held in this home to which all were welcome.

Mrs. Walker was a woman of strong religious temperament, and great benevolence. Always interested in political events, she kept up on topics of the day, and lived to the grand old age of ninety-six years. Being an Original Daughter, she became a member of the society, Daughters of the American Revolution, and was presented with a gold spoon by the National Chapter. Her grave is marked by the insignia of the Chapter.

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Jane Powers Walker joined the Fort Atkinson Chapter two years after it was organized, and before Waupun had a chapter. She visited the Fort Atkinson Chapter when she was 92 years old and we listened to her stories of those early long ago days. Her eyes shown and her face glowed with enthusiasm as she told in easy flowing language of her early experiences.

Mrs. Walker was very clever with her needle and presented the Fort Atkinson Chapter with a fine piece of hand work, which the Chapter had framed. She also embroidered a piece which she sent to President Roosevelt. At the age of 95 her sight began to fail and she died at 96.

FLORENCE C. DEXHEIMER.