WATERLOO CREEK.—This stream has its source in the north east portion of the county, and running easterly empties into the Crawfish, a branch of Rock River.

THE CAT FISH.—This stream, connecting the Four Lakes, and forming their outlet, is by far the most important, forming as it does the great basin of the county.—A description of its valley is reserved until we speak of lakes. Its source is the Fourth Lake, and taking a south-easterly course, its waters are discharged into Rock River a few miles south of the county line.

THE BAD FISH is a branch of the Cat Fish, coming in from the west.

SUGAR RIVER has its source in the south-west part of the county, and flowing south empties into Rock River. Its valley forms a magnificent farming country.

THE PECATONICA has branches rising in the south-west corner of the county. Great numbers of small streams flow into the lakes on all sides. The two largest are DOOR and TAHKOM CREEKS—the former flowing into First, and the latter into Fourth Lake. As all these water-courses have their origin in springs, the reader may well surmise that every section is well watered.

LAKES IN DANE COUNTY.

The lakes in this county are the most beautiful objects that imagination can picture, and lend a charm to the scenery such as few, if any localities, can present—There are in all, twelve lakes in Dane county—but the principal, and those most attractive, are the Four Lakes, lying in the valley of the Cat Fish, and nearly in a direct line from north west to southeeast. A brief description of each, is all that space allows. They must be seen to be appreciated.

FIRST LAKE.—This lake is the lowest of the four. Its longest diameter is three and one-eighth miles, by two miles in its shortest; its circumference is nine and a half miles, and it covers five square miles. It is situated nine miles above Dunkirk Falls, near the southern line of the county.

SECOND LAKE.—This body of water lies three and a half miles above First Lake. Its length is three and a half miles and its width about two; and with the First, has an average depth of about twelve feet.

THIRD LAKE is next above, at a distance of seven-eights of a mile. It is about six and a half miles long, by two broad, occupying an area of six square miles. Madison, the County Seat and Capital of the State, is located on the strip of land about one mile across, between this and the Fourth Lake.

FOURTH LAKE.—This is the uppermost and by far the largest of the Four Lakes.—It has a periphery of nineteen and one-fourth miles, and covers an area of fifteen and sixty-five hundredths square miles. Its diameter is six miles by nine.

Each lake is surrounded by a broad valley, which, with the bottom lands bordering upon the numerous small streams, flowing into them, on all sides, forms a portion of agricultural country of unsurpassed fertility.

The water of all these lakes, coming from springs, is cold and clear to a remarkable degree. For the most part, their shores are made of a fine gravel shingle; and their bottoms, which are visible at a great depth, are composed of white sand, interspersed with granite boulders. Their banks, with few exceptions, are bold. A jaunt upon them affords almost every variety of scenery—bold escarpments and overhanging cliffs, elevated peaks, and gently-sloping shores, with occasional strips of meadow land between: affording magnificent views of the distant prairies and openings.—They abound in fish of a great variety of species—and water fowl innumerable sport upon the surface. Persons desiring to settle in sightly locations, with magnificent views of water and woodland scenery, may find hundreds of unoccupied places of unsurpassed beauty upon and near their margins.

PRAIRIES, OPENINGS, SOIL, &c.

The surface of the county, as before intimated, is all rolling—hills and valleys succeeding each other—presenting much such an appearance as we might suppose the