which, when completed, will open convenient markets to every part of the county—
1st. The Fox and Wisconsin River Improvement. This great work is nearly com-
pleted, and when finished, opens a communication by steamers to the whole valley of
the Mississippi and the Great Lakes—securing both markets to farmers in the north
and north-west part of the county.
2d. The Milwaukee, Watertown, and Madison Rail Road will open a convenient
avenue from the east side of the county. It is already completed from Milwaukee
to Watertown and the work is progressing west of the latter place, and will enter
Dane County this season.
3d. The Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad. The cars are now running between
Milwaukee and Eagle Prairie—25 miles—and the road is expected to reach Whitewa-
ter (55 miles) by the 4th of July, and Rock River (Milton) by November next.—
All the necessary material has been procured for this purpose; and the work is un-
der the control of energetic and competent men. One season more, it is anticipated,
will ensure the completion of the road to Madison. From there it will pass throu-
g the west part of the county, and terminate on the Mississippi.
4th. The Beloit, Janesville, Madison and Fort Wainwright Railroad. This Com-
pany has a very liberal charter, the route is entirely feasible, the expense light, and
there is every prospect of an early completion of the road.
Thus the avenues to distant markets for the future surplus of this great county
are numerous and convenient, and their completion within a limited period may be
confidently relied upon. The domestic market, however, is quite extensive. The
flouring mills of the county are constantly active, and the extensive one at Madison
is fitted for eight ears of wheat. The supplying of the upper Piankies will for years
create a large demand for the produce of our farmers.

CLIMATE, CULTIVATION OF FRUIT, &c.

It may be safely averred that no section of country in the temperate zone enjoys a
pleasanter climate than southern Wisconsin. It is eminently removed from the ex-
trances of heat and cold. Winters, though occasionally long and severe, are
more commonly mild and delightful, even when the temperature of early spring—
Snow rarely falls to the depth of 20 inches; and two-thirds of the seasons it does not
exceed 5 inches in all together. Spring opens about the first of April, and it is rare that injury
is done by frosts. Summers are warm, but tempered by proximity to the great lakes.
Autumn is generally the pleasantest part of the year. Cold weather comes on imper-
cipitately, giving abundant time to secure crops—then follows the Indian Summer,
with its weeks of smoky haze, and finally winter sets in, with no change save a gradu-
al increase of cold—and mid-winter is sometimes reached under a clear sky, without
cloud or storm.
The cultivation of fruit has but just commenced in earnest. The few orchards
which have begun bearing, yield abundantly. Every variety flourishes finely, and it
is reduced to a certainty that this section will soon become celebrated for the quality
and quantity of its fruit.
The dairy business is also admirably adapted to this county. Wild grass in im-
measurable abundance covers the surface, and for winter pasture only the cutting,—
Stock flourish upon it. The cultivation of the tame grasses has commenced in vari-
ous quarters, and is not a doubtful experiment. Sheep do well, and are being rap-
Idly introduced. In short, every production of New England or New York, will be
found fitted to our soil and climate.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES, &c.

Accurate data are not within reach, showing the condition of the several religious
societies in the county. It may be said of them, however, that they are in as flourish-