CHAPTER IV.


The year 1840 commenced under as favorable auspices as could have been expected. The attention of the settlers was early drawn to the necessity of public improvements, and social and religious privileges. As will be seen, two church organizations were established, a select school opened and also a debating club. Madison was then an isolated place, and while the lands adjoining were rich and productive, there was no cash market, and produce hardly paid the expense of transportation to the Lake ports. There was no scarcity of eatables, as fish and wild game were abundant, but not much to purchase articles of necessary expenditure.

On the 14th of January, 1840, the County Commissioners, Eben Peck, Simeon Mills and Jere Lycan, made a report of the receipts and disbursements of Dane county, from the time of its organization to that date. As a matter of interest, this, the first report of Dane county is given:

DR.

To amount paid out for the survey and location of roads, - - - - - - $177 00
To amount paid out for books and stationery, - 337 51
To amount paid out for furniture and office rent, - 190 25
To amount paid out for printing blanks and advertising, 67 25
To amount paid out on contract for building jail, 1,239 56
To amount of expenses for October term of district court, elections, cost of assessment, fees of officers, bounty on wolves, expenses of criminal prosecutions, coroner's inquests, etc., 938 17
Total expenses for the county, 2,949 74

**Cr.**

By amount of taxes paid into the county treasury for county purposes, 2,184 41
By amount of taxes for school purposes, 393 13
By amount for fines, 5 00
By amount for tavern license, 20 00
By amount for grocery license, 100 00
Balance due the county treasurer on settlement, 55 96
Total amount of receipts, 2,758 50
Deduct the amount due the Territory, 164 70
Deduct treasurer's fees, 54 02
Balance against the county, 2,539 78

In the spring of this year, definite action was taken for the organization of the Episcopal church, the preliminary steps for which, had been taken the year before.

Rev. Washington Philo, a minister of that church, on the 9th of March, addressed a letter to the "Gospel Messenger," in which he gives an account of the meeting held to organize the same. This valuable letter is as follows:

"To the Editor of the Gospel Messenger:

"Madison, Wis., March 9, 1840.

"Rev. Sir: Whatever relates to the prosperity and extension of our Zion, can never be uninteresting to devout and consistent churchmen. I therefore send you a brief extract of the minutes of the proceedings of the citizens of this town, convened at the Capitol, for the purpose of organizing a Protest-
ant Episcopal Church, on the 8th inst. The Rev. W. Philo
presided: and after the object of the meeting was stated by
him, and some few remarks made by W. T. Sterling, J. A.
Noonan and others; on motion of John Catlin, Esq., Thos.
W. Sutherland, Esq., was chosen secretary of the meeting.
The names of the gentlemen present, entitled to vote by the
rules of the society and disposed to act, were then recorded in
the minutes.*

"On motion of J. Catlin, Esq.,
"Resolved, That this meeting do now proceed to elect the
Wardens and Vestrymen by ballot.
"Whereupon, the votes being taken and counted, it appeared
that the following gentlemen were duly elected:
"Warden—John Catlin, Esq.
"Vestrymen—Hon. Wm. B. Slaughter, Josiah A. Noonan,
Mr. David Hyer, Mr. George Hyer, Mr. P. W. Matts, Hon.
Ebenezer Brigham, Mr. R. L. Ream, Mr. Edward Campbell.
"It was then moved, seconded and enacted that the time of
service shall expire annually, hereafter, upon Monday in Easter
week.

"The chair then proposed, and J. A. Noonan, Esq., seconded
the proposition, and the meeting enacted, that this society shal
be known and designated as the "Apostolic Church."
"The minutes then being signed, by the chairman and the
secretary, the society adjourned.
"Our friends in the East may see by the above, and other
like demonstration, that their brethren in the Far West are not
idle; but are doing what they can for God and the church. And
if we do not exhibit that augmented increase in our numbers
that our brethren do in the East, it is because the Far West is
newer, the population more sparse, and demoralizing influence
more inveterate. * The church in this station has obtained a
good beginning, for a place so new, changing, and of such a
diversity of religious opinions. It is not, I believe, quite three
years since the first dwelling was erected. Some families re-

*The names of the persons were: David Hyer, John Catlin, J. A.
Noonan, P. W. Matts and Adam Smith.
main in town but a few weeks, and others a few months, till they can conveniently settle on farms in the country. The inhabitants now here are mostly from the east, and have brought with them (as is generally the case), their old religious notions and prejudices; and among them are those who belonged to as many as six different denominations. But there were, when I came, but two communicants of the church, and but two or three others acquainted with our truly excellent liturgy. It is our sincere and earnest prayer to Almighty God, that He, of His bountiful goodness, would prosper these feeble beginnings, and further them to his own glory, evangelical piety and permanent, primitive and apostolic principles and usages. W. P."

Mrs. Henry fake and Mrs. David Hyer were church members. Religious services were held in the old capitol building, Rev. W. Philo having been engaged, as stated, clergyman.

In a number of the Wisconsin Express we find a notice that on Christmas evening, 1840, a donation party was held at the house of Rev. Mr. Philo, the Episcopal church missionary, which was well attended, and many presents bestowed on the worthy minister.

Mr. Philo preached at Madison for about a year, and was succeeded by Rev. Richard F. Cadle, formerly of Green Bay, who supplied the church for a time. The further history of this church will be continued hereafter.

The Fourth of July, says the "Express," passed off here in a very peaceable and quiet way, although attended with every demonstration which its recurrence is calculated to call forth on the part of a moral and religious, and yet patriotic people. We had no party political celebration — no Tippecanoe gathering — no drinking of "hard cider," and "harder brandy," which doubtless were the order of the day in most parts of our country, but we had a very orderly, and of course very respectable, little assembly of citizens at the Capitol, where, after religious services by the Rev. W. Philo, the Declaration of Independence was read by T. W. Sutherland, Esq., in a manner highly creditable to himself, and a very appropriate and impressive oration delivered by the Rev. Mr. Slingerland.
Miss Pierce advertised, April 11, 1840, that the second term of her school for young misses would commence on the first Monday in May.

J. S. Nicholas, of Baltimore, Md., advertised to sell at auction, on the 4th of June, 14,000 acres of land in Dane county.

The "Madison Express" of July 18, complains that wheat only brings fifty cents per bushel, and that it is often dealt out to hogs and cattle for want of sale. We note that on the 4th of September, Wm. N. Seymour and Julius T. Clark had formed a law partnership and law agency.

The Madison Lyceum had weekly meetings for debate, during the year, and on one occasion, in May, the subject was whether it was desirable for Wisconsin to claim admittance into the Union as a state, if she obtains jurisdiction of the disputed territory.

La Fayette Kellogg, Esq.,* a well known citizen of this place, was appointed clerk of the Supreme Court of the Territory, on the 11th day of August, 1850. Mr. Kellogg has retained the same office, with a short intermission, to the present time, 1874.

On the 4th of October, 1840, nine persons united themselves in an organization as a Christian church in Madison. It was

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*La Fayette Kellogg, Esq., son of Rowland Kellogg and his wife Sarah Titus, was born at Elizabethtown, Essex County, New York, and was educated at the same place. Came west in 1838, and spent nearly a year in the lead mines at Mineral Point, and returned to Madison in the summer of 1839—held several town and county offices until August 11, 1849, when he was appointed clerk of the supreme court of the Territory, which office he held until the State Government was organized, when from continued ill health he was obliged to give up all kinds of business until December, 1851, when his health having improved, he again took charge of the office as Deputy Clerk, and discharged the duties of the same until the organization of the separate Supreme Court in June 1853, when he was again appointed clerk, and has held that office to the present time, (1874.) He was also elected chief clerk of the House of Representatives at its session in 1845, and was re-elected at the session of 1846, 1847 and 1848, and was also elected Secretary of the first convention to frame a constitution for the then future State of Wisconsin, which constitution was rejected by a vote of the people on the first Tuesday of April, 1847.
almost, if not really the planting of a church in the wilderness. At the time of its organization, there was no other except the Episcopal, within fifty miles in any direction. The church was organized in what was the Library and Court Room of the old capitol, under the direction of Rev. Elbert Slingerland, a missionary of the Reformed Dutch Church. Twelve communicants partook of the Sacrament. In spirit it was a Congregational church from the first; but in compliance with the wishes of the first pastor, it took the name of the "Dutch Reformed Church," adopting it with the provision that the form and connection might be changed when a majority of the members desired it. Besides the minister, there was but one officer in the church, a ruling elder, and that office was conferred on David Brigham, Esq. Mr. Slingerland preached from June, 1840, to June 1841. On the 13th of June, 1841, in order to connect itself with the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, by an unanimous vote of all the members then resident here, the church adopted the name of the Congregational Church in Madison, and resolved therefrom forth "to be governed and regulated by the established rules of such churches as were then known in the Territory." Mr. David Brigham was chosen Deacon and Clerk of the Church under the new arrangement. The following persons were members at this time, and as all but one of them partook of the first communion referred to, they may be considered original members: David Brigham, Mrs. E. F. Brigham, W. N. Seymour, Mrs. A. M. Seymour, Mrs. M. A. Morrison, Mrs. E. Wyman, Mrs. C. R. Pierce, Mrs. A. Catlin, Mrs. Slingerland. Rev. J. M. Clark, of Kentucky, then took charge of the church, and preached here till July, 1843; and was succeeded by Rev. S. E. Miner, of New York, who began preaching under the auspices of the Home Missionary Society; at this time the church had no settled place of worship, and some efforts were made to erect a church building. For a time, they worshipped in the old capitol, occupying alternately with two or three other denominations. Then they obtained the use of a log house, the old building erected by Mr. Eben Peck, and known as the "first
FOUR LAKE COUNTRY OF WISCONSIN.

house built in Madison," and met there for some time. The erection of a new barn, sometime after seemed to offer such superior and attractive accommodations, that the little church made this its temple, and "Christianity went back to the stable in which it had its origin." After great effort and self sacrifice, subscriptions were received to encourage them to build a house of worship. The building was erected on lot 10, block 108, on Webster street, and was dedicated in 1846. P. H. Van Bergen was builder. It was built of wood, with seats for 250 persons, and cost about $1,800. In October, 1846, Mr. Miner, resigned his pastorate. He was succeeded October 20, 1846, by Rev. Chas. Lord, * of Independence, Missouri, who was installed October 20, 1852, by advice of an Ecclesiastical Council, and the church became self-supporting. Mr. Lord, was pastor of the church until the spring of 1854, when owing to infirmity of the eyes he was obliged to resign. He was succeeded in 1855, by Rev. N. H. Eggleston, of Plymouth church, Chicago.

The further history of this church will be resumed hereafter.

In connection with the above history, the following account of the first steps taken towards the organization, will be found interesting:

Rev. Mr. Slingerlænd, on the 1st of November, 1840, wrote a letter to Rev. B. C. Taylor, the Secretary of the Board of Missions of the Reformed Dutch Church, which was published in the New York Christian Intelligencer, the organ of that de-

* Rev. Charles Lord was a son of Rev. Henry and Fidelia (Graves) Lord and was born at Williamsburg, Hampshire county, Massachusetts, January 27, 1816. He graduated at Amherst College, 1838; Andover Theological Seminary, 1842; ordained at Booneville, Mo., October, 1841; Home Missionary in Missouri and Wisconsin, eight years; installed at Madison, Wisconsin, October 20, 1852; dismissed May 8, 1854; installed over Second Church Whateley, Massachusetts, March 20, 1856; dismissed June 14, 1860; installed at Buckland, Massachusetts, 1860. He married August 30, 1843, Clarissa Lois Wright, daughter of Luther and Sarah Wright of East Hampton, Massachusetts, by whom he has had three children; viz: Sarah D., born March 29, 1845, married Robert R. Hall of Brooklyn, New York; Alice C., born July and died July 1853, and Henry C., born October 14, 1854. Rev. Mr. Lord died at the residence of his daughter, March 28, 1872, in the 57th year of his age.
nomination, in which he gives an account of the organization of the church at Madison, and his ministerial labors in the adjacent country, with an interesting account of the Territory of Wisconsin, the state of society, and the adaptation of the country for settlement. His letter is lengthy — the following extracts are taken from it:

"It is with great pleasure that I transmit to you an account of my mission since August 1. I feel deeply indebted to the Providence of God for preserving both my family and myself in the enjoyment of health, which, of all earthly blessings, is 'Heaven's best gift to man.'

"During this quarter, I have preached at Madison every alternate Sabbath, and the rest of the time in the vicinity. On the morning of the 4th ult., we consummated the organization of a church at this place, with two male and seven female members, which number we hope to enlarge at our next communion. I dispensed, upon this occasion, the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, and feel assured that all the services were duly appreciated by this infant church. Some professors from abroad, members of the Presbyterian Church, being present, commemorated with us the death of our common Lord. In the evening, the ordinance of baptism was administered to an infant of one of our members.

"I am happy to state that we have a good attendance upon the Sabbath, and also upon all the appointments made in my former report. In the month of August, during an extra session of the Legislature of this Territory, I called a meeting, the object of which was to obtain a history of the rise and progress of churches in different parts of the Territory. The meeting was well attended, and of great interest. It appeared that many churches which were formed of the fewest possible materials, have grown into considerable influence, and are now exerting themselves in the most laudable manner in promoting the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom. It appeared also that revivals of religion had been enjoyed during the past year in several places, particularly at Prairie Village, near Milwaukee, at Racine, and at Platteville, in Grant county."
"I have twice visited Prairie du Sac, a settlement beautifully located on the borders of the Wisconsin river, some thirty miles northwest of Madison. Besides preaching here, I, by a special request, delivered a temperance address to a very attentive audience. I am, however, uncertain whether we will be able to succeed at this place in effecting the organization of a church, as several of the inhabitants, being Presbyterians, are strongly prejudiced in favor of this sister denomination.

"I have hitherto continued, and design to continue my services at Sun Prairie, a settlement twelve miles northeast from this place. This part of the country is admirably adapted for a dense population, and is now growing rapidly. The people here are very anxious to enjoy the preached gospel; and, so far as I have been able to ascertain, they constitute a moral population. Several heads of families are members of different churches; and how far time may accomplish unity of feeling in regard to their views of religion, remains to be developed.

"It is expected that in my first reports I should give a detailed account of men and things as I find them, for the information of our friends at the east. It is due to this community to state that intemperance does not prevail here to the same extent that it does in New York; while profanity and Sabbath breaking are prevailing vices — at least in many places. * * *

"I have already received several communications from my friends at the east. I expect many of them will emigrate in the spring. Thus materials for new organizations will be furnished, and as time rolls on, treasures of moral worth and true piety will enrich and gladden our land. I hope we may have your constant prayers, that the Great Head of the Church would make us doubly useful, not only in promoting the external order of the Church, but especially in the conversion of souls. I am, respectfully yours in the Lord,

"ELBERT SLINGERLAND."

On the 26th of November, ABNER NICHOLS and J. GEORGE advertised that they had opened the Madison Exchange on Doty's corner, between the American and Madison Hotels, and had purchased a splendid billiard table, etc., and that gentlemen
annoyed by the growl of the "Tiger" could find comfortable accommodations at the Exchange, where "Uncle George" would at all times be in readiness to attend to their wants.


On the 26th of December, a meeting of printers was called to consider the expediency of procuring an act of incorporation for the Madison Typographical Society, of which Geo. Hyer was Secretary.

Rev. Dr. Alfred Brunson, of Prairie du Chien, writing of his first visit to Madison as a member of the Legislature of 1840–1, says: "At that time there was a wagon stage running from the Capitol east and west three times a week in summer, and on runners in the winter. The one going west, went by Mineral Point and Platteville to Galena, and of course did not reach Prairie du Chien, the place of my residence. Our only means of reaching Madison was by private or hired conveyance. In my first visit, myself and several others hired a sleigh and driver. Lodging places were few and far between, and we had to fix our stages of day's travel accordingly, requiring two nights out to make the one hundred miles. The only houses on the road were log cabins, not very large, and if the company was large, lodgings were in heaps, and mostly on the floor.

"The road we traveled, till within sixteen miles of Madison, was the old Military road leading from Fort Crawford (Prairie du Chien), to Fort Winnebago (Portage City), on the dividing ridge between the waters flowing into the Wisconsin river on the north, and those flowing south into the Grant, Platte, Pecatonica and Sugar rivers. This road was one of the best natural roads I ever saw. After crossing the Wisconsin we had no water to cross ten feet wide in the whole distance; nor was there a bridge or a foot of dugway except between the
Wisconsin and the ridge. The road of course had to wind in a serpentine course to keep the ridge, and up and down the ravines to reach and descend from the ridge. Wild deer and other game were plenty along the road.

"The old and first capitol was then in use, and for the time was considerable of a building. It served not only for legislation, but for courts, plays, shows and for Divine worship, there being no other place in the town where such assemblages could be accommodated. The dwellings, stores and shops were in "magnificent distances," so much so, that pigs and poultry were in little danger of getting so mixed as to lose their identity.

"I think there were but two hotels — the old American and the Madison. The American (afterwards burned down), stood on the site of the present "Park Savings Bank." It was of wood, two stories above the basement, with a spacious attic; and such was the crowd when the Legislature was in session, that the attic (all in one room), was filled with beds on the floor to accommodate lodgers, and it got the cognomen of the "School Section." The Madison Hotel was not so large, but equally crowded, and besides these, every private house that possibly could accommodate boarders, was filled to overflowing. The Territory was generally well represented on such occasions, and every one had "an ax to grind." I boarded at a private house near the Third Lake.

"The streets and sidewalks were not in their present state of repair, and in soft weather locomotion was not a desirable exercise. We had some thaws that winter that would do credit to a more southern and eastern climate; a thing seldom seen in Wisconsin, and the mud and slush were such as to call for boats and canoes almost, to get from one place to another. A jocose member of the Assembly offered an amendment to a bill to prevent obstructions in the street leading from the Park to the Third Lake, that would prevent the fish from coming up the street to the Park.

"At that time, being a Territory, Congress paid the expenses of the government, and the spirit of the majority of the Legis-
lature was to create as many offices as possible, so as to give a place to partisan favorites and friends to pay them for electioneering, and to secure their votes at future elections; also to get as much money as possible out of "Uncle Sam," to circulate in the country. I objected to this course, on the ground of needless expense, and that it was constituting a precedent for our future State that would be a burden when we had to foot the bills ourselves. But when the vote was taken, I found myself in a slim minority.

"At the close of the session, it was found that considerable stationery that had been bought for the use of the Legislature at the public expense was remaining, affording an opportunity for another "steal," and a motion was made to distribute it among the members. This I also opposed, as being improper, unjust and dishonest, but I, with a few others, were voted down. It was alleged that preceding Legislatures had done so, and that the present one had the same right; and when my share was laid upon my desk, I objected to receiving it, but was told that it could not be returned to the secretary's office and be retained for another year, and if it was so returned, it would be stolen before the year rolled round, and that if I did not take it, others would. This policy was the beginning of that system which was afterwards known as the "Forty Thieves," who ruled the Territory and the State for years, on the principle "to the victor belong the spoils."

"Bad as this Legislature was in this and some other respects, the citizens of the place said it was a great improvement upon its predecessors. Whether this was a fact, or a mere compliment of flattery, I had no means of knowing. The next session composed chiefly of the same men, was like unto the other.

Political hobbies, were mounted and rode at John Gilpin speed. Log rolling was the order of the day. You help me and I will help you, was the ruling spirit of that body. Personal or party interests were the motive power with a majority, and but few seemed to inquire whether a proposed measure was in itself right or wrong, but whether it would be for the
interest of the party, himself, or his constituents; and the history of legislation in both the Territory and State has not exhibited as much improvement in these respects as is desirable.

In those times when the Legislature assembled, it seemed to call together the worst elements of society. Faro banks, a thing called "the Tiger," and other gambling institutions, were said to exist, and to be run with great boldness, and in defiance of both moral and civil law, and many poor wights were said to be stripped of all the money they had. Bad whisky, in large quantities, was said to be consumed, much to the damage of the consumer. Lager beer had not then been inaugurated, but other vile drinks equally detrimental were said to be in common use. There were, however, some redeeming spirits in the place, both among citizens and visitors, and divine service was kept up in the capitol on Sundays, morning and evening, during the whole session with large attendance, the moral effects of which were quite visible.

We find but little information of the growth of Madison in 1841. The newspapers had but very little to say about local matters, but their columns were filled with articles on the political questions of the day. There appeared to be more interest in the merits and demerits of Gov. Jas. Duane Doty, and Gov. Henry Dodge, than in any other subject; both these gentlemen had their admirers as well their opponents. This state of feeling, unhappily, existed for a number of years.

From the report of the County Commissioners for the year ending January 14, 1841, we learn the receipts were $2,362.61, and the disbursements $1,912.09, balance in hands of the treasurer $450.52, to meet outstanding orders of $409.96. The Commissioners were, E. Prok, S. Mills and P. Brigham.

The National Hotel was erected this season on the corner of Main street and Washington avenue (the present site of the Vilas House) by Zenas H. Bird. It was a two story framed building, and was used as a hotel, with a succession of landlords, until about 1852, when it was purchased by Hon. E. B. Dean, Jr., and removed to lots 2 and 3, block 88, on Clymer street, where it now stands, and is used for a dwelling house.
GEO. HYER, Esq., became associated with C. C. SHOLES, in the publication of the Wisconsin Enquirer in the month of April, and was succeeded in February, 1842, by J. GILLETT KNAPP.

The National Anniversary was advertised to be celebrated as usual, the officers of the day as published, were DAVID BRIGHAM, President, N. F. HYER and A. A. BIRD, Vice Presidents, JULIUS T. CLARK, Orator, DR. T. M. WILCOX, Reader, and WM. T. STERLING, Marshall. We do not find any notice of this celebration, and suppose it was not much of an affair.

A contract to bridge the Catfish was awarded by the Board of County Commissioners, to THOS. JACKSON, for $295.50, which was built during the summer.

E. M. WILLIAMSON, Esq., * one of our prominent men, came here in the month of September.


* E. M. Williamson was a native of Bedford, Westchester county, New York, and born October 19, 1801. He came to Milwaukee, March 28, 1840, and settled at Madison, which he still makes his home. He has held various offices under the Territorial organization; Deputy Register of Deeds, Deputy Sheriff, Justice of the Peace, County Surveyor and Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners. Since 1846 he has been engaged almost exclusively as Land Agent.

Mr. Williamson was married at Rochester, New York, October 1, 1850, to Miss Eliza A. Wallace.
FOUR LAKE COUNTRY OF WISCONSIN.

DAVID HYER, B. HANEY, J. W. THOMAS, CHAUNCEY LEBLAND, JOS. VROMAN, ABEL DUNNING, DARWIN CLARK, G. P. DELA-PLAINE, ADAM SMITH, EDWARD CAMPBELL, N. F. HYER, P. B. BIRD, THOS. DAILY, A. P. FIELD, A. BOTKIN.

On the 22d of December, 1841, application was made to David Brigham, Jas. Morrison and Burk Fairchild, School Commissioners for the county of Dane, to set off township 7, of range 9 east, to be organized as School District No. 1. This is believed to be the first action had relative to the organization of schools under Territorial laws, in Dane county; the application was signed by Dr. Almon Lull, Ira W. Bird, E. Quivey, Peter W. Mattr and Nicholas Smith. The commissioners took the same in consideration, and on the 25th reported favorably, and set off the territory described as district No. 1. On January 24, the district petitioned the commissioners to enlarge the district by including town 8, which was attached February 15.

1842. On the 11th of February, Hon. CHAS. C. P. ARNDT, a member of the Council from the county of Brown, was killed by Hon. J. R. VINEYARD, a member from Grant county. A discussion had arisen in the Council on a motion to reconsider a vote by which the nomination of E. S. Baker as Sheriff of Grant county was rejected a few days before. During the progress of the discussion, violent words passed between the two parties. The first, conceiving himself to have been insulted, approached Mr. VINEYARD, after the adjournment, for the purpose of seeking an explanation. A slight rencontre then took place, when the latter drew a pistol from his pocket and fired. Mr. Arndt reeled for a few paces, then sunk on the floor, and almost instantly expired, having been shot through the heart. The funeral services were held at the Council Chamber, and the remains taken to Green Bay for interment.

Mr. VINEYARD immediately surrendered himself to the Sheriff, waived an examination, and was committed to jail. After a short confinement, he was brought before the Chief Justice of the Territory on a writ of habeas corpus, and admitted to bail. He was afterwards indicted for manslaughter, and was tried
and acquitted. Immediately after the homicide, Vineyard sent his resignation to the Council, which refused to receive it or have it read, and immediately expelled him. No occurrence ever happened in the Territory that caused more excitement than this event. Mr. Vineyard subsequently removed to California, and has since deceased.

On the 18th of February, 1842, the two houses of the Legislature elected John Y. Smith Commissioner of Public Buildings. The work on the capitol was finished by Mr. Baxter the year following, and the fence placed around the square in 1842; the cedar posts having been cut partly on the banks of the lakes, and partly on the Wisconsin river.

The third newspaper established here was the Wisconsin Democrat. It was a six column weekly, and the first number was issued on the 18th of October, 1842. J. Gillett Knapp and John Delany, editors and proprietors. It was a radical Democratic State-Rights paper. It continued under those persons until February 9, 1843, when John P. Sheldon and George Hyer took possession. It was continued without further change until March 14, 1844, when it was suspended. The printing material was afterwards purchased and used for printing the Argus.

In May, 1842, Jas. Morrison, President, and Simeon Mills, Secretary, of the Board of Trustees of Madison Select Female School, announced that they had secured the services of Mrs. Gay as teacher.

In relation to the business prospects of the village, the Madison Express, of September 15, 1842, has the following notice:

"With the greatest pleasure, we have lately noticed several glowing descriptions of rapid improvements going on in neighboring towns. We heartily rejoice in the prosperity of our neighbors, and should certainly envy not their good fortune, even were we totally disregarded by the inconstant goddess in the distribution of her gifts. Happily, however, by dint of good fortune and the industry and enterprise of her citizens, Madison is going ahead. The improvements this season
nearly, if not quite, equal all before. Facilities for the convenience and comfort of the inhabitants, as well as the accommodation of the public, are progressing daily. Several fine buildings have been completed, while others for dwelling houses, shops, stores and various other purposes, are still going up, and will be finished in the course of the fall. The capitol square is being fenced and cleared of its rubbish, which adds much to the appearance of the town. Notwithstanding the hard times, the improvements have been larger, and business much better than the most sanguine among us anticipated. Quite a number of emigrants have settled around and among us, and our streets are daily thronged with strangers in pursuit of business or pleasure. Though we cannot boast of as great an increase in population, wealth or improvements as the lakeboard towns, and many other portions of the Territory, yet we can assure them, one and all, that we are gradually, steadily and surely coming up in the world. As it is the transaction of public business here which fills our streets with the greatest bustle and activity, everything is of course comparatively dormant during that portion of the year when neighboring towns are flowing with life and business. But the cups will soon turn, and while the lake towns are frozen up and idle, old Jack-frost will but increase our glee, and in turn make 'our town' resound with the tumult of business, not surpassed by other parts of the Territory during the most favorable season of the year."

The appearance of Madison in the early days of its history, while very beautiful in dry and pleasant weather, was far from attractive under different circumstances. C. C. Britt, Esq., of Portage City, has given the following anecdote as an illustration:

"In the year 1842, or possibly 1843, Gen. John A. Brown, who afterwards became a well known citizen of our state, and his friend Dr. Goodhue, an English gentleman of high culture and skill, were residing at Rockford, Ill. Having heard much of the beauties and promise of Madison, they resolved to journey thither and see with their own eyes if all they had heard
was indeed true. Accordingly on a fine summer's day they started on their tour of inspection, expecting, of course, to find something akin to the "promised land." Unfortunately for Madison, and to the chagrin of our tourists, the weather had become rainy on their arrival, and the highways very muddy. They sought shelter at the old "American," then kept by "Uncle Jimmy Morrison," as he was familiarly called by every one in those days. The unpleasant weather continued for a day or two, and with slight intervals of sunshine. All travelers have observed the unpleasant hue that a rainy day will spread over otherwise pleasing scenery; so with our friends. But being men of determined character, and as they had come to see the town, they were not to be thwarted by foul weather; so they traversed the embryo city through streets and "across lots." In their rounds with such unpleasant sights as often greet the eye on a rainy day in frontier settlements — too much dram drinking, and an occasional stupid fellow taking a drunken snooze in the mud at the roadside. This was not peculiar to Madison alone, and they knew it, but combined with the mud and the rain, and the newness of the place and its surroundings — the lack of material improvements for a capitol city even at that day, all tended to impress our strangers very unfavorably, and particularly the worthy Doctor, accustomed as he had been to the refinements and comforts of his old English home; and as they sauntered along the shores of Fourth Lake, amusing themselves with casting pebbles into its bright waters, or skimming them on their placid surface after the manner of their boyhood, the Doctor became utterly silent and remained so for some time, evidently pondering upon some weighty matter. At last he turned suddenly to his companion, and with his finger pointing threateningly at him, exclaimed in words more expressive than elegant, "John A! if you tell anybody that I ever was in Madison by —— I'll kill you!" and then strode rapidly to his hotel, accompanied of course with his chum. They immediately settled the reckoning with the landlord, and bade good bye to Madison, and started for home, perhaps as thoroughly disgusted with the place as it was possible for men of their ar-
dent temperament to be. In after years, Gen. Brown would
mirthfully relate this incident of his first visit to Madison,
showing how unreliable it is to form impressions under unfa-
orable circumstances."

Mr. Britt further says he visited Madison some three years
later, also in rainy weather, and he freely admits that the ap-
pearance of the place even at that date was not sufficiently at-
tractive, or its promise for improvement so good as to induce
him to make a settlement. Subsequently he moved here and
made it his home for a brief period. The settlement of the town
was greatly retarded, as has been heretofore stated, from the
fact that all the desirable lots and lands in Madison and the
country adjacent were owned by non-resident speculators, and
could not be purchased except at prices largely in advance of
their true value.

John Y. Smith, Esq.,* a prominent citizen, came here in the

*John Y. Smith, was born in LeRay, Jefferson county, New York, Feb-
uary 10, 1807. He was left an orphan, without means, at a very early age.
He learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed for several years.
In 1828, at the age of 21 years, Mr. Smith came to Wisconsin, and first
settled at Green Bay. He afterwards resided, for a brief period, in
Milwaukee, and in the county of Waukesha. He came to Madison in
1839, as Commissioner for the Building of the old Capitol. Considerable
of the work upon that building was executed with his own hands. In
1843, he removed his family to this place. In the same year, the office of
Commissioner was abolished, and that of Superintendent of Public Prop-
erty established, and Mr. Smith was appointed the first incumbent of the
new office, which position he filled till 1846. In this latter year, he built
a residence on Clymer street, in this city, which he occupied till he moved
to his farm some two miles into the country, about two years ago.

In April, 1844, the old Argus office was purchased by Simeon Mills,
John Y. Smith, and Benjamin Holt. Mr. Smith assumed the editorial
control of the paper, and in his hands it ranked high as an able Democratic
paper. In 1845, Major H. A. Tenney became associated with Mr.
Smith in the editorial management of the Argus; and that paper became
the leading organ of that faction of the Democratic party, then known as
"Old Hunkers," and Mr. Smith was recognized as the soundest and ablest
writer then in that party in the State. He remained in connection with
this paper, till April, 1851, when he retired from it. After a few years,
the Argus was discontinued for a time, but was revived in 1860, and in
winter of 1841, from Green Bay. On February 18, 1842, he was elected Commissioner of Public Buildings. He brought his family in July, 1843, and in 1846 erected his residence on the corner of Pinckney and Clymer streets.

N. W. & E. B. Dean, were here in 1842, and were prominent merchants for many years, and still continue residents.

Miss L. A. Smith advertised, June 7, to open a school in Mr. Parkinson’s building. On the 12th of June a public meeting was called by I. Washington Bird, Clerk of School District No. 1, to vote a tax to build a school house.

J. P. B. McCabe, published in the newspapers a census report of the village he had then completed; and that there were, on the 23d of June, 199 males, 143 females — total, 342; 71 buildings, including 2 brick buildings of three stories; 4 church organizations: Congregational, Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian, with occasional services at the capitol; 2 select schools, 11 attorneys, 1 physician, 2 justices of the peace, 5 hotels, 3 milliners, 1 dressmaker, 17 carpenters and joiners, 2 printing offices, 3 stores, 2 lumber dealers, 3 surveyors, 1 livery stable, 1 cabinet maker, 1 saddler, 1 baker, 2 painters, 2 masons, 1 locksmith, 3 blacksmiths, 2 shoe shops, 1 wagon maker, 1 watchmaker, 1 plaster and 1 brick manufacturer.

The celebration on July 4 was suitably observed. The advertised programme was: E. Brigham, President; J. G. Knapp, Reader; J. T. Clark, Poet; Col. A. P. Field, Orator, Gideon Low, W. C. Wells, Rufus Brown, Ed. Campbell, J. Catlin, J. Larkin, A. Dunning, Isaac H. Palmer and W. B. Slaughter, Vice Presidents; A. Bird, Marshal; S. Catlin, Assistant Marshal. Col. Field not being able to deliver the oration, Alex. L. Collins discharged that duty. Toasts were given by S. Mills, P. W. Matts, D. Brigham, J. T. Wilson, N. W. Dean, B. Shackleford, E. Brigham, J. G. Knapp, J. Morrison, Geo. Vroman, D. G. Adams and H. W. Potter.

1861, Mr. Smith again became connected with it editorially, and continued about a year, when its publication was finally abandoned. Since that time Mr. Smith has had no permanent connection with the editorial department of any paper. He died at Madison May 5, 1874, aged 67 years.
During the year ending July 1, 1843, 6,287 acres of land were entered in Dane county by actual settlers.

David Brigham, Esq., died at Madison, August 16, 1843, aged 57 years. He was an elder brother of Col. Ebenezer Brigham of Blue Mounds, and removed to this place in 1839. He was a graduate of Harvard university 1810, was tutor in Bowdoin college, and subsequently read law. In 1818 became established in practice at Greenfield, Mass., where he married his wife who is still living at Madison with her daughter, Mrs. H. G. Bliss. Mr. Brigham was a member and officer of the Congregational church, and at his death was the senior member of the bar. The Dane county bar, at a meeting held on the 17th of August, passed suitable resolutions on his decease, testifying their respect and regard for their deceased associate, at which meeting Alex. L. Collins, Esq., was Chairman, and L. F. Kellogg, Esq., Secretary. Remarks were made by Col. A. P. Field, Thos. W. Sutherland and Alex. Botkin, Esqrs. His son, J. Ripley Brigham, Esq., resided at Madison until 1851, when he removed to Milwaukee, where he is an attorney and counselor.

The Kentucky House, subsequently known as the City Hotel, was commenced in the fall of 1843, and completed in 1845, and was situated on the corner of King and Webster streets, on lot 9 block 107. It was 30 by 45 feet with an ell of 30 feet for dining room and kitchen, two stories high, and would accommodate 50 or 60 persons. It was built by William M. Rasdall* (who came in the spring of 1842). The

*William M. Rasdall was born in the town of Bowling Green, Warren county, state of Kentucky, on the 1st day of April, 1819, and educated in the same town. His brother, Darius Rasdall, and himself carried on the business of farming, and run a grist mill together three years. Mr. Rasdall came to Wisconsin in 1842, and took up his residence in Madison, where he carried on the livery business for about two years, and commenced building the City Hotel. He was appointed Deputy Sheriff and Jailer of the county, which office he held for four years, terminating in 1849, when he went to California accompanied by a citizen of Madison. On his arrival there he commenced the business of mining, in which he continued until 1855, when he returned to Madison. He carried on the
house had a variety of landlords; a Mr. McCord stayed a year and a half. He was succeeded by Mr. Rasdall, who continued it till 1849, when he went to California. He was followed by two Mr. Ott’s, by Messrs. Penrith, Dewey, Carter, VanWie and Cutter. On Mr. Rasdall’s return he kept it three years and seven months, when he was succeeded by Scollans & Tierney. The building was destroyed by fire December 14, 1865.

At the election in October; W. A. Wheeler, A. W. Dickinson, and W. H. Hubbard, were elected County Commissioners; Steptoe Catlin, Clerk of Board of Supervisors; Ira W. Bird, Register of Deeds; G. P. Delaplaine, Collector and Peter W. Mattis, Treasurer.

Rev. Mr. Badger, taught the public school during the year 1843, and was succeeded by Benjamin Holt, 1843–4.

A writer in the Madison Enquirer, of February 26, 1843, evidently a new-comer, has a long article on the prospects of the Territory, and, being of a poetical temperament, is quite enthusiastic on the present condition and the future of Madison, comparing it with what it was in the past. The following extracts are made, which are to be taken with some degree of allowance:

"Where this lovely village now stands, on the shores of these placid lakes, not many years since were clustered the wigwams of the savage tribe, and the beaver and otter plunged and sported undisturbed in the tranquil water. No sound at the evening hour disturbed the solemn silence of the scene, save the plaintive cry of the wish-ton-wish and the long drawn and wild cry of the loon rose from the bosom of the slumbering wave, like the low wail from the spirit-land — the solitary hunter leaning on his bow, wrapped in the contemplation of the far-off happy hunting grounds of his sires, bent his dark eye from some gently rising hill on the glorious and ever varying hues of our western summer; and as the light and feathery

City Hotel for three years, and subsequently the Rasdall House. Since then he has opened another building under the same name on Henry street, near the Dane County Court House."
vapors shone in the golden rays from the retiring orb, and stretching afar off in the blue expanse, varied their hues to the violet, deep purple and molten silver — fancied he heard the voices of his sires and the chieftains of other days inspiring him to deeds of heroism and fame.

"How sudden the transition from such scenes as Cooper speaks of in his narratives of the West, to that of our village of Madison, where the clank of the saw-mill, the sound of the blacksmith's anvil, the noise of the hammer and the saw are heard throughout the day, while the lofty capitol, house of entertainment, and neat and tasteful private residences, exhibit all the evidences of a place settled for many years; while the merchant, with his well filled store, offers to the inhabitant all the comforts and luxuries of the distant seaport.

"Soon we also shall have our crowded streets, thoroughfares and warehouses, for the spirit is among our inhabitants to do all this, and in a shorter time than our eastern neighbors would judge it possible. Already preparations have been made for a handsome brick hotel to be erected near the public square, an academy will shortly be built on or near the same grounds, also of brick or stone; arrangements have been made by the Rev. Martin Kundig, of Milwaukee, a Catholic clergyman of distinction, and a former resident of Detroit, for the erection of a handsome church in the centre of the village. The energy with which his congregation are now at work will soon furnish them with a commodious and elegant place of worship.

"From our office window we see the high dome of the capitol glancing like silver in the sun's rays, as its bright metal covering reflects the light, and the large park of many acres, encompassed by a neat painted paling, is tastefully adorned with clumps of the Burr oak carefully trimmed, while the level and well-kept lawn is intersected with graveled walks leading to the different ornamental gates of the enclosure.

"The capitol is a splendid building of yellow stone. The hall is lofty and spacious, with wide corridors, and there is ample light from the dome, which is very similar to that of the New York Exchange. The chambers for the Legislature are
large, with high ceilings, and handsomely finished, with every accommodation for the members. The offices of the Supreme Court are in this building; Secretary's chamber; and the Public Library, well selected, and containing many thousand volumes of law and miscellany. In this building, the Rev. J. M. Clark, a minister of the Congregational Church, preaches to a large and respectable audience.

"The capitol is not yet completed in all its details, and much ornamental work remains to be done; but workmen are constantly employed on it, and, before many months elapse, we can show our eastern visitors something that any village or city may well be proud of."

The "Wisconsin Argus" was the title of the fourth newspaper issued at Madison. It was published by Simeon Mills, John Y. Smith and Benjamin Holt, under the firm of S. Mills & Co. The first number appeared the 22d of April, 1844. Mr. Smith had the entire control of the editorial department. It was a neatly printed six column weekly, edited with ability, and bore at its mast head the names of Polk and Dallas. In its democracy, at this time, it was emphatically in favor of free trade, a hard-money currency, etc. In December, 1846, H. A. Tenney, Esq., who had been connected with the Jeffersonian, at Galena, Illinois, purchased an interest in the establishment, and became a joint editor with Mr. Smith — S. Mills & Co. continuing as publishers.

At the election for county officers, September 26, 1846, the Whig party ticket was elected, viz: I. Washington Bird, Sheriff; E. Brigham, W. A. Webb and L. Sanger, County Commissioners; G. T. Long, Register of Deeds; Jesse A. Clark, Clerk of Board of Supervisors; N. W. Dean, Coroner; P. W. Matts, Treasurer, and E. Burdick (Dem.), Surveyor. John Catlin, who had been Postmaster since August 9, 1837, resigned August 20, 1844, and David Holt, Jr., was appointed by the President.

On the 7th of November the Wisconsin Argus says, "our town, the trade of which two or three years ago would scarcely support a single shop on a small scale, now contains three es-
tablishments, each doing a fair, living business. The stores referred to were Finch & Blanchard, J. D. Weston and Dean & Co. Mr. R. F. Wilson, now of Eau Claire, who was living here in 1844, says that the wolves were abundant in and adjoining the Capitol Park. It will be remembered that at this date the village was only staked out, and land marks difficult in some places to find, owing to the luxurious growth of hazelbrush and young timber, and that firewood was so abundant that any one could procure his winter’s supply without leaving the limits of the village, and more frequently a short distance from his own residence, in the public streets.

The number of pupils in the public schools had, at this date, 1844, so largely increased, and the population so augmented that it was determined to lengthen the school term, which had heretofore been of three and four months duration, and continue the school during the year. Accordingly, in the spring of this year, Mr. David H. Wright of this city, took charge of the school, and continued it until the spring of 1845. The school now numbered nearly one hundred pupils, the room being filled to its utmost capacity. A novel contrivance in the school room for the purpose of relieving its crowded state, deserves a passing notice. This consisted of a long shelf built across the end of the room, and above the door, to which a ladder at one end gave access. This shelf was used for “stowing away” the smaller boys and girls. To save time, the teacher frequently caught the juveniles in hand, and by an expert toss, deposited them in their seat in “the gallery.” In the summer of 1845, Miss Smedley taught one term which finished the course of discipline in this building. In the summer of this year another school house was built, now known as the “Little Brick,” on Butler street, near Washington avenue. This was built of bricks, and divided by partition into two rooms to accommodate two teachers. It was large and commodious for the time. A. A. Bird was the contractor; the house is estimated to have cost $1,000. Jerome R. Brigham, now of Milwaukee, was the first teacher, in the fall of 1845 and winter following, and was succeeded by Royal Buck who continued two years.
An act of the Territorial Legislature was passed and approved, January 26, 1844, incorporating the Madison Academy: J. D. Weston, David Irwin, Simeon Mills, A. A. Bird, John Catlin, A. L. Collins, W. W. Wyman, J. Y. Smith and J. G. Knapp, incorporators; and on February 22, 1845, an act was approved appropriating and allowing the county of Dane the sum of $2,616, being the amount expended by said county in the completion of the capitol, payable out of any money in the Territorial treasury: provided, that the said sum shall be paid to the Board of County Commissioners of said county, and shall be by them appropriated exclusively for the purpose of building an academy in the village of Madison; the Territory, by payment of said sum, fully discharged from all liability for the money thus expended. Out of this amount the sum of $400 was appropriated to A. A. Bird, the contractor. By the conditions of the act, a vote of the citizens of Madison was required to be taken on the matter, subject to their approval. The village having voted in favor of receiving said sum, an amendatory act was passed February 3, 1846, authorizing the Madison Academy to receive from said county of Dane the amount referred to.

On the 5th of December, of this year (1845), a public meeting was held to draft an act of incorporation of the village, of which meeting C. D. Finch was Chairman, and Simeon Mills Secretary. It was resolved that S. Mills, S. F. Blanchard, John Catlin and Jas. Morrison be such committee.

At the next session of the Legislature an act of incorporation was passed, approved February 3, 1846. Col. Alex. Botkin* became a resident this year. Col. J. C. Fairchild, a

*Col. Alex. Botkin, was born in Kentucky in 1801. At an early age he removed to Ohio, and from thence to Alton, Ill., in 1832. He was a Justice of the Peace at the time of the Lovejoy riots, and took an active part to preserve law and order. He came to Madison, Wisconsin, in 1841, as Assistant Secretary of State under the Territory, and was for awhile a law partner of Col. Alex. P. Field. Col. Botkin was a member of the Territorial Assembly of 1847 and 1848, State Senator 1849, 1850, and of the Assembly 1852. He was a candidate for the first Constitutional Convention of 1846, but was defeated by Hon. John Y. Smith, and was voted for by the
well known citizen (now deceased), came in 1846, and soon after erected a two-story brick building, corner of Wisconsin avenue and Wilson street. This was regarded as one of the handsomest residences at the time in the village.

A school meeting was called, to be held March 22, 1845, to vote a tax for building a school house, signed I. Washington Bird, Clerk.

On the 24th of March, X. Jordan, Secretary of the Roman Catholic Church, publishes that the foundation of the church building would soon be laid, and solicits assistance.

June 24, notice was given of a Masonic celebration of the anniversary of St. John, signed by A. A. Bird, G. P. Delaplaine, E. B. Dean, Jr., and B. Shackleford, Committee. The oration was delivered by Rev. S. McHugh. Madison Lodge No. 5 was organized by a dispensation from the Grand Master, June 4, 1844, with the following officers: John Catlin, W. M.; David Holt, S. W., and A. Bird, J. W. Martin G. VanBergen, Treasurer, B. Shackleford, Secretary, W. W. Steward, S. D., David Hyer, Tyler. From a report to the Grand Lodge in 1845, the members composing the Lodge were: J. A. Clark, E. B. Dean, W. N. Seymour, A. M. Badger, Alex. Botkin, R. T. Davis, E. Clewitt, Wm. Collins, S. F. Blanchard and Daniel M. Holt, Master Masons; Julius T. Clark, G. P. Delaplaine, Josiah Harlow, Fellow Craft, and Ira. W. Hull entered apprentice.

On the 19th of December, 1845, the Rev. Stephen McHugh accepted a call, and immediately took measures for the organization of a parish under the title of "Grace Church, Madison." During his ministry, the "Ladies' Episcopal Benevolent Society," having, by their efforts, raised the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, purchased the two lots now owned and occupied by the church.

The number of communicants was then twenty-five; among the names of the members were Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Knapp, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Collins, Mrs. Nelson Emmons, Mrs. John Catlin.

Whigs in 1849, for United States senator against Hon. Isaac P. Walker. He died suddenly at Sun Prairie, March 5, 1857, aged 56 years.
Mrs. Andrus Viall, Mrs. P. W. Matts, Mrs. Julius T. Clark, the two Misses McHugh. A. L. Collins and J. G. Knapp, Wardens, and Beriah Brown, Vestryman.

In the summer of 1847, Rev. Mr. McHugh resigned, and on the 11th of August, 1850, a call was presented to the Rev. W. H. Woodward, of Pontiac, Mich., who took charge of the parish, September 22, 1850. On the 6th November of said year, a brick house was commenced on the church lots intended for a parsonage, and temporarily as a place of worship. On Christmas day, Divine worship was first held in the building, and communion administered to fourteen persons. On Easter Monday, 1851, the following persons were elected to the vestry: J. H. Lathrop, LL.D., Senior Warden, P. B. Kissam, Junior Warden, C. Abbott, N. S. Emmons, Beriah Brown, Jacob Kniffen, Vestrymen. At a meeting of the Vestry, May 7, 1851, P. B. Kissam, J. Catlin and N. S. Emmons were elected Delegates to the Convention. Rev. Mr. Woodward resigned the charge of the parish November 14, 1851. No further services were held till June 13, 1852, when Rev. Hugh M. Thompson officiated, and on the 25th of the same month was elected as Rector. Rev. Mr. Thompson subsequently resigned, and the Rev. Henry P. Powers officiated from October, 1853, to December, 1854.

We are indebted to Robert W. Lansing, Esq., of Blooming Grove, for the following reminiscences of early times:

"In the summer of 1843, having received the appointment of Receiver of Public Moneys at Mineral Point, Wisconsin Territory, I proceeded thither, and, in the first discharge of my official duties, held a public land sale in the month of October. I took a steamer at Buffalo, N. Y., and, after a safe and pleasant trip, landed at the nice little village of Milwaukee. From thence, took early stages via Watertown, to the embryo village of the lakes, in the town of Madison, where we spent the Sabbath in calling upon the most notable men, among whom was the late Gov. James D. Doty, one of nature's truest noblemen, Hon. Alexander L. Collins, Geo. B. Smith, Thomas J. Sutherland, J. G. Knapp, Simeon Mills, A. A.
BIRD, and many others of the early settlers, some of them men of merit and becoming modesty, with a smart sprinkling of would-be limbs of the law, who were then resident here, and all striving, with the small means they then possessed, to make Madison the grand point for settlement to men of enterprise and capital.

"Madison, at this time, was the veriest representation of a wilderness, which required but the hand of industry to cause her to bud and blossom as the rose in the valley. Arriving at my destination, I settled down to business, and in the society of a people, although much feared and but little loved at a distance, whom I soon learned to admire for their native frankness and good feeling, if not for their morality and good breeding. The character of the miners — being principally Cornish — was not that of a strictly mild and moral people, still they possessed and exercised some redeeming qualities, among which, to their praise be it spoken, was their uniform attendance, with their families, at the churches on Sabbath mornings; although, in the afternoons, they employed themselves in various recreations, but mainly in card playing and drinking. While I was living here, Dr. PULFORD and others had occasion to send east for a rector to take charge of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for this purpose we sent an invitation to a young clergyman in western New York, who lost no time in answering, desiring to know which was best — to come by steamboat, or to drive his horse and buggy up the lakes. After every possible assurance that the good character of the people would afford ample protection to all new-comers, the reverend gentleman came with a friend, and, when near the village proper, on being informed that they must pass through a rather low and dangerous place in the suburbs, called 'Shake-rag,' they became seriously alarmed, which alarm was greatly enhanced by the darkness of the night; and so they put themselves in an attitude of defense, and having primed and cocked their pistols, the one drove the team, with a pistol pointed ahead in one hand, while the other reversed his position and kept a sharp lookout for any invasion in the rear,
and in this condition they at last tremulously, but safely, arrived at the domicil of the writer, more scared than hurt, and as free from danger or harm as could be.

"Having received intelligence of the death of one of my children, I left Mineral Point for the home of my family, in Ontario county, western New York, and arrived at Detroit, via Galena and Chicago, by stages, just in time, in November, for the last steamer to Buffalo that fall, where we landed safely after a very boisterous and dangerous voyage on Lake Erie. Chicago, at this time, was a mere sea of mud and water, and, from the only respectable hotel there, passengers for the east had to wade ankle deep through the street to reach the steamer, then plying to St. Joe, in Michigan, from whence we staged it, over logways and through sloughs, slush and rain to Marshall, where we reached the first railway, and went on our way rejoicing to Detroit. I entered my name on the hotel register at Chicago, adding my official position, not dreaming that from this simple circumstance I was to derive so great a notoriety as preceded my arrival home. But when I arrived at Canandagua, where I had many excellent and good friends, I was not a little surprised when they congratulated me upon the fact of my not being an absconding public defaulter, as had been published by and in the newspaper of the notorious Long John Wentworth. Quite a number of the eastern papers republished the libel, and for which they made haste to make ample amends by the payment of money and recantations. The United States Senate afterwards unanimously confirmed my nomination. I returned, in the spring of 1844, to Mineral Point, with my family of nine children, who are all still living but one. From thence I removed to Madison, the day before Christmas, 1845, and opened the ‘National Hotel,’ on the site of the present Vilas House, and conducted the same on strictly temperance principles for several years.

"Having opened house just before the meeting of the Territorial Legislature, the Hon. E. V. Whiton, who was then a member of the Council, came to me a stranger and selected a room for the session. I trust it will not be thought improper
for me, here to state, that on his coming to my house, Mr. Whiton, who was a sound lawyer and otherwise a most excellent man, took his initial step in temperance reform, and from which he never afterwards departed, thus proving, contrary to general belief, that a sensible being can reform from any evil. He was subsequently Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in which eminent position he lived till his death, deeply lamented and mourned by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

It was notorious, in these early times, that very many of the leading men then in the Territory were hale fellows, well met, and given not a little to inebriety, to which habit, in general, they adhered with hopeless tenacity; and to our sincere regret, candor compels us to say, that some of our best men, by this indulgence, were driven down to a premature grave, and but few of this class now remain as the wasted mementoes of the reckless past.

"Madison was now an incorporated village, and the facilities for traveling and transportation having increased, the more careful and intelligent of her people saw the necessity of improvement, put forth all of their energy and enterprise to accomplish the same, although seriously opposed by the older settlers, whose minds had not yet become susceptible of progressive impressions by reason of their unhallowed indulgences. The capitol presented the sorrowful appearance of a state house under leaky circumstances, the court room of which was generally flooded after a rain. The Methodists occupied this room on Sundays, but the attendance was small, and the benefits smaller, if anything. Religion had not yet got a fair square foothold among the sinners, some of whom were supposed to be invulnerable to good morals, and odious in character.

"Besides the 'National,' there were two or three other notable hotels. The 'Madison,' kept for a time by a Mr. Clark, and others. Another was the 'American Hotel,' run by the inimitable Jemmy Morrison, of whom many amusing anecdotes have been told. He had a number of good as well as some bad traits. He was friendly and good to those he loved,
but a formidable enemy to those he disliked. The 'City Hotel' was kept by the famous A. A. Bird; he was the man who, it was supposed, first saw the sun rise at Sun Prairie, throwing its luminous rays over the enchanting scenery of the embryo Madison, destined so soon to assume a position worthy of its location. He lived to see the day of its prosperity, and himself a poor man. We could name many persons and their many eccentricities, but in doing so we fear to do a wrong, of no benefit at this time. It must suffice to say, that Madison could boast in those days of a large number of inimitable topers, and being thus early baptised in liquid poison, she has grown up with a prolific increase of the seemingly incurable curse.

"The society at Madison, in an early day, was of a mixed kind, rendered somewhat sociable by necessity, as there were many quite dependent upon their fellows for the necessaries of life. There were some, however, who prided themselves upon being the aristocracy and élite of the village; but they, like all other things of human frailty, soon found their level in society by being driven to the want of those necessities which were incompatible with aristocracy in Wisconsin. The citizens were quite pleasant and sociable in their intercourse with each other; and, although many times the necessities of life were scarce and could not be had, still their wants were reasonably supplied by the courtesy and kindness of those who possessed them, and that, too, as a gratuity, without the hope of any return. Good preaching was out of the question, as the people were too poor to induce talented men to come hither. Such as we had, good or bad, had but little influence over consciences hardened by the peculiar traits of a pioneer's life. Merchandise and groceries were purchased mostly at Milwaukee, and retailed at Madison at enormous prices. Farm productions of every kind were sold at ruinous rates, averaging a bushel of wheat or other grain for a yard of calico or cotton goods. Grist's had to be taken to the Cambridge Mills, twenty miles distant, to be ground. It took a long time to regulate trade so as to be reasonable and acceptable to all concerned. As a whole, the peo-
ple were all that could be reasonably expected from their manner of life, the want of moral and religious instruction, and the depression of the times. It was the invariable custom of those who came in here at an early day, to receive new-comers with open hearts and outstretched arms. They were not only made welcome in an ordinary sense, but were embraced and loved as brethren, although entire strangers to each other, and who, on being thus kindly received and recognized, soon felt themselves at home, and by perseverance and industry, obtained a foundation for future prosperity. The fact is patent, and cannot be denied, that very many of those of the first settlers having in their power all of the means to accumulate wealth, never saved enough to live comfortably, but died, as they had lived, poor and penniless, a sad reminder of the unerring truth, that 'the way of the transgressor is hard.'

"Occasionally, in the course of time, men of wealth and means, with steady habits and progressive ideas, would come and settle down in our midst, and thus, by littles, the character of the people for moral and intellectual stability, grew and was established in the then beautiful village, so early to become the loveliest city of the northwest.

"At the sessions of the Legislatures there was little of lobbying done, because laws were easily obtained for legitimate purposes; legislators and constituents, at that time, not having been initiated in the art mobilier or the science of stealing from the public crib. Members and outsiders generally gave their waste time up to the indulgence of fun, frolic and high-cock-arorum! And no people more highly enjoyed life than did our solons and their constituents, and but for the native weakness of some of them, but little of an offensive character could have been justly charged against them. There were many noble geniuses among the early settlers at Madison and in its vicinity, in respect to whom, comparatively with our best citizens from other parts of the Territory, our people bore an enviable position, morally, civilly and intellectually. They all aimed their highest interests, individually and collectively, the spare means they then possessed enabled them to do; and
they had a pride in advising each other for the best, as matters and things presented themselves to their judgment.

"As a matter of fact, it may be stated, that from the least to the greatest intelligence among its citizens, all looked with emphatic assurance upon the certain prospect of Madison becoming the Queen City of Wisconsin; and, whose growing beauty, charming scenery and delightful surroundings, were destined to outvie any possible competition. Some have lived to see the day, when these fond anticipations have been fully realized, and which enables us now joyfully to refer to our beautiful Madison, as our lovely "city set upon a hill whose light cannot be hid." We have often expressed the sentiment, and we have pleasure in repeating it right here, that whoever has heard of Madison, its unsurpassed beauty, grandeur and enchanting imagery, and has ability and means to go there, should never die until he has secured the sight, and enjoyed the delights of its transporting rapturous scenes.

"There was a number of religious societies just fairly beginning to assume a position as such, and amongst whom the ladies were not wanting in their exertions to give pecuniary aid and prosperity to their several denominations, by the institution of sewing circles and fairs for the promotion of church objects, at whose meetings the male population were not backward in their attendance; and, for those times, were quite liberal in their weekly donations. As in all undertakings and projects of a benevolent and progressive character, women were the moving and untiring co-workers for accomplishing the objects of their noblest desires, so the ladies of Madison, in the infancy of their churches, labored and toiled with unremitting energy and perseverance, until their accumulations gave not only a foundation, but also, in some instances, a beautiful superstructure for their several congregations to worship in. We should give all honor and praise to these large-hearted and noble women, for their kind hearted and generous devotion; and but for whose love to God and good will to man, these consecrated structures would not now probably be pointing their spires and drawing the hearts of mankind up towards the "house not made with hands, eter-
nal in the heavens.” It should be a matter of sincere joy with those now living, that God has been graciously pleased to thus “give unto these noble daughters of the church, abundantly of the fruit of their hands.”

“In 1845, Madison began to improve rapidly, and particularly so under the large management and ceaseless labors and improvement of ex-Gov. Leonard J. Farwell. The times then seemed to be favorable for large and continuous improvements; but, as in 1836, in other sections of our country, when fortunes were made in a day, and lost as soon, by the immediate and unexpected revulsion of the times, so Madison, in its highest, hopeful assurance of continued prosperity, became checked in growth, by the sudden change of the times, and the sad reverses of fortune of her noblest and best friend. This check to its advancement continued to bear with severity upon the city of our delights for a number of years; but, as all things terrestrial have their day of trial, if not of affliction, and finally rise superior to all vicissitudes and emergencies, so Madison has emerged from the hazard of her once unfortunate condition, and risen majestically above all her fears and the frowns of her enemies, so that she has become, simply by right of her exalted position, “Monarch of all she surveys.”

Maj. H. A. Tenney writes:

“Early in June, 1845, after a boisterous trip upon the lakes, I landed at Milwaukee, then of more pretensions than proportions. It was a long, straggling village, almost wholly confined to the east side of the river. The low bottom on the west side, was in the main a mere swamp densely overgrown with tamarack. The houses, such as they were, may have numbered one or two hundred. Except a road laid out by way of Kilbourn-town, there was no means of access to the interior. The steamer landed at “Higby’s Pier, carried far out into the bay. If the then mouth of the river was accessible to shipping, it was not often used. The place even then, in the intelligence, zeal and activity of its population, foreshadowed the modern city; but such elements as railroads, telegraphs, etc., of course entered into the calculation of no one.
"Stages at that time left for Madison twice a week, and beyond, once a week. The route ran round by way of Prairieville, Johnstown and Janesville, to avoid the dreaded "Rock river woods," the road through which was the terror of the early settlers.

"I reached the place about two hours after the semi-weekly stage had left, and not relishing the idea of waiting four days, I secured a horse from Moore & Co. (as I now remember the firm), and started on the shortest route for Madison at noon. After passing through an almost unbroken forest with scarce a house, at dark I stopped at what is now Summit, consisting of a wretched tavern, blacksmith shop and one or two farm houses. Roughing in the wilderness was not entirely new to me, having came from the forest region of Northern Ohio, but not liking the extremely primitive accommodations, I started very early next morning, supposing that of course houses would be found all along the way. It was near noon before I came upon a house where breakfast could be procured, but as there was no name to the place, I am unable to name the point. Going on, I passed into what to me was a marvel from its resemblance to the orchards of my boyhood, to oak openings — and finally out upon the prairies, even a greater curiosity. The illusions of the route everywhere surprised me. Looking about at the magnificent groves and cleared places, I expected every moment to come out upon farms and villages, only to be disappointed. Indeed houses at that time scarce numbered more than one to twenty miles, and the road was a mere blind path, which at times it was difficult to follow, while an endless vista and solemn silence, was to me a new and wonderful experience. I reached Beecher's old place in Cottage Grove about 6 P. M., and about 7, from the high grounds about four miles distant, obtained my first view of Madison and the Four Lake country.

"The spectacle was a vision so glorious, that it painted itself on my memory with a vividness that has never left it. Just previous to reaching the elevation I had been overtaken by a gentleman also bound for Madison, and when we reached the summit, both stopped our horses in involuntary surprise. Four
Lakes lay spread out before us, brought out in strong relief by the declining sun just sinking in the west, shining like burnished mirrors. On all sides forest and prairie swept down in lines and patches unobstructed to their shores. Except the village, magnified a thousand fold as a central figure, there was no break in the scene—not a mark of human improvement. As this line of white beach sand glowing in the sunset stood in contrast with the dark, green foliage that encompassed it, while plain and level, precipice and peninsula, bay and gulf, were clothed in a brilliancy of outline, and a beauty beyond the power of description. Half an hour of twilight passed before our interest in the golden vision was satisfied. Madison seemed to be about two miles away. Our jaded horses and tired bodies did not allow of rapid movements, and we supposed half an hour would land us at a hotel. But darkness deepened over the scene. Hours passed—we concluded we must be lost—until finally we saw a light, and about 10 o'clock learned that we were actually in Madison. We stopped at the Madison House, then chief hotel for stage passengers. Col. A. A. Bird seemed to be the presiding genius of the concern.

"In the morning, after breakfast, great was my surprise to find the hotel in the midst of an almost unbroken forest. Although a main street, it had but five or six houses in its whole length. The road—King street—was as yet covered with an almost unbroken sod, filled with stumps of trees, cut out only in the center, while walks were unknown, and their site covered with a dense undergrowth. This description is true of every street on the site that any attempt had been made to open. Indeed, except three country roads crossing the plot there were no improvements of any kind. The capitol park had not been undergrowthed—its fences were carried through a dense thicket, and the southwest and northwest sides of the square were still almost unbroken forest, almost impassable.

"I remained four days in the place. Met J. A. Noonan, Esq., who introduced me so all the Territorial officials—then Gov. Dodge, J. B. Floyd, Secretary, Judges Dunn, Irvin and Miller, and others. While there heard Sam Crawford's
maiden plea. I made long walks around the then beautiful beaches of the lakes. The shore line was nowhere broken by an improvement, nor was the house of a settler anywhere visible. Everything almost was in a state of nature, and the foliage so dense that, except the old capitol, it was rare a building was visible.

"When I first visited Madison in 1845, it was an insignificant hamlet standing in a dense forest thicket, without streets, avenues, walks or improvements of any kind: too obscure country roads excepted. There was not a mark of man's presence upon any of its surroundings. Prairies and groves came down to the lakes, as yet unbroken. There was neither mill nor factory, nor indeed a strictly industrial pursuit of any kind. Generally the whole region may be described as a magnificent and fertile waste.

"After a few days I went on to Galena, and arranged to settle at that point. In September, I returned from Ohio, where I then lived, and later commenced the publication of the "Galena Jeffersonian," among the lead diggers. The incidents and curious experiences of my stay there would fill a volume. It was a period when three quarters of the whole western population were sick annually for months. I of course took the ague, and fearing I could not get rid of it while living on the Mississippi, gave up my office, and removed with my family to Madison in November of the next year, where I have ever since kept my home. It was not until 1855 that I was able to shake off the chills.

"There was so much and yet so little of importance in the early settlement, that it might be comprehended in a sentence, or swelled to a volume. One scarce knows what to say when so much may be said, and yet so little to the purpose.

"Madison was a hamlet — the country a wild waste. Population had but barely discovered it. There were three voting precincts — Blue Mounds, Madison and Albion. The town of Madison covered twenty-four townships then without name. The balance of the county was divided between the other two. There was but one German settler, X. JORDAN, and three Irish
—THOMAS AND MATHEW DUNN AND PETER KAVANAUGH. It took four counties to make an Assembly District — Dane, Columbia, Sauk and Green, and all the territory between the south line of the state in its central part, to Lake Superior, for a Council district. Many years elapsed before towns received names.

"Game was profusely abundant. I repeatedly shot prairie chickens on the capitol square, and the hunting of quail there was common. The last deer killed within the site was in 1847 — an old buck whose way was over the University hill. He was so sagacious that he was not taken until hunted at times for three years. Bears were common, wolves innumerable, and other wild animals in proportion. In fish and fowls the present generation have not the faintest conception of the enormous profusion of that period. The way they were slaughtered at times in mere sport, was a wicked waste. In 1849 the Winnebagoes camped near the present Insane Hospital. Spreading out over the country, they drove all the deer of all kinds towards the center and killed all — sparing none. They had over 500 carcasses, when a band of citizens went over and drove them off, but the deer never recovered from that fatal raid.

"Of the population of that period I have in various articles so often spoken as to have little to say. The community was almost a pure democracy, bound together by every tie of sympathy and friendship. Almost every social gathering was in common. The standard of respectability was education, honesty, honor, and an observance of the laws of good breeding. Sixpences did not count in men's estimation of each other; kind, generous and neighborly acts were taken as a matter of course. None were so poor or lowly as not to receive necessary aid and attention. We had no organized and secret societies to help each other, and therefore did it with scarce the asking, and without thought of obligation. The modern crystallizations of conceit and selfishness were unknown.

"Our politics in those days were red hot, but almost always good natured. When able to cast seventy-two votes on one occasion, the number was a matter of public boast. It will be
seen from this, that a party could not divide much on candidates and succeed. Memory of those eventful canvasses is rich in comic incident, and laughable surprises. If we had warm differences at the polls, we made it all up in our private and social relations. We had no scandals, scarce any but imported divorces, no espionage or tattle of garrulous inferiority, no quarrels of religious orders, no temperance societies, and but little intemperance. Our wants were few; our supplies of essentials always adequate. Fashions did not disturb us. It was not regarded as vulgar to have physical strength and good appetites. Indeed, none of the modern clap-trap, little affectations, small jealousies, and party dignity troubled us. We lived lives of activity and usefulness — putting away sham, and looking only to substance.

"We had one common school house, then located in the forest, but I am unable here to name the street. Our jail was a log building, about 12X16, used part of the time as a shoemaker's shop. Shortly after, by a united effort, a church was built for Rev. Mr. Miner, soon succeeded by Rev. Mr. Lord.

"The forests from the country were continuous across the city site, except where broken by a few scanty houses. University hill was inaccessible from any direct road, overgrown with dense young timber, intermingled with gigantic oaks. The summit was the first burial place—a man killed by lightning in 1839. The grave was at the southeast corner of the present central building. In time, burial places increased to four—one on lots near or within the premises of Judge Vilas, one in the ridge south of the West Milwaukee depot, and the other the block near S. D. Carpenter's place. All were at the time in a dense forest.

"Prairie fires annually crossed the site from one marsh to the other, going through the timber between the capitol park and Fourth Lake. Some of these exhibitions were on so grand a scale as to remind me of the great Chicago fire.

"Of literary entertainments we had few. It was the custom to patronize everything that came along to encourage others to follow. Our first circus came in 1848, while the legislature
was in session, and adjourned the body without the formality of a vote. Social gatherings, from their freedom and intellectual cast, left little to desire. Fun and frolic was the chief characteristic, and more of it in a week than ten years now witness.

"A complete picture of primitive Madison would be a picture of the Territory at large, whose political, if not intellectual center it then was. Each of its settlers had characteristic peculiarities of his own, which affixed a decided mark to him. These have never wholly disappeared. Mutual respect and forbearance was the social as well as civil rule. It was a golden era, which once passed will never return."