

### LATE PURCHASE BY RAILWAY, LIGHT & POWER COMPANY

A few weeks ago the Chippewa Valley Railway, Light & Power Company decided to buy from the Chippewa Lumber & Boom Company the water power at Chippewa Falls and the dam sites up the river and on several tributaries of the river, the purchase including the office building at Chippewa Falls and some lots they owned on both sides of the river, and the lands that have been secured at the different dam sites, as well as some land on the east side of the river that is not platted. The lands that go with these different dam sites and what we got at Chippewa Falls amount to something over five thousand acres. The purchase includes all of the flowage rights for these dam sites, and in all amounted to \$315,400.00. This matter had been under consideration for some time. The improvements necessary to make the property available will require a good deal of thought and attention, so you will see from what I have already written that it is not easy with the interests I have in all of the different concerns I have been writing about for me to unload very much of the work that devolves upon me, and will, I suppose, while I live.

### ASSISTED BY YOUR MOTHER

In all of the different things I have mentioned in this autobiography your mother was always a great assistance, and I feel that I am indebted to her for the success I have made, if mine may be called a successful life. We always talked matters over together. For the past few years she advised me not to take on more work, feeling that I ought to devote more of my time to matters of greater importance to me personally than all of these enterprises, and get them in shape as soon as possible for others to manage. No other realizes as I do the great help she always was to me. She passed away, as you

know, the 16th of December last. The last two years of her life she suffered from the effects of a severe attack of pneumonia, which she bore, as you know, patiently. Her death came five days after the sixtieth anniversary of our wedding day. About four days before she passed away she had the nurse call me in the night, about one o'clock, and said she wanted to talk with me. I laid down on the bed by her side, and she said, "Now, I want you to remain in this house while you live, keep everything as I have arranged it, keep the pictures on the walls where I have had them hung. You know I have a very short time to stay with you, and I wish you would hire a good person to take care of you, because I cannot do it. Annie will probably stay with you as long as you want her, and try and keep Josephine as long as you can, for I feel that she is a jewel of a girl." She passed away like one going to sleep, without a struggle, and some fifteen minutes before she ceased to breathe she knew me. None but you children realize what a great loss her going has been to me.

This memoranda, or autobiography, covers a very small per cent of the history of my life since I was nine or ten years old, but this is probably as much of it as you will care to remember, and I will close by saying that I purpose having it put into book form for my children and my grand children, and their children, and for them only.

With more love than I can express,



Eau Claire, Wisconsin, December 31, 1912.