

clearly remember hearing her father talk with the neighbors about his service in the war but does not recall his mentioning what regiment he was in or any battles in which he fought.

With her husband she began housekeeping on the farm near Duck Lake, Geneva township, where the major part of her life was spent. She, like other pioneer women, spun, wove and knit, furnishing to the family those comforts which at that time they were unable to secure. With these and other home duties she gave time to her church and also kept in touch with the affairs of the day.

Not long ago the Society of the Daughters of the Revolution presented Mrs. McKaig with a souvenir spoon which she highly prized.

March 25, 1906 Mrs. McKaig passed away. Almost to the last she possessed good health and strong vitality. She read a great deal and kept informed on the various topics of the day. Her memory of recent occurrences, as well as those of her earlier life, is remarkable.

MRS. JOHN H. KENZIE
Author—Helen M. Purdy
Portage

Her husband was an Indian agent at Fort Winnebago for several years, coming there in 1830.

Mrs. Kenzie was a delicate, eastern woman, yet the hardships of the west had no fears for her. She would go wherever her husband went, wherever duty called.

She made a name for herself at Fort Winnebago as well as later at Chicago where she wrote Wau-Bun, a history of her early western life. When planning to accompany her husband to the far west, she was told many stories of the hardships she would be obliged to endure, yet such stories weighed but little with her.

She was to become a resident of that land which to her had been a land of romance since childhood. When standing by her teacher's knee and spelling the long name Mich-i-li-mack-i-nac, had charms for her. It meant a land of many lakes, boundless prairies, and vast forests. Now she was to see all this. It was to be her home. Many were the thrilling experiences encountered on that eventful journey. They were fortunate in being able to take a steamer at Buffalo and have more of the comforts than in the ordinary way of traveling by schooner. From Green Bay they were obliged to travel by small keel-boats, propelled by Indians by means of long poles. It was a long, tiresome trip, yet Mrs. Kenzie never complained and showed the true pioneer spirit.

The last two days were very tiresome, so many windings of the river, but at last the white walls of the fort were seen in the distance, looking down from a rising ground upon the vast expanse of low land and winding river. All were anxious to arrive at their journey's end after the long tiresome trip. In that they were disappointed. The river made so many turns it was two hours before making a landing.

Their welcome was very warm by Major and Mrs. Twiggs, particularly by Mrs. Twiggs, as she was the only woman at the fort and had looked forward with great pleasure to having a companion. They remained a week with Major and Mrs. Twiggs; their goods then arrived and soon were nicely settled at the Agency. Many were the pleasant experiences they had. The Agency became the center of social life of the fort. They had many calls from the principal chiefs, all decked out in their bright blankets and feathers, calling Mrs. Kenzie their "new mother".

Mrs. Kenzie tells of her trip to Chicago with her husband on horseback. No roads in those days for them to follow. Bridle paths through dense forests; fording streams; riding across treacherous marshes; braving storms and partaking of Indian diet in their lodges when their provisions gave out.

All this and many other experiences of the true pioneer life were hers, which she tells of in after years when surrounded by the comforts of her Chicago home.

Mrs. Kenzie was married in 1827, came west with her husband in 1830, returned to Chicago in 1834 where they took up their permanent residence. It was at Chicago that she wrote Wau-Bun, her early history, not realizing at that time what a prominent part it would have in after years, in the history of the massacre of Fort Dearborn in 1812. Her mother-in-law, from a boat, was an eye witness to part of the massacre.

Mrs. Kenzie died in Chicago in 1870 after a long, eventful life.

I trust she may find a place among the pioneer women as she surely was a wonderful woman.

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MRS. LEWIS N. WOOD

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Contributed by the John Bell Chapter, D. A. R.

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Naomi Dunn Davis, born in Shiloh, New Jersey, September 8, 1800, was married to Lewis N. Wood of Cumberland County, New Jersey, in 1821. They went to Madison County, New York where they lived until 1824, moving to Waterville, Oneida County in 1832. Here Mr. Wood conducted the Academy and studied medicine, graduating from the Geneva Medical College in 1837. His wife, a beautiful and intelligent woman, was a most efficient helpmeet and the wise mother of the eight children born to them. Upon completing his course in medicine, Dr. Wood went at once to Chicago. His wife and children went to New Jersey to visit their relatives before taking the journey to that far distant town which then contained about three thousand inhabitants, on the