

# RESOURCES, ADVANTAGES AND PRODUCTIONS OF SHAWANO COUNTY.

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Prepared by a resident of Shawano village, the county seat.

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## HEALTHY CLIMATE.

As good physical health is the first advantage to be secured in any country, so does the climate of this constitute its principal charm. The atmosphere is dry and pure, and the weather remarkably uniform. No devastating epidemics have ever visited our county. There is no ague and fever, and bilious and pulmonary diseases are very rare. Our summers are as delightful as can be wished for, and the winters, though cold, are not so severe that one accustomed to any climate in the temperate zones is compelled to abandon out-door avocations. The atmosphere being dry, the same degree of cold is not felt so keenly as in damp climates. Cattle, sheep and horses are less subject to disease, and winter more easily than in the chilly damps found further south. During the winter we have uniform and pleasant weather, and good sleighing, while the farmer can work every day hauling produce to the lumber camps, getting fencing or wood, (which only costs the labor of getting it out) hauling out manure or preparing for the spring's work, which can be commenced as soon as the frost is out of the ground, which gives a decided advantage over those sections where the farmer is compelled to wait three or four weeks for the low, wet, heavy soil to dry before he is able to commence operations.

## THE LOG HOUSE.

The first great object of the emigrant is to provide a home for his wife and children, and in no place can this be done more

cheaply, quickly, and at the same time more substantially than in Shawano county. Our forest trees gently waving before the breeze in summer, and braving the sleet and cold of winter, offer at once the material for house, barn, sheds and fences. The immigrant bargains for his land, and then with his axe fells the trees for his house—his neighbors gather, and with a cordial welcome, roll up the logs, and before night the house is completed, and the homeless emigrant, with scarce the outlay of a dollar, has a good substantial home. His axe has split the “shakes” from the durable straight-grained cedar, for the roof, and the basswood, fashioned by the same tool, has made the floor. When cold weather comes the house is made warm and comfortable by filling all openings with mortar made of cut straw and clay. Such is the house our county affords at once to the poor immigrant; the materials are convenient and abundant, and need not cost a dollar, his own work makes them ready, and the kind-hearted neighbors put them together for him, and he is then ready to commence the work of clearing his land.

#### PERSONAL EXAMPLES.

Many and many an immigrant both from the Old World and the Eastern States, move into the woods, throw up a little log house without windows or doors, a few split stakes for a table, blocks for chairs and hemlock or pine boughs for beds, and there live while they are clearing their land for the first crop of wheat or corn, and the history of our western country shows that thousands of this class of immigrants have risen to wealth and power—and even the county of Shawano, which is yet in its infancy, can show many instances of the same character—among which we might mention the following: Charles Sumuicht, of the town of Hartland, in this county, came poor, and lived for several years in a log shanty. He now owns six hundred and forty acres of land and has forty-five under the plow, and holds the office of Register of Deeds and Town Treasurer. Eentry Lucke, of the same town, came here quite poor and now owns five hundred acres of land with forty-five acres under the plow, and fills the offices of County Supervisor and Town Clerk. The Retzlaff brothers of the town of Belle Plain, own large and handsome