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Sheboygan, Wisconsin: Historical Review Pub. Co., 1909

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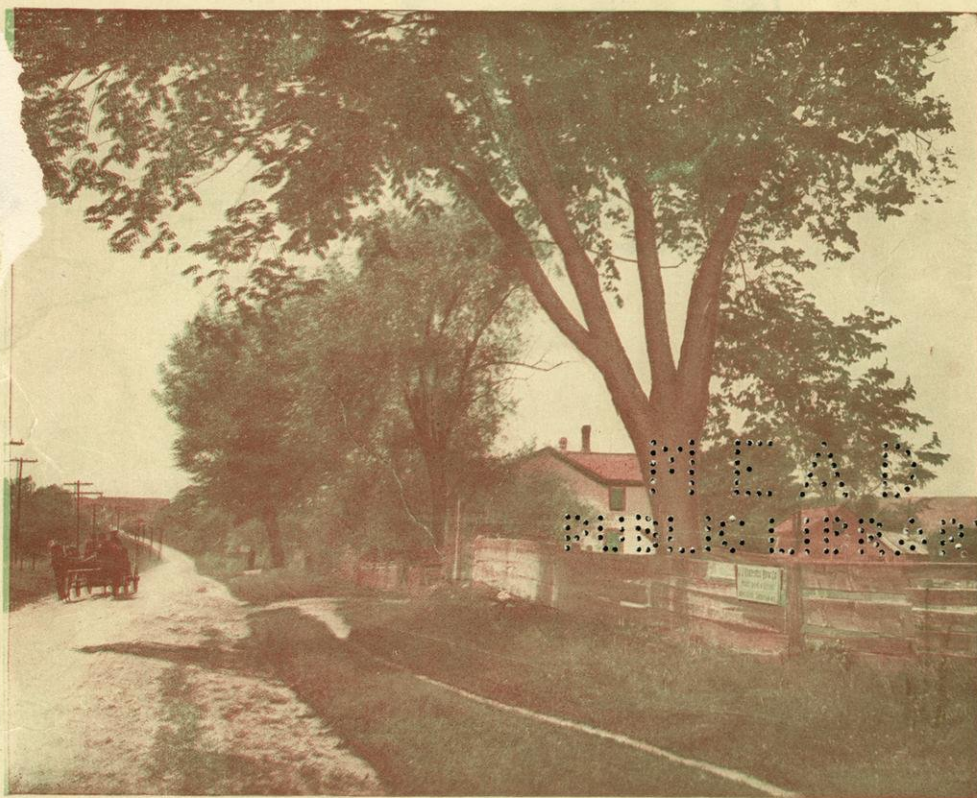
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# Sheboygan County Historical Review

Social, Industrial and Biographical Record.

FIRST QUARTER 1909



THE OLD HOMESTEAD.  
Familiar Scene on Lower Falls Road.

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# Sheboygan County Historical Review

Social, Industrial and Biographical Record

First Quarter

SHEBOYGAN, WIS.

1909

## A Word Preliminary

THIS Journal, as its name implies, is to be of especial local interest, although it will contain other matter well worth having and preserving. To some it may appear that the history of a county can possess but little value or not much that a person cares to know about. This, however, is erroneous. To tell of the development of the industries of Sheboygan county would make a most interesting chapter. Then there are the schools, the early settlements, the growth of cities and towns, the men and women who made possible the favorable conditions noticeable on every hand, and the improvements which add to the comforts and embellishments of life.

Who will say that it is not worth knowing how 500 square miles of territory was changed from a wilderness to a region which bounteously supports a population of about 54,000?

As a preparation for the study of history, in general, a knowledge of local history furnishes a stimulant as well as a key. A keener interest can be aroused in events in which those we know or whom our friends were intimately acquainted with than in men who lived or events which happened far away or in the distant past. Those who wish to acquaint themselves more fully with the history of far away parts, consider it a privilege to visit them. It is an inspiration to move among the scenes in which great dramas of human life were enacted. This is why the historian is also a traveler. It also explains in part

the interest usually taken in events which took place near one's home.

On this subject we have no less an authority than Prof. H.B. Adams of Johns Hopkins University, who said:

"History, like charity, begins at home. The best students of universal history are those who know some one country or some one subject well. The family, the hamlet, the neighborhood, the community, the parish, the village, the town, the city, county and state are historically the ways by which men have approached national and international life."

While it will be the purpose of the publishers to go back into the past and give the steps by which Sheboygan county has been so splendidly developed in the principal human activities and interests, it will be equally their aim to record the important current events. These will not only have a present interest but ought to make entertaining reading many years hence when another period of growth and improvement shall have made the things we enjoy the present day seem crude in comparison.

It will be the further aim of the publishers to do full credit to the persons who have had the larger share in upbuilding the industries of the county, and have promoted its best interests and in general have done most to make it a desirable place of residence. Nor shall we forget to mention those who have sacrificed themselves and their own interests for the general welfare.





## Settlement of Sheboygan County

MANY of us have the impression that Sheboygan County is one of the newer parts of Wisconsin in point of development, that the greater portion of the southern half of the state had been settled before this county and that the settlers were simply pushing their way north from Milwaukee and south from Green Bay and sort of met here. This, of course, is not the true idea. Aside from the French settlements at Green Bay, Prairie Du Chien and a few intermediate points and here and there in the southwestern part of the state, an occasional small settlement, Wisconsin was pretty much a wilderness, when, in 1834, William Paine came from Chicago and built a mill on the Sheboygan River about three miles from its mouth.

When in 1835, Henry F. Janes, the founder of Janesville, went from Milwaukee to Green Bay to secure a title of some land of which he desired to possess himself in Rock County, he saw only one building and that was the saw-mill which Mr. Paine had built the year before, but which had already passed into possession of another by the name of William Farnsworth. Mr. Janes found few, if any signs of civilization in his trips from Racine county to Rock county. When he went to Racine county in 1835, he found just one white family. Mr. Janes further tells us that at that time, "there was not a house, not any sign of civilization between Grove Point, twelve miles north of Chicago, and Skunk Grove, now Mount Pleasant, in Racine county." One log cabin the present site of the city of Racine. The first settlement in Rock County was made in 1835.

There are other facts which indicate how new our state was in 1834 and 1835. We have it from good authority that there were only ten private schools and no public schools in Wisconsin in 1836. These schools were attended by only 275 pupils, while the entire white population of the state was only 9000. One of the ten schools was at Sheboygan and was taught by F. M. Rublee in a private room. The school was supported by subscription.

When we are told about Indian Solomon and Indian Joe, we are likely to think that there were but few of the red men in this part of the country, but that too is an erroneous idea. When Col. Abram Edwards of Detroit made a coasting trip from Green

Bay to Chicago in 1818, he saw many Indians where Sheboygan now stands, the shore was lined with the redskins, some of whom were spearing white fish.

It may have been mere chance that Sheboygan county happened to be among the first to be settled when the active development of the state began, but it is more likely that there was something here which attracted settlers. The rapids and falls in the Sheboygan River must have looked good to those who wanted an available agent to turn the wheels of mills which were to cut up the fine growth of white pine in the eastern part of the county. The mouth of the river afforded a harbor on Lake Michigan, which, with

the other Great Lakes, was becoming an important commercial route. A few years later the rich soil in many parts of the county must have attracted people here. Its location on one of the Great Lakes, its harbor, its waterpower, its abundance of pine and its excellent soil, all no doubt, account for its early settlement and subsequent growth.



"Old Solomon."

As was stated before, the settlement of Sheboygan county began in 1834, when Mr. Paine built a saw-mill on the Sheboygan River at the first rapids. He came here from Chicago. He saw the value of the pine which was found here in abundance. In the spring of 1835 the mill was completed. It stood at the mouth of what was known as Follette Creek. In the fall of 1835, Paine sold the mill to William

Farnsworth, who came here from Green Bay, in the vicinity of which he traded in furs. The mill was placed in charge of Jonathan Follett. Very late that fall the government completed its survey in this vicinity and the lands were placed on sale. The mill and adjoining claim were bid in by Mr. Farnsworth at Green Bay, where the sale was conducted.

The reader of history will recall that the years just preceding the crisis of 1837 was a time of the wildest speculation. Sheboygan was settled during that period. The place was not started as one might imagine, by a few settlers who had come here with the hope of gaining a livelihood by tilling the soil or by lumbering or fishing. The spirit of speculation was rife, and those who came here originally were persons who hoped to make their fortune in the building up and growth of a city. Had they taken hold of the matter in the right way there is no doubt that



they would have succeeded. There certainly was room for a city or village as there was no other between Milwaukee and Green Bay. There was, however, not even a settlement and consequently there was no immediate use for a city, although there was something which made it reasonable to think of having some center to trade there in the future, which could not be said of hundreds of other places laid out in those days by persons overcome by the speculation fever.

Among those who sought to enrich themselves quickly were George Smith, Daniel Whitney, William Bruce and Seth Rees. They bought the land on which Sheboygan now stands and had it platted in the winter of 1835 to 1836, Wm. S. Trowbridge, who subsequently resided in Milwaukee, being the surveyor. It may be said for the four original proprie-

rich in haste. It was a sudden awakening for the founders of Sheboygan as well as all the other speculators of the day. They now not even saw a way of acquiring a living and they left their possessions here, houses and lots and store buildings, to seek a livelihood in other parts. Those who came shortly after the exodus were surprised to find a number of new frame buildings without occupants.

We are informed that the first sale of Sheboygan lots was held in Chicago in 1836. They were sold at auction and brought many times their intrinsic values. The old Sheboygan House was the first frame building erected in this city and stood for a number of years until destroyed by fire. It was built and owned by those who originally possessed the land on which the city stands.

It was in 1836 also, in August, that Charles D.



tors that they did more than most of the speculators of that day. Stores and dwellings were erected and it immediately had the appearance of a thrifty town.

Of course, like the many other places started at the time, its founding was based on the get-rich-quick fallacy. For forty to fifty miles west there was not a settler, the wilderness being unbroken. Nor was there a single other white settler between Green Bay and Milwaukee. Without industries, without people it was proposed to build and maintain a city, and people gave the subject such slight consideration and were so extravagantly hopeful for success in their baubles, that they invested their means in building sites, paying as high as \$500.00 for lots, which in less than two years could be bought but not sold for fifty dollars. The financial crash of 1837 proved disastrous to all such unsubstantial means of getting

Cole came with his family and settled here. This was the first white family to come to Sheboygon to live. Several other families soon followed and some young men full of the spirit of adventure. Buildings arose as if by magic, and despite the almost entire absence of any immediate need of a populous center, a remarkable activity prevailed. During the winter of 1836 to 1837 a school was taught by F. M. Rublee.

It was at this time that the new settlement suffered hardships; all kinds of provisions were high, and the merest necessities could hardly be obtained. The money of the settlers had given out, and this necessarily increased their troubles. There was no navigation of the lakes during the winter, the only communication with the outside world was by mail which was brought once a week from Milwaukee carried over an Indian trail. Then the crisis came, but the



people were not entirely discouraged because hope sprang in them as it does eternally in all human breasts, and spring acted as a tonic; but it was not long ere they were made to realize how baseless their hopes were. No new immigrants, no new purchasers of lots, not a sign of a revival of activity in the place which they had hoped might in some way prove to them an Eldorado came to arouse their drooping spirits. They were undeceived at length and they were not long in deciding that they must go to find some ways of earning a living. They did not all leave the vicinity for some saw that by labor something could be gotten from the soil and moved a few miles back and began to clear the land, while others left for older settle-

ments; and all forsook the place in which only a few months before they had built such high hopes.

was the father of Horace Rublee, who became distinguished as an editor and writer. He contributed to the Wisconsin Historical Collections, and it was from his contribution on the subject of the early history of Sheboygan county that we drew for some of the facts related in this article. Mr. Alvah Rublee at once turned his attention to lumbering. The following year his family came, and his son, whose editorials in the Old Milwaukee Sentinel later gave that paper a standing among the best journals in the country, obtained his first glimpse of the wilds of Sheboygan county. Mr. Rublee gives as an illustration of the hardships borne by the early settlers an experience of his own father. He said: "While in the



A Pioneer's Log Cabin

ments; and all forsook the place in which only a few months before they had built such high hopes.

Scarcely had the pines on the site of the village of Sheboygan begun to echo and re-echo the sounds of the hammer and axe, when men began to settle Sheboygan Falls. The two earliest settlers were Silas Steadman and David Giddings, and they came for reasons, which determined them to remain so that in point of permanency. Sheboygan Falls is as old a settlement as Sheboygan. A saw-mill, which gave employment to several men was the first industry in the village and gave the place its start.

In 1839 Alvah Rublee came to the county. He

woods one day, a limb of a tree fell, striking upon my father's shoulder and dislocated his arm. There was no surgeon nearer than Milwaukee. His companions endeavored to set it, but in vain. Their efforts only increased the inflammation of the bruised and dislocated limb. This was near evening, and the following morning he was compelled to set out for Milwaukee, on foot and alone, for surgical aid. There was no road except an Indian trail, and no settlement until he reached Port Washington. The weather was cold and there was considerable snow on the ground. He was two days in reaching Milwaukee, suffering all the time from torturing pain, and when he arrived there, the dislocated joint had become so swollen and in-



flamed that it was only with the greatest difficulty that it was restored to its place."

In 1840, five years after the stir and bustle which characterized the first attempt at a settlement, there were only three families living on the present site of the city. It must, indeed, have been an odd sight to those who came here later to find the deserted buildings of a few years before. In regard to that Mr. Rublee furnishes us information as follows: "Only small coasting vessels, engaged in carrying lumber south touched at Sheboygan. Our family came around the lakes by steamer to Milwaukee. Thence we proceeded by small schooner. This, after a passage of about sixteen hours, anchored off Sheboygan; and, an hour or two before dawn, one beautiful summer night, in the latter part of June, we were transferred to a scow-boat, which was soon rowed in in at the mouth of the river, and landed. The morning showed a strange spectacle scattered about through the pleasant groves of second-growth pine and oak, which covered the plot, were well-built dwelling houses, neatly painted, and new; and along several streets, were a number of buildings designed for stores, all abandoned. Now and then a straggling Indian might, or the tinkling of his pony's bell be heard, but of other inhabitants there was neither sight nor sound." The families that did live nearby were those of Joshua Brown, Hugh Ritter and Horace Stone.

At this time according to the account of Mr. Rublee, there were the following settlers in the county besides the families above mentioned. Samuel Farnsworth, a young man living at Sheboygan and John Johnson who owned a farm about where Wildwood cemetery is. Johnson had three grown-up sons, George, John and Michael, who were employed at the Farnsworth mill, mentioned in the early part of the article. The mill itself was in charge of A.

Farrow and Alvah Rublee. The only post-office was at Sheboygan Falls and Charles D. Cole was the postmaster. Other residents of that village were David Giddings, Mr. McNish, Mr. Bragg, Elihu Thorpe, John Arnold and Quincy Hall. Of these Giddings, Arnold and Thorpe were single. A few miles west of the village Wm. Trowbridge had taken up the farm which is now the property of Charles Trowbridge and settled on the land. His three sons, Benjamin, William and Jones were young men at the time. At a place where Gibbsville now stands, John D. Gibbs and James Gibbs for whom the village was named, had begun farms. Farther south William and Peter Palmer had taken up farms. As one drives along the Dye road in Lima, he may be reminded that in those early days A. G. Dye had cast his lot with the very earliest settlers of that town. He will notice a burial place called Firmin Cemetery, which he may associate with one of the first four settlers of the town, Benjamin Firmin. The other two were Wendell Hoffmann and Newell Upham. There were others who came that year. Among these were Albert Rounseville and Stephen Woolverton, light house keeper near Sheboygan; Col. Benjamin F. Mooers and William Farnsworth were in the county a part of the time.

It will be seen from the foregoing that in 1840 Sheboygan county was still pretty much an unbroken wilderness. The few settlers bore hardships and privations which we of the present date can scarcely believe possible. The only excuse for a flour mill were two small stones which did no more than break the kernels of grain and people lived on what came nearest being a sort of graham bread. There was nothing like a store here until 1843, and the mail carrier brought from Milwaukee what each felt to be his needs. The only things the people had to send away were fish and lumber. After several years things took a change for the better, and in a later article we hope to tell about that.

## St. Nicholas Hospital

It was as late as May 9, 1890, that Sheboygan was first permitted to enjoy the convenience of a hospital. It was on that date that St. Nicholas hospital was opened. On that date four Catholic sisters of Springfield, Ill., took charge of the hospital, and from that day the institution has proved a real boon to the city and vicinity. The wonder of course is that the city could so long be without a special, well-appointed and well-conducted place for the care of the sick and injured.

The building first occupied was not specially built

for the purpose, but it proved serviceable and is what might be termed the "old" part of the present structure. It was a well-constructed brick building at Superior avenue and Ninth street owned by a retired priest, Father Strickner. It could with moderate cost be remodeled into a hospital. It was through the efforts of the Rev. Father Thill, then pastor of Holy Name Congregation, that the building was procured.

The first step towards the establishment of the hospital was taken by the Sheboygan branch of the Workingmen's Aid society. The members saw the



serious need of such an institution and set themselves the purpose of creating a fund to assist in providing a hospital. By festivities and entertainment they raised \$244 which was the nucleus of the sum required to make a beginning.

A difficulty presented itself when the question as to who should take charge of the hospital was suggested, but the problem was solved by the natural and general conclusion that the sisters who are trained for the work and whose humanitarian tendencies especially adapted them for the management of such an institution, were thought of as the ones to take charge.

It was not long before it was found that the capacity of the building was wholly inadequate, and it became necessary to enlarge the quarters, but scarcely had this been done when the need of more room began to be felt. The demand for larger quarters was followed of course by the necessity of providing more nurses, and the number of sisters has increased from four to fifteen.

It was found finally that sufficient room could not well be provided without erecting a large addition and nearly three years ago it was determined to put up what is practically a new hospital, although it is connected with the original structure. The two together make an immense structure. It is built of red brick and substantially built. It is a three-story building and provides much room. It was completed in January and on February 7, it was formally opened and the doors were thrown open to the public, giving those who desired an opportunity to inspect the interior of the building.

It was not sufficient that a fine and commodious home was provided for the hospital; it needed furnishings, and several public-spirited people and firms made donations, which assistance was greatly appreciated by the ones in charge. These gave such aid, and to wards on the three floors as follows: First floor—Northern Furniture company, in memory of Walter Liebl; C. Reiss Coal Co.; Women's Relief Corps; Sheboygan Chair Co.; Thomas Mc Neill; Knights of Columbus; Catholic Knights of Wisconsin; Catholic Foresters.

Second floor—Dr. O. J. Gutsch; Gustav Huetter; Mrs. Clemens Reiss; Jennie Mead Circle, King's Daughters; T. M. Blackstock; Wm. Braasch, in memory of George End; Mrs. Herman Schreier; H. C. Prange Co; St. Elizabeth's Ten, King's Daughters; Crocker Chair Co.

Third floor—Barrett & Dennett; Mrs. Dr. Fiedler, Eaton, Wis., in memory of her mother Mrs. Morris; Silver Cross Circle, King's Daughters; several of the

members of the Episcopal church, in memory of the Rev. Robert Blow; Michael Gottschalk; St. Genevieve Circle, King's Daughters; Mrs. Meyer; St. Boniface Society.

Through the above the various wards in the hospital were furnished. The furniture dealers of Sheboygan very kindly donated furniture for the halls, while the Phoenix Chair Co. and the Women's Charity club also gave the hospital a number of useful articles. The Catholic Charity club had an attractive grotto placed on the grounds of the hospital.

The operating room is in the northern part of the upper story and is a large, well-lighted apartment. Its equipment is modern.

In the basement are the kitchen, cellar, boiler room for heating apparatus, and two rooms where in case of accident patients may be prepared for the operating table, the hospital drug room, which was furnished by the M. Winter Lumber Co. Just off this and to the south is the waiting room, the furniture for which was given by the Mueller Lumber Co., the Art Furniture Co. and the Parlor Furniture Co.

The new structure was planned by Charles Hilpertshauser; C. Ackerman & Sons did the mason work; Mayer & Jahn were the carpenters; J. & W. Jung had the contract for painting; Warden & Farrell wired the building for electric light, and the F. Geele Hardware Co. put in the heating plant.

During the year 1908 531 patients were cared for at the hospital. Of this number fifty-seven died and 427 left it convalescent. There were 270 men and 261 women. Two hundred and one were Roman Catholics and 330 were of other denominations. There were 272 operations performed during the year.

## The Elks of Sheboygan

The Elk lodge of this city at the beginning of this year took possession of their elegant new club house. They are exceedingly handsome quarters.

The officers at the time of dedication were as follows:

Ex. R.—Joe Pfeiler.

E. L. K.—John M. Detling.

E. L. K.—Dr. G. E. Knauf.

E. L. K.—M. J. Heronymous.

Secretary—Theo. Benfey.

Treasurer—Gus. Kent.

Esquire—W. J. Nuss.

Tiler—C. R. Jeffrey.

Inner G.—M. G. Greenwald.

Chaplin—C. F. Kade.

(Continued on Page 9)





COMMERCIAL ENG. CO. SHEBOYGAN, WIS.

St. Nicholas Hospital



# Sheboygan County Historical Review

A Social Industrial  
and Biographical  
Record - - -

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Published Quarterly at Sheboygan, Wisconsin

BY

The Historical Review Pub. Co.

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Otto Gaffron  
A. O. Heyer

Editor  
Managing Editor

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Subscription Rates: 50 cents per year. Single copies 15 cents.  
Advertising rates furnished upon application.

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## An Announcement

This magazine will be issued quarterly. It was thought best to go back to January 1. this year, with the initial number, and so it necessarily appears late. That will also, of course, be the case with the second number, but thereafter it will be the aim of the publishers to have it out very soon after the close of the quarters, sometime between the first and fifteenth of the following month.

While each number will contain an article on the past history of the county, it will furnish accounts of the important happenings for the three months covered by the issue.

The subscription price is only fifty cents a year. It is thought by the publishers that three years will make a good volume and can be bound into an attractive book, and would make a convenient record covering that period. Its form makes it easy to preserve, while an index will be furnished with the last number of each year.

It is believed that this publication ought to find its way into every home of the county, because every number will contain something worth preserving. It will be convenient for future reference, Parents will see that their children will have frequent use for it, and schools will find material in it well adopted to the teaching of local history.

This is probably the only publication of its kind in the country and possibly in the world, and all that the publishers ask is that it be judged fairly and impartially. It supplies something which can not be easily gotten from other sources, and for which there is frequent demand. The price is so low that any one can afford it.

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The boys and girls who read history should not neglect to associate the early settlement of their county and especially the beginning of Sheboygan with the crisis of 1837 and the "good times" immediately preceding the event.

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When any of the young people of Sheboygan county feel inclined to bemoan what they deem their sad fate, let them remember to contrast the conditions under which they are living with those of the pioneer days in the county, and then be contented and happy.

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The first permanent settlement in Wisconsin was made at Green Bay as early as 1745, and yet in 1835 there were only about 9000 white inhabitants of the state. Just think of it there was not a public and only ten private schools. There was one private school in all the territory between Milwaukee and Green Bay, and that was at Sheboygan. During the ninety years from the time of the first settlement to 1835, about the time that this county was settled, there was almost no development of the state, while during the past seventy-four years the population has increased from 9000 to two and a half millions. There is more money expended in one small city for education now than there was in the entire state in 1835.



## The Elks of Sheboygan

(Continued from page 6)

Trustees—Theo. Fleischer, T. M. Bowler and H. E. Barrows.

Sheboygan Lodge No. 299, B. P. O. E. was organized in 1895 through the influence of Samuel Martin, an enthusiastic Elk of Milwaukee. A charter was granted by the grant lodge to A. Mahlendorf, F. Roenitz, G. B. Mattoon, J. R. Riess, Frank Geele, G. Scharge, F. Benfey, G. Huette, O. Foeste, H. Imig, L. Roenitz, J. End, O. Neumeister, H. Roenitz, E.



The Elks New Home

Mattoon, W. End, F. Thayer, O. Trowbridge, H. Thomas, A. Pfister, J. Winter, G. Hart, R. Whitehill, O. Ballschmider, O. Bock, Theo. Benfey, P. Koehn, W. Kowalke, T. H. Zschetzsche, A. Boales.

The first officers duly elected and appointed were as follows:

Exalted Ruler—R. L. Whitehill.

Esteemed Leading Knight—O. B. Bock.

Esteemed Loyal Knight—H. F. Roenitz.

Esteemed Lecturing Knight—J. A. Winter.

Secretary—A. Pfister.

Treasurer—A. Mahlendorf.

Esquire—John R. Riess.

Tyler—W. G. End.

Chaplain—A. Boales.

Inner Guard—R. G. Hayseen.

The lodge's first club rooms were in the Geele block. After a few years these were found inadequate and other quarters which were thought sufficiently attractive and commodious were secured, but it was not long before these were not satisfactory. The procuring of the present beautiful rooms was the result of a constant growth in numbers and interest of the lodge. Few organizations have experienced such growth as the Elk lodge of Sheboygan. It has increased until it includes in its membership a very representative body of men.

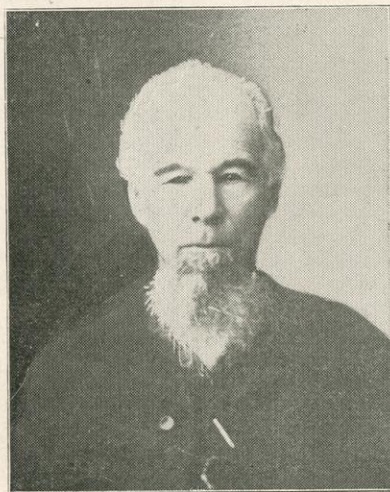
## Golden Anniversary

church.

The celebration was at the home of their son George, with whom they are living. It was a very happy event, and although approaching four-score, the aged couple enjoyed the event as much as any one else in the happy company.

Mr. Schmitt was born in Hesse, Germany, on January 25, 1830. While still a mere boy he came to Sheboygan, when that city was yet young. Mrs. Schmitt is a native of Westphalia, Germany. She too came while young and is one of the earliest pioneers of this vicinity. After their marriage they dwelt on a farm near Sheboygan. They were prosperous, their thrift and industry being rewarded by a generous portion of this world's goods. In 1896 they abandoned farming and took up their residence in the city and have since lived at ease.

There children are all worthy citizens and are living useful lives. These children still live to comfort their aged



On March 10, Mr. and Mrs. George Schmitt of Sheboygan celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage. Mrs. Schmitt's maiden name was Henrietta Arnhoelter. The marriage ceremony was performed in Sheboygan by the Rev. Mr. Strecher, then the pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran



parents: William Schmitt, an insurance agent; George Schmitt, the merchant; and Mrs. Barney Koerner, wife of Alderman Koerner, all of Sheboygan; and Otto Schmitt who lives on the homestead near the city. Two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Schmitt died in childhood.



## Sheboygan County Holstein Breeders' Association

On January 2, 1909, the following owners and breeders of Holstein stock met at the City hall, Plymouth, Wis., for the purpose of organizing: R. B. Melvin, T. H. Thackray, Harry Keach, Giles Gilmon, Homer Melvin, F. W. Goessling and Wm. Crosby, town of Greenbush; H. J. Goelzer, Plymouth; J. Struve, Joachim Struve and Arno Hueppchen, town of Plymouth; C. Nehrling, Lyndon; H. Garside and H. Tenpas, Holland; L. Dennerlein, Rhine; George Ubbelohde and Z. Holden, town of Sheboygan Falls. A temporary organization was effected by electing R. B. Melvin chairman and T. H. Thackray secretary. On motion the chair appointed Messrs. H. J. Goelzer, C. Nehrling, Harry Keach a committee on organization. Mr. Goelzer declined and Z. Holden was named in his stead.

An adjournment was then taken to January 16.

Pursuant to adjournment a meeting was held at the City hall, Plymouth, and the Sheboygan County Holstein Breeders' association was formed. The committee appointed at the previous meeting reported a constitution, which with slight changes was adopted. The purpose of the organization is "to encourage the breeding of Holsteins and to improve the stock, to assist owners to dispose of their surplus animals of that breed," etc. The membership fee is one dollar and the yearly dues are fifty cents.

The following officers were elected:

President—R. B. Melvin.

Secretary—T. H. Thackray.

Treasurer—C. Nehrling.

Other Directors—H. Walsh, Lima,

one year; Harry Giddings, Sheboygan Falls, two years; Harrison Keach, Greenbush, three years.

Vice-Presidents—Z. Holden, Sheboygan Falls; Adam Lorenz, Lima; John Melius, Scott; H. J. Goelzer, Plymouth; D. E. Vanderhoof, Lyndon; A. H. McIntire, Sheboygan.

Twenty-one persons immediately joined them as follows: H. J. Goelzer, Harrison Keach, Emil Titel, R. B. Melvin, H. Walsh, Z. Holden, C. Nehrling, H. Giddings, John Melius, D. E. Vanderhoof, Adam Lorenz, F. Iserloth, T. H. Thackray, J. P. Struve, August Meyer, A. H. McIntire, John Knowles, Paul Knauer, Wm. Crosby and F. W. Goessling.

At the time of organizing the twenty-one members together owned 279 head of full blooded Holsteins.

## Facts Worth Noting

On January 3, 1909, the Baptist congregation of Sheboygan Falls dedicated their church which had been thoroughly remodeled and rebuilt. Rev. Dr. Hulbert of Wauwatosa preached as did also the Rev. Mr. Tietma. The pastor, the Rev. Mr. Ingraham also took part. There were vocal solos by Misses Elizabeth Oosterhuis, Charlotte Humphrey, of Sheboygan Falls, and Miss Abigail Forward of Berlin. Miss Hattie Peck played the prelude and postlude.

One of the notable events of the early part of the year was the celebration on Jan. 14, of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the installation of the Rev. J. W. F. Roth as pastor of the Presbyterian church at Cedar Grove. There were forenoon, afternoon and evening service. The ministers who participated besides the Rev. Mr. Roth, were Rev. A. H. Griethuisen of East Oostburg; Rev. M. A. Klerk, Cedar Grove; the Rev. Mr. Jenkins of Milwaukee; the Rev. Mr. Donaldson of Milwaukee; Rev. Mr. Cutter, Milwaukee; and Rev. O. Johnson, Manitowoc. Mr. G. Lamers gave a history of the church.

The Rev. Mr. Roth was born near the Cape of Good Hope, Africa, on April 26, 1857. He studied at the South Africa College and at Utrecht, Netherlands. In 1875 he came to America and began a course at the McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1878. He had been at Baldwin, Wis., and Greenleaf, Minn.; when in 1884, was called to Cedar Grove. The degree, doctor of divinity, was conferred upon him in 1891.

Since he took charge of the church at Cedar Grove, 480 members were received into the church; there were 416 baptisms, 151 marriages and 136 deaths. The membership of the church has increased from 150 to 326. A new church was built the year after his installation.

During the month of January the Porcelain Enameling Association of America completed the sixth large building of its mammoth plant. The six structures cover an area of a quarter of a mile in length and sixty feet wide. It is situated in the Northwestern part of the city, and the company employs 175 men.

On February 5, 1909, a special election was held at which the question of the purchase of the waterworks system was voted on and the proposition carried by a vote of more than six to one. It meant a victory for Mayor Theodore Dieckman and a majority of the common council. On March 2, the first payment of \$91,000 was made on the plant and it became the property of the city. The city assumed the bonded indebtedness of the company amounting to \$345,000, and withdrew the suit against the company.

On February 17 the J. W. Jung Co. opened their large and elegant department store in the city of Sheboygan. The store was crowded by eager bargain seekers. The store is handsomely finished interiorly and the goods are arranged in excellent taste and conveniently for display and handling. The store is metropolitan in all of its appointments. It has a lunch room, a new feature for Sheboygan. It also has a rest room where the shopper when tired may sit down and rest. Altogether it is just such a store as will attract trade to the city.

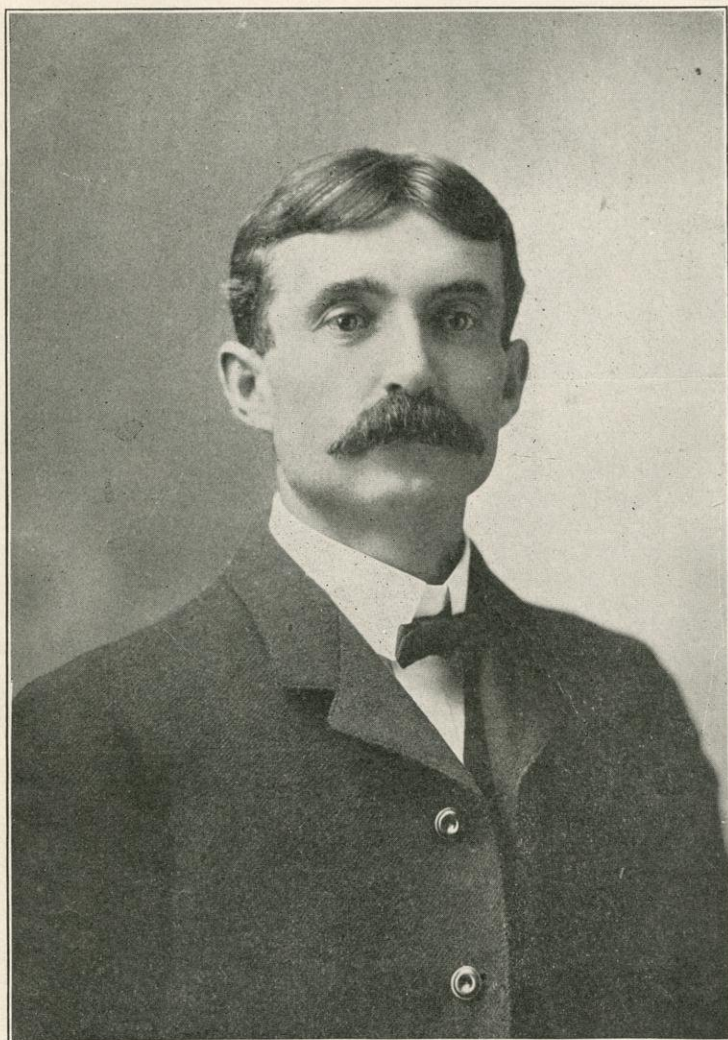


## Record of Deaths of well known Sheboygan County Citizens

### Prin. A. D. Tarnutzer

Sunday, February 28, Principal A. D. Tarnutzer of the Sheboygan high School expired, his demise being caused by tuberculosis of the spine and a kidney trouble. His remains were consigned to their last resting place in Wildwood cemetery on Wednesday, March 3, the Rev. Mr. Horstmeyer officiating. For hours while the body lay in state at the Reformed Church, many hundreds of people took a last look at the kindly face of their beloved principal. The long funeral cortege, the profusion of beautiful flowers and the gloom his untimely demise cast over the city expressed more profoundly than words could the great sense of loss felt

training and where he prepared for college. At the close of his high school course he formed the purpose of devoting himself to teaching and for a few years he taught in the rural schools of Sauk county, after which he entered the White-water Normal School and completed the course in that institution in 1895. The following year he held a position in the schools of Prairie du Sac, but his ambition would not permit him to return there and he began a course at the State University, from which he was graduated in 1898, when he accepted a position as instructor of science in the Sheboygan High School. A few years of efficient and conscientious work was followed by his promotion to the principalship of the



by all, and the respect and esteem in which the departed was held.

Prof Tarnutzer was born at Sauk City, Wisconsin, May 5, 1867. He lived in that place during childhood and youth and it was there he received his early

school, a position he held when called from earthly scenes. While at the head of the High School of this city it grew in numbers and usefulness, there being very material changes and desirable improvements made in its courses and faculty.

Brief as was his life when measured by the numbers on the dial plate it was full of service which no doubt had yielded and will yield a richer and more bounteous fruitage than that of many who can count there years by fore-score-and ten. It was for him to lead the young to nobler aims, to develop their higher natures, to give to their intellects the proper bent, in short to attune the human soul to a nobler being. The best results of such labors can not be immediate, but like the waves of either, the influence of the true teacher continues in an ever widening circle, going on forever through eternity. It is a beautiful thing to contemplate that though poorly compensated for his efforts in worldly goods, the worthy teacher is a force which goes on strengthening rather than weakening, even after his mortal remains have been laid away to moulder to dust.

### Mrs. Alford Tracy

Among the very earliest settlers of the town of Mitchell were the Tracy and Chambers families. They have also been among the most influential people of their neighborhood. Mrs. Alford Tracy was a daughter of William Chambers and a sister of Henry Chambers, who for years was the oracle of his neighborhood a few miles southwest of Cascade. Mrs. Tracy died on March 7, 1909, after having been confined to her home for twenty-five years. Her remains rest in the Swann Cemetery in the town of Sherman, the funeral having taken place on March 9, the Rev. F. E. Warren having officiated.

Mrs. Tracy was born in Couin County, Ireland, on May 27, 1837. She settled with her parents in the southern part of the town of Mitchell in 1849. Her union with Mr Alford Tracy was solemnized on Jan. 11, 1863. She is survived by her husband, three sons and two daughters as follows: Joseph, John and Lewis Tracy Mrs. William Phillipsen and Miss Rilla Jane Tracy, all of Mitchell.

### Mrs. Margaret DeVille

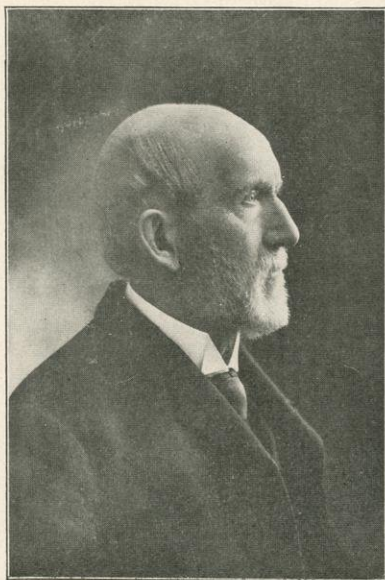
Among the early comers to Sheboygan was Mrs. Margaret DeVille, whose death occurred on Sunday February 28, 1909. The last sad rites for the departed were performed on Wednesday March 3, from the Holy Name Church, the Rev. Father Thill officiating. Interment was in the North Side Catholic Cemetery.

Mrs. DeVille came to Sheboygan in 1874 from Batavia, N. Y. where she was born on April 18, 1832. Mrs. DeVille is survived by a son Nicholas and two daughters, Pauline and Gretchen.



### Francis W. Lawrence

Francis W. Lawrence passed away on February 11, 1909. He succumbed to a general weakening of the system. He having reached the age of nearly eighty, although the end was hastened by gangrene. The remains were laid to their last resting place in Wildwood cemetery on February 13, the Rev. J. W. White of the Congregational church officiated.



Mr. Lawrence was born in Monroe, Michigan, on Nov. 3, 1830. At the age of fourteen he entered a hardware store in his native city. In 1854 at the age of twenty-four he came to Sheboygan, and had been identified with the city's interests from that time until shortly before his demise. He was very active in church work, having been a member of the Congregational church. His pioneer and missionary spirit has been inherited by his children. Miss Fannie, a daughter of the deceased, has cast her lot with the Hawaiians, and is a teacher at Honolulu. Mrs. Frederick Damon, another daughter, is also a resident of that faraway city in mid Pacific. A son, Francis W. Lawrence, resides in Milwaukee, and Miss Mary is still a resident of Sheboygan, making her home with her mother who still survives.

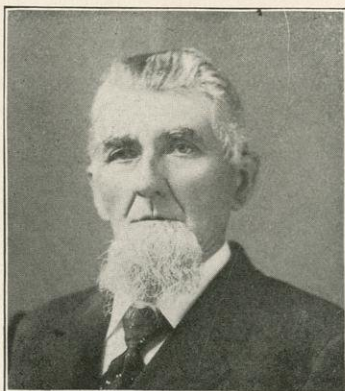
### H. W. Fischer

After serving the city of Plymouth for a quarter of a century or more, as a member of the county board from the First ward, Supervisor H. W. Fischer, on February 2, succumbed to an attack of pneumonia. On Sunday February 7, the funeral was held, and the Rev. F. Beisser of the Reformed Church officiated. The obsequies were attended by a large number of acquaintances, among whom were several members of the county board as well as some of the county officers. The

remains rest in the Plymouth Union cemetery.

Mr. Fischer was a native of Bavaria, Germany, having been born in the Rheinfels, on August 18, 1838. He came with his parents to America in 1852, when he was a lad of fourteen. Since coming here he has resided either in or near the city. His marriage with Miss Theresa Karpe took place in 1862. Several years ago she passed away and a few years later his union with Miss Katherine Gesert was solemnized. Of the first marriage the following children survive; O. H. Fischer of California, Charles W. of Plymouth, Emil of Green Bay, Mrs. A. Kurtz of Timothy and Mrs. Bertha V. of Sheboygan. The second marriage was blessed by two children, Raymond and Elsie, both at home.

At one time Mr. Fischer owned a good



farm north of Plymouth, and later conducted a large boot and shoe store in the city. For the last few years just prior to his death he spent the greater part of his time tilling a piece of land he owned in the northern part of the city.

Mr. Fischer had a strong hold upon the affections and confidence of the voters of his ward, and he was invincible against any opponent who entered the list against him at the polls. As a representative he was conscientious and aimed to look carefully after every detail of his duties. For many years he was made poor commissioner by the board of which he was a member and as such his services to the county were invaluable.

### H. E. Dow

On March 14, 1909, H. E. Dow died in St. Louis. He was not a pioneer of the county, and, indeed, was a resident here only six years. He had scarcely passed the prime of life when he passed away. And yet a history of the county and especially of Plymouth would not be complete without a mention of his work.

Mr. Dow has been called a 'live wire,' and he certainly was full of life and enterprise. Plymouth owes much

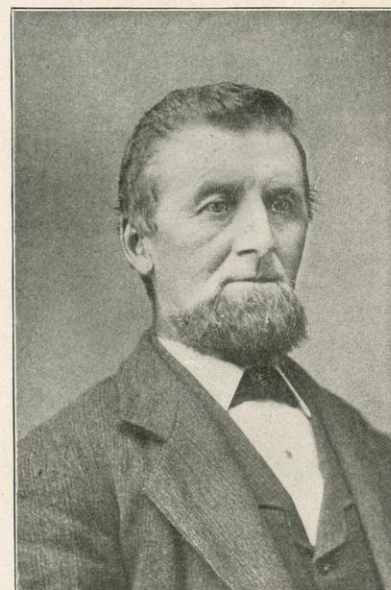
to his efforts. The cold-storage, which has had a considerable influence in making that place a leading cheese market, was built through his efforts. He suggested other improvements for the place, such as electric light and water-works as well as interurban railways.

### August Warnecke

At the age of nearly eighty-nine August Warnecke, Sr. passed from earth on February 4, 1909. Paralysis claimed him. The funeral was held on Sunday Feb. 7, with interment in Wildwood cemetery. The Rev. Mr. Horst-meyer officiated. Deceased was born in Germany on February 27, 1820, and came to this county and Sheboygan in 1856, thus having been a resident here for fifty-three years, and he lived in the same house during all that time. He leaves a son August, who resides in Sheboygan.

### August Pieper

On March 12, 1909 there departed this life Mr. August Pieper, one of the



first settlers of the town of Herman. Death resulted from injuries received when shortly before the end he fell down a flight of stairs. His advanced age may account for his sustaining the fatal injuries. The interment was on Tuesday, March 16, in the Siemers' cemetery in the town of Herman, the funeral having been held from his late home near Howards Grove.

Mr. Pieper was born at Gellerson, Hanover, Germany on March 10, 1827. In 1847 while a youth of twenty, he came to America and directly to the town of Herman, which was then but little more than a virgin wilderness. By energy and industry he carved a good farm out of dense forest, and by thrift he was en-



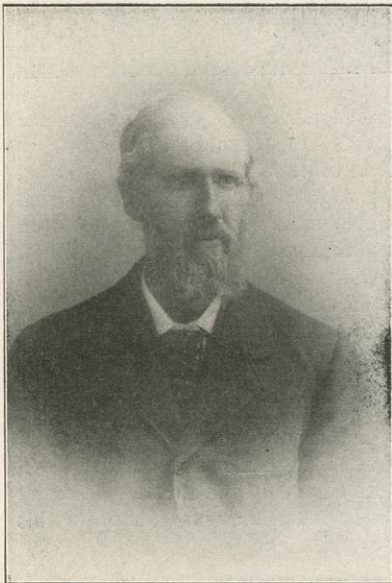
abled to accumulate considerable property. He was an important factor in the development of his town, and took a leading part in all social events. The name Pieper is inseparably connected with the history of Sheboygan county.

The deceased was twice married the first union was formed with Miss Caroline Wenthe in 1851. She died ten years later and about two years later Mr. Pieper took unto himself another wife, whose maiden name was Miss Johanna Sperl. Two children of the first wife survive and reside in St. Paul, Minn. William and Henry Pieper. These children of the second wife also remain: Mrs. Carl Abling and Mrs. Albert Fuhrman, Howards Grove Mrs. Frederick Weiskopf, Mrs. Frank Mueller, Mrs. George Krautkraemer and Louis Pieper, Sheboygan; Mrs. Wm. Roerborn, Wilson; and Miss Tonie Howards Grove.

### R. A. Van Alstyne

It was on January 6, 1909, that R. A. Van Alstyne succumbed to a kidney trouble, at St. Agnes' Hospital, Fond du Lac. The funeral took place on January 9 from his home in the village of Glenbeulah, the Rev. John Norton officiating. His remains rest in the Greenbush-Union cemetery.

Mr. Van Alstyne came to the town of Greenbush as early as 1850, and had been one of the influential and substantial citizens of that vicinity. He was born in the East in 1833, and came to Glenbeu-



lah nearly fifty-nine years ago. He was a wagonmaker by trade. His union with Miss Isabelle Clark took place at Elgin, Ill., in 1861. His wife survives him as do also two sons, John Van Alstyne of Rhinelander and Edwin Van Alstyne, Wadena, Canada.

### Mrs. Eliza Ann Platiner Mac Graw

On March 28, 1909, there passed away at Plymouth one who had been privileged to spend nearly ninety-five years upon earth. When Mrs. Eliza Ann Platiner Mac Graw expired it was the close of a life of usefulness. The end came after a lingering of months at death's door and years of gradual decline in strength.



The remains were laid in the Plymouth Union cemetery on March 30, when the funeral was held from the home of her daughter, Mrs. D. T. Evans, with whom she had been living for several years. The Rev. A. G. Wilson of the Congregational church officiated.

Mrs. Mac Graw, whose maiden name was Eliza Ann Platiner, was born at Cherry Valley, Otsego county, New York, on October 18, 1814. She was united in marriage to Edward M. Mac Graw in 1834. They early moved to Michigan where they were residents for a number of years. In 1848 they removed to Sheboygan and several years later to Plymouth. They were among the earliest and most progressive citizens of Plymouth. Mr. Mac Graw conducted a lumber yard in that city for many years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mac Graw were advanced thinkers, and they were thoroughly humane and fair and just in their relation with others. Mr. Mac Graw's death occurred in 1886. Mrs. Evans of this city and Mrs. Dolly Weitzel are the surviving children.

### Andrew McDonald

Death claimed another pioneer of Sheboygan county when Andrew McDonald expired at his home in the city of Plymouth, on Friday, January 15. The funeral

took place on January 19, from the Catholic church in that city, and the remains were taken to St. Michaels cemetery for interment. The Rev. Father Meyer officiated.

A native of Ireland, Mr. McDonald was born in Mayo county on March 25, 1839. He came with his parents to Sheboygan county in 1856, settling on a farm in the northern part of Scott. There he lived during the greater part of his life, except while working in the northern pineries.

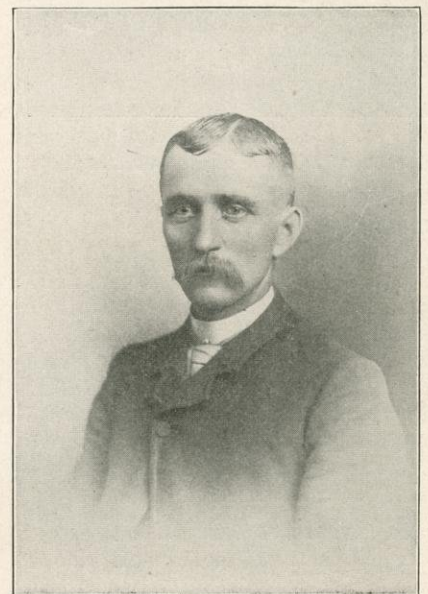
He was married to Miss Mary Flanagan, a teacher. From this union sprang a large family, the survivors of which are Mrs. James Hardgrove of Fond du Lac; Misses Emma and Mae of Spokane, Wash; Misses Florence and Jennie at home; George and Edward, Spokane; Andrew, Hosmar, British Columbia; Charles at home. Mrs. McDonald also survives.

### H. E. Austin

The passing of H. E. Austin in the prime of life was sincerely deplored by a large circle of friends. His demise occurred on March 28, 1909, he having succumbed to cancer of the bowels.

On March 31 his remains were committed to earth in the Winooski cemetery, the funeral being held from the family home on that day, the Rev. A. G. Wilson officiating.

Mr. Austin was the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Austin, who for many years were residents of the town of Lyndon, where the subject of this sketch was born on November 16, 1855. The Austins owned one of the largest and best farms in that town, and for a number of years before removing to Plymouth



with his family, Mrs. H. E. Austin conducted it. On the 10th of November,



1886, he was united in marriage to Miss Ida Peck, who was one of the prominent teachers of the county. She survives him as do also three sons, George, Frank and Orvin.

Assemblyman E. J. Keyes, a friend and life-long acquaintance, said of Mr. Austin: "He was a man of a most genial and friendly disposition and temperament. He was kind and loving to his family and loyal and true to his friends. His record as a citizen and neighbor is without a stain or a blemish."

### August Truttschel

The death of August Truttschel occurred on January 8, at his home just east of Plymouth. The funeral was held on January 12, with interment in the cemetery on the Dye Road in the town of Lima. The Rev. Mr. Proehl of the



Plymouth Lutheran church officiated.

Mr. Truttschel was also a pioneer of Sheboygan county, having settled here in 1848. He first resided in the town of Mosel, then in the town of Lima and finally in Plymouth. His union with Louisa Schwarz took place in Mosel in 1855. Besides his wife five children survive him as follows: Mrs. William Shroeder of the town of Plymouth and Mrs. M. Bachanz and Mrs. G. A. Albrecht of the city of Plymouth, and two sons, Carl and Herman, of Lima.

Mr. Truttschel was an active and energetic man and contributed not a little to the development to some parts of the county. His birth occurred in Eisleben, Saxony, Germany, on August 12, 1830.

### Mrs. Jane B. Hubbard

Mrs. Jane B. Hubbard, widow of the late Rev. George B. Hubbard, passed away Monday February 8, 1909, after a five weeks illness of grip, coupled with a general breaking down, due to old age. The funeral services were held from the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Bamford on February 10, Rev. J. T. Chenoweth of Racine and Rev. A. G. Wilson of Plymouth, being the officiating clergymen. The interment was private and was in the Plymouth cemetery.

Mrs. Hubbard was born in Prattsburg, N. Y. on November 8, 1826, where her father, the Rev. William Beardsley, was teacher in the academy after residing at several other places in New York and Ohio. Her father removed to Quincy, Ill. to teach the ancient languages in a Mission Institute. The daughter, the subject of this sketch, began early to teach, and while conducting a country school in western Illinois, she saw the Mormons fleeing from Nauvoo. She recalled that they were a whole day in passing the schoolhouse.

It was while teaching at Beardstown, Ill., that she met Rev. Geo. B. Hubbard whom she married Aug. 5, 1849. Her wedding trip to Connecticut was by wagon, the Great Lakes to Buffalo, and thence by rail. After thirty-eight years service as a pastor's wife in Illinois and 2 years at Mazomanie Wis., Mrs. Hubbard came with her husband to Plymouth in the spring of 1888. Here, after ten years pastorate at the Congregational church, Mr. Hubbard resigned and in June, 1900, entered into his reward. Since that time, Mrs. Hubbard has made her home with her daughter Mrs. H. J. Bamford, though spending a part of each year with her son, J. S. Hubbard in Beloit and her other son Rev. W. B. Hubbard now of Centerbrook, Conn.

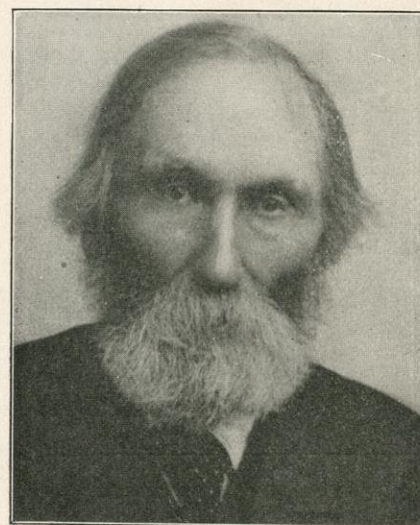
When the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized in October, 1907, Mrs. Hubbard became a charter member and took a lively interest in its affairs, one of her last acts being to prepare and read an exhaustive account of election days and town meetings in New England, at the December meeting, three weeks before her last illness.

### B. O. Coon

B. O. Coon, one of the very earliest settlers in this vicinity, expired at the home of his son-in-law, F. J. Isserstedt, on Sunday, March 28. He was one of the few survivors of the times when Plymouth, if it existed at all, existed only in the imagination of a few, who could hardly have foretold that the spring near

the one lone building, the log tavern, would furnish water for a pop factory in days to come. Mr. Coon suffered a stroke of apoplexy on the Thursday preceding his death, and though he rallied somewhat at times, on Sunday evening he suddenly passed into the sleep which knows no waking. On Thursday afternoon, April 1, the funeral was held from his late home, with interment in the Grant cemetery north of Plymouth. The Rev. A. G. Wilson was the officiating clergyman.

It was in 1846 that Mr. Coon came to the town of Plymouth and took up eighty acres of government land. He came here from Oswego county, New York, where on February 2, 1825, he was born. A year or two after coming here his parents followed, and he came into possession of



120 acres more of virgin forest. On the 200 acres he had acquired he lived up to the time of his demise. On June 1, 1851, his marriage with Miss Philena R. Grant was solemnized. Of the five children born to them only two survive, Mrs. F. J. Isserstedt and Mrs. J. E. Lee, both residents of the town of Plymouth. Mrs. Coon also survives.

Mr. Coon was a great observer and lover of nature, and like Whittier's uncle he was. "Himself to Nature's heart so near that all her voices in his ear. Of beast or bird had meanings clear." he was a man of the strictest integrity and one whose life was a boon to his fellowmen.

### Curd Boedecker

On Sunday, March 21, Curd Boedecker, a pioneer of the town of Herman, departed this life at the home of his son Frederick Boedecker, and the remains were laid to rest on Thursday, March 25, in the cemetery adjoining the Reformed church in the northern



part of the town of Sheboygan Falls. The Rev. Mr. Vriessen officiated. Although arterial sclerosis is assigned as the cause of death, his extreme old age must have left him open to attack by disease. He had passed his ninety-fourth year.

Mr Boedecker was born in Hohenhausen, Germany. March 2, 1815. While still living in Germany, his marriage with Wilhelmine Uhlenmeyer took place. In 1849, when many a patriotic citizen of the fatherland sought a home in a country where he could exercise the rights of a freeman, Mr and Mrs Boedecker came to America and directly to Sheboygan county and Herman. They bore the hardships of pioneer life, and by thrift and industry made themselves well to-do. Mr Boedecker was one of those who made personal sacrifices in upbuilding the Mission House. His surviving children are Fred Boedecker of Herman; Mrs Conrad Johanning, Herman; Mrs. Carl Sanderman, Baxter, Iowa.

Mr. Boedecker was esteemed for his real worth and was highly regarded by his many acquaintances.

### Daniel Gill

After a residence of fifty-five years in Sheboygan, Daniel Gill passed away on February 6, 1909. His remains were interred in this city.

Mr Gill is survived by three sons Ben, George and Albert, and Mrs. E. Jensen, all residents of Sheboygan, and Mrs. A. W. Thayer of Milwaukee.

Mr. Gill was born at St. Francis,



Canada, on July 16, 1833, and came here in 1853. He was a cooper by trade.

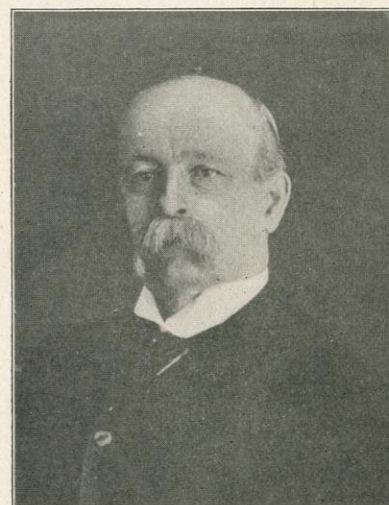
### Capt. Henry Stocks

On February 3, 1909, Capt. Henry Stocks, expired, death being due to a stroke of paralysis suffered several days previous to the end. The funeral was held Sunday, February 7, Father Coxe of Grace Episcopal church officiating, and interment was in Wildwood cemetery.

Capt. Stocks was born in Mobile, Alabama, Jan. 14, 1841.

While yet a mere boy he came to She-

boygan to live. In September, 1862, he enlisted in the Union army, serving his country so well that on May 11, 1864, he was promoted to the rank of captain. He served to the end of war: a few years after returning to Sheboygan he secured a position with the Geele Hardware Co. and except for a few years, while conducting a hardware store at Plymouth, he remained with the Geele's until a year and a half ago. During the last year or so of his life he was connected with his



sons in a grocery business, the firm being known as the Stocks Grocery company. Capt. Stocks left at his death his wife, five sons, Frank E Stocks of Fond du Lac; Wm. H., Alfred, Robert, Clarence, Sheboygan; and a daughter Miss Henrietta also of Sheboygan.

The next issue of this magazine will appear about September 15th.

It will contain an article on the early history and developments of the city of Sheboygan; also a record of all the important events of the second quarter of 1909.



**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY**

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