



The Civil War. Monograph 67 1990

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MANITOWOC COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PREFACE By Dale Brasser:

As Americans observe the 125th Anniversary of the end of the Civil War there is no indication that the interest and desire to learn more about this momentous period in our history is declining. Although books on Civil War subjects are counted by the tens of thousands—over 50,000 titles have already been published—continuing research produces manuscripts that add hundreds of new books each year. History magazines, monographs, and newsletters continue to report on every conceivable aspect of the conflict. Thousands of Civil War re-enactors recreate battles and other living history events that are recorded on film or videotape using modern media techniques that all serve to make the War of the Rebellion the most recorded event in American history.

Some of this material is included in official records that are measured not in number of files, or in tons of paper, or in floors of storage in buildings, but in the number of buildings filled with records. But an even greater source of material is included in the form of letters, diaries and other first hand accounts written by the participants in the conflict. These accounts were often reports of the efforts to live one more day and to survive an event that grew to proportions unimagined at the beginning of the war, and to record for all time the sacrifices required to hold together this new experiment in democracy called the United States of America.

The majority of these participants were aware of the social, moral and economic issues of the day and also seemed to understand that the events in which they were involved would determine the destiny of the North American continent for many generations to come. Undoubtedly this was no less true for the citizens of

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The Civil War

By: James Sibree Anderson

Originally published in 1911 in History of Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, edited by Dr. Louis Falge.

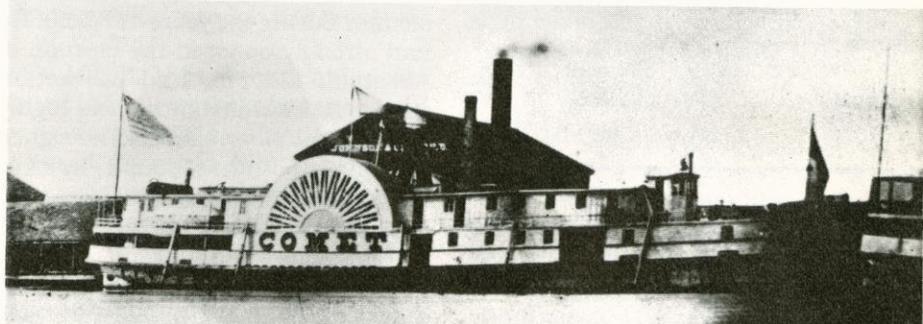
Manitowoc County in the 1860's. One young man with the ability to express himself was James S. Anderson, who enlisted, at the age of 19, with the first company of volunteers to leave Manitowoc County in June of 1861. Later, as a veteran of four years of the conflict and with a distinguished career of public service behind him he would write the following account. Part of the account, reprinted here, originally appeared in *History of Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, Vol. I*, edited by Dr. Louis Falge, first published in 1911.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dale Brasser's interest in the Civil War began as a boy when he was allowed to play with his great-grandfather's Civil War musket at his grandparents farm near Gibbsville in Sheboygan County. Today, he is charter president of the Manitowoc County Civil War Round Table, organized in October of 1988, and a member of the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and The Sons of Union Veterans. He also actively participates as a "private in the Union Army" at Civil War living history re-enactments in Wisconsin and across the country. Since 1987 Dale has served as vice-president of finance for the Manitowoc County Historical Society, of which he is a life member. Mr. Brasser is business manager of the Manitowoc Public School District.

THE CIVIL WAR

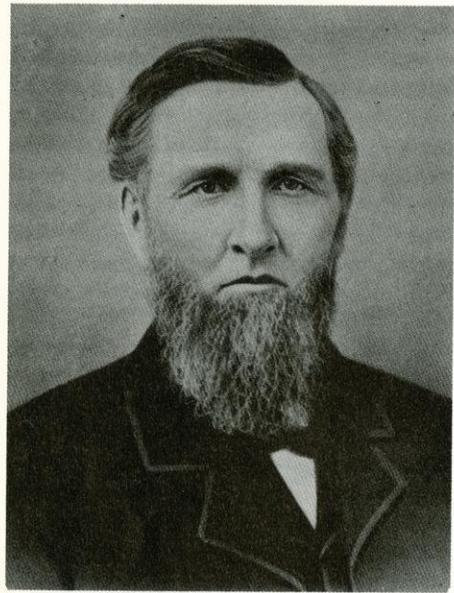
In common with all other parts of the north, there was great agitation in Manitowoc upon the outbreak of the Civil war. We were a small community, the total population of the village being only 3,061. We had no telegraph facilities. It took two days to get out mail by stage from Milwaukee, and we had only a boat service every other day—weather permitting. The Goodrich Transportation Company, just organized, had only one boat—the side-wheel steamer, *Comet*, and when she came in to the north pier at the foot of Buffalo street, the whole population would flock to the pier to get the latest news from the Milwaukee paper of the day previous.

It was under such circumstances that the news came to Manitowoc on April 19, 1861, that Fort Sumter had been taken four days previous, and on the next evening a war meeting of the citizens was held at the courthouse. A number of speeches were made, and the crowded meeting was roused to a high pitch of enthusiasm. I must con-



The 385-ton passenger steamer *COMET* brought the news of the firing on Fort Sumter to Manitowoc on April 19, 1861. It left Manitowoc with Company A on the afternoon of Sunday, June 23, 1861, bound for Milwaukee where a train carried the volunteers to Camp Randall at Madison. The side-wheel steamer was built in 1860, at Newport, Michigan for the Goodrich Transportation Company.

PHOTO COURTESY MANITOWOC MARITIME MUSEUM



PERRY P. SMITH

New York State native who came to Manitowoc in 1837 on the schooner OREGON with his brother-in-law Benjamin Jones, Chicago land speculator and founder of Manitowoc. Smith opened the first store in Manitowoc in 1846. Served as county tax collector in 1840 and county clerk of court 1850-51. One of the early members of the Methodist church at Manitowoc. Promoted building plank roads, railroads, and making harbor improvements. Delivered his rousing "What the government needs is men" speech at a war meeting of citizens held at the Manitowoc County Courthouse on the evening of April 20, 1861—eight days after the firing on Fort Sumter. Encouraged the enlistment of men and cared for and rendered assistance to soldiers' families. After the Civil War, Smith remained prominent in local business, social, political and religious affairs. Served as first president of the Manitowoc County Old Settlers Club in 1879. Died in 1906 at the age of 82 after almost 70 years a resident of Manitowoc.

PHOTO TAKEN FROM HISTORY OF MANITOWOC COUNTY, WISCONSIN BY LOUIS FALGE

fess that my recollection is rather hazy about what occurred that evening for I was greatly excited. I am quite sure that J. D. Markham was one of the speakers and I have a quite distinct recollection that Hon. Charles Esslinger delivered one of those fiery German speeches for which he was noted and drove the young Germans wild. Several declared their willingness to sacrifice their last dollar in aid of the nation, and some one declared his willingness to sacrifice

his last feather bed in its support. Then a long string of resolutions were read, declaring our loyalty and pledging ourselves to support the government without respect to party, which were adopted with a shout.

It remained, however, for the late Perry P. Smith to make the speech of the evening, though by no means accustomed to such performances. He was tremendously wrought up and his voice rang out like a bugle. He declared the government had no use for feather beds; that speeches and resolutions were all right to let the government know that the people were standing behind it, "but what the government needs is men—men that will fight, men enough to go down and wipe the _____ rebels off the face of the earth. I move, Mr. Chairman, that Manitowoc raise a military company for the war and that we do it right now, and send our offer of the company to the governor in the morning." For a moment there was silence. It seemed as if we had not realized till then that the war was so near us. Then a shout went up, which nearly lifted the roof.

I did not know it then, but found it out afterwards, that the matter had been talked up during the day among the leading citizens and it was fully determined to raise a company for service in the war. As soon as Mr. Smith had concluded his speech, Hon. Temple Clark somewhat dramatically stepped forward and read a paper, which pledged the signers to be members of a military company and tender their services to the governor of the state. Then stooping down, he signed his name to it. Temple Clark was then a prominent democratic leader, had been state senator during the years 1857-58. He had strongly opposed the election of Abraham Lincoln, and his action under the circumstances was highly sensational. No sooner had he signed the pledge than Joseph Rankin stepped to the front and wrote his signature next. Mr. Rankin was just at that time beginning his career of political leadership in the democratic party, which finally placed him as a representative in congress from this district, and this action, following closely on the other, raised the meeting to a high pitch of excitement.

An appeal was then made by some one to the young men to come forward and there was a rush to the secretary's desk to sign the paper. My

name went on as the fourth or fifth on the list, and somewhere between forty and fifty signatures were obtained before the meeting adjourned. It is difficult to describe, infinitely more difficult for any one who did not live in that period, to realize the excitement of those days. Next day nearly all labor was suspended, men gathered in groups on the street corners and discussed the situation. They pushed the raising of the company with energy, and before night signatures enough were obtained to ensure its organization. As the news of the taking of Fort Sumter and the action of the village people spread to the backwoods, the young men from the country began to come in and in a few days the company was filled to its maximum of one hundred and four men and kept filled until it was mustered into service.

As the first call for troops from Wisconsin was for only one regiment for ninety days' service, the organized militia companies who tendered their services were first taken, out of scores of companies offered. Private letters were received by our citizens from Madison, to the effect that there would soon be another call and urging them to "hold the men together," as they would very soon be wanted.

In a few days after the ranks of the company were full, we held a meeting



JAMES S. ANDERSON

Born in Scotland in 1841. Came to Manitowoc County in 1852. Enlisted in Company A, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers on April 20, 1861, at the age of 19. Served three years and four months. Wounded three times. Mustered out after the Battle of Fort Stevens in July, 1864.

PHOTO TAKEN FROM THE FLAG OF COMPANY A, FIFTH WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY 1861-1925 PUBLISHED BY MANITOWOC COUNTY HISTORICAL STORICAL SOCIETY



TEMPLE CLARK

Manitowoc lawyer and first commander of Company A, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers. Enlisted on April 18, 1861. In command of the company until April, 1862. Transferred to staff of Gen. Plummer, Army of the Mississippi. Later promoted to assistant adjutant general on staff of Gen. Rosecrans, Army of the West. Severely wounded at Battle of Corinth and resigned July 22, 1863. After the Civil War, Clark moved his law practice to Washington, D.C., where he died a few years later.

MANITOWOC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS

at Klingholz Hall and elected our officers, Temple Clark, having the greatest amount of military experience, was chosen captain. His military experience consisted in the fact that his brother-in-law was a captain in the regular army and that "Temp," as everybody called him, had served as a sutler's clerk for a couple of months at a military post somewhere. It was not much, to be sure, but a good deal for those days. Joseph Rankin was elected first lieutenant, and Horace M. Walker, second lieutenant. We elected everything down to the eighth corporal.

Some difficulty afterwards arose between Captain Clark and Joseph Rankin, which resulted in Mr. Rankin withdrawing from the company. In his place Horace M. Walker was made first lieutenant, and Peter Scherfius, a German from the south side, took Mr. Walker's place as second lieutenant. We were kept together as an organization and Captain Clark

began drilling us in the simple tactics of marching, facing right and left, wheeling and turning. We had no arms and could do nothing in regard to the manual. The businessmen of the village subscribed sums of money freely, and the board and lodging of men who had no homes in or near the village was paid at different boarding houses or hotels. We kept up our daily drilling, using the north side park as a drill ground. One day as we were engaged in drilling, a large number of ladies appeared. Captain Clark formed the company in two ranks, open order, facing each other. A delegation of ladies entered the space thus enclosed and Mrs. Gideon Collins, wife of a man then prominent in business here, acting as speaker, presented the company with a beautiful flag. It was the work of their own hands, except the painting of the inscriptions upon it. Mrs. Collins made a patriotic and touching address, to which Captain Clark responded on behalf of the company. We carried the flag in all our drills and marches after that time until we received our regimental colors, when we were no longer allowed to carry it. In war, one set of colors is quite enough for a regiment to care for. We had, however, promised the ladies to carry it to the war and found means to do so.

There is quite a story connected with the flag, which time will not permit me now to tell. It fell into the hands of the rebels through the capture of a wagon train, was recaptured in battle by a charge of the Pennsylvania Bucktail Regiment, taken to Pennsylvania, kept as a trophy and returned to us at the time of the Centennial Exposition, by the colonel of that regiment, through the late Hon. W. W. Waldo.

On May 3, 1861, President Lincoln issued the call for forty-two thousand men, and a little later, for three hundred thousand men to serve for three years, or during the war, and we expected surely to be called into camp, as three regiments were called for, but Calumet county had beaten us in tendering a company by about half an hour, and their company got into camp as Company K of the Fourth Wisconsin. We were then in despair, and the company came near disbanding, but far-seeing men kept writing to our people here, "hold on to your men, they will be wanted soon." The state legislature was called

together in extra session and on the 27th of May, the governor was authorized to raise three regiments of state militia and have them in readiness in case they should be called for, and also to keep two regiments constantly in camp as a reserve force, to be mustered into the United States service as wanted. A day or two after this law was passed, we were sworn into the service of the state and about the middle of June received orders to rendezvous at Camp Randall, at Madison.

We left Manitowoc on a Sunday afternoon on the Goodrich steamer, Comet. Our departure had been well advertised and, at the least, half of the people of the county were on the north pier and lining the bluffs on the lake shore, to see us off. We were not a very soldierly looking crowd as we marched from the place of assembling, at Dusold's Hall, each man carrying a little bundle or carpet bag in his hand. We were only a lot of raw village and farmer lads leaving peaceful homes from motives of the purest patriotism that ever swayed a people.

Over the parting scenes that took place as the steamer signalled "all aboard" it is best to draw a veil. They were not the last of such scenes, but were repeated again and again as the new companies went to the front. Our company was composed almost entirely of young men. There were but four married men in the ranks. Our average age was a fraction under twenty-four years. Of one hundred and four men who left that day, only thirty-six lived to see the war ended, and only about twenty returned to Manitowoc. Of one hundred and thirty-one men, including the recruits who came out to us, I know of only twenty-one who are living today. We were young and raw, but in less than a year were metamorphosed into as hard fighting and dashing a company of soldiers as ever wore the blue uniform of the United States. In the old Sixth Corps, known as one of the hardest fighting corps in the Army of the Potomac, we helped to win for our regiment the title of the "Fighting Fifth."

When we reached Camp Randall we were assigned as the first company of the Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers, being Company A. Such is a sketch of the conditions in Manitowoc at the beginning of the war and the organization of the first company of soldiers raised

within its limits.

I cannot speak from knowledge of the scenes connected with the raising of other companies later in the war, nor about conditions in the county. All I know in regard to that is derived from letters from home and conversations after my return. These details must be written by others more familiar with them. So far as I can gather, the organization of the later companies was not attended by the dramatic scenes which attended the volunteering of the first company. The people generally settled down to a grim determination to fight the war out to a successful conclusion and the raising of men took on a more systematic and business character, with much less enthusiasm and excitement. A very short time elapsed after the first company left for the front, before the citizens began raising men for the second, and from that time forward the raising of men went steadily on till the end of the war.

MANITOWOC COUNTY

In patriotic service during the Civil war, Manitowoc county was equal to any part of the state of Wisconsin. It began raising men as soon as the war began and when it became necessary to cause an enrollment preparatory to a draft for men to serve in the army, it was found that the county had furnished seventy-three men more than its share and was entitled to and received a credit of that number upon its quota. Before the first draft was ordered on October 12, 1863, the county had sent to the war 1,099 volunteers. After that time it sent 391 more volunteers and 67 veterans reenlisted, 408 men were drafted, the greater part of whom immediately volunteered before they were ordered to report. The quotas assigned to Manitowoc county under the draft calls amounted to 1,514, which was practically filled before the war ended. The county sent to the front in all 2,467 men, a large number for a community which cast only 3,987 votes in the exciting presidential election of 1860. They were practically all volunteers; I do not believe, though I have not been able to obtain the exact figures, that more than 200 in all stood the draft and reported as drafted men. The majority either procured substitutes or volunteered before they were notified.

The men sent amounted to more

than three-fifths of the entire voting population. They were enough to make two full regiments of infantry, two squadrons of cavalry and a battery of artillery—a fair sized army of itself. At first the recruiting took the form of raising full companies and the county was represented in various state regiments as follows:

Company A, Fifth Regiment, captain, Temple Clark. Company B, Ninth Regiment, captain, Fred Becker. Company E, Fourteenth Regiment, captain, C.E. Waldo. Company F, Fifteenth Regiment, captain, Charles Gustaveson. Company K, Twenty-first Regiment, captain, Charles H. Walker. Company F, Twenty-sixth Regiment, captain, Henry Baetz. Company D, Twenty-seventh Regiment, captain, Joseph H. Rankin. Company K, Twenty-seventh Regiment, captain, Peter Mulholland. (This company had some Sheboygan county men.) Company G, Thirty-ninth Regiment, captain, A.J. Patchen. (Had some Sheboygan and Fond du Lac men.) Company B, Forty-fifth Regiment, captain, Jacob Leisen. Company D, Forty-eighth Regiment, captain, Adolph Wittmann.

The above were practically all Manitowoc companies, raised and officered here. As the war went on and men grew scarce, a practice arose of raising parts of companies and consolidating them with men raised in another county. In this way portions of the following companies were raised in this county and officered in part by Manitowoc men:

Company K, Nineteenth Regiment, captain, W.W. Bates. Company I, Twenty-seventh Regiment, captain, James C. Barnes. Company G, Thirty-second Regiment, Lieutenant, H.H. Markham. Company D, Forty-fifth Regiment, lieutenant, Charles Korten. Company G, Forty-fifth Regiment, lieutenant, Charles White. Company D, Fifty-second Regiment, captain, S.W. Smith.

It is rather a singular fact that of all the men who served in the war from our county not a single one enlisted in the regular army. Another singular fact is that so far as I have been able to learn, not a single Manitowoc man or company volunteered for service in the cavalry or artillery, and while a very few went into the navy, they went first into infantry regiments and were then transferred to the navy upon a call for sailors who were in the army

and wished to be transferred. The county was represented in the colored troops by one lone "darkey," named Robert Graham, who, I think, was a man who worked with Jim Gayton, our pioneer colored barber, but who he was, or whence he came, I do not know.

Manitowoc county supplied an unusually large quota of officers, including the following: One major general, Frederick Salomon; two brigade generals, B.J. Sweet and Charles Salomon; an adjutant general of the army, Temple Clark; one colonel, Henry F. Belitz; one lieutenant colonel, T. G. Olmstead; two majors, Henry Baetz and Charles H. Walker; three quartermasters, Henry C. Hamilton, B.J. Van Valkenburgh and S.W. Smith; five regimental surgeons, C.C. Barnes, H.E. Zielley, A.W. Preston, Jerome Saltzman, H.E. Balcom.

Dr. Franz Simon was also commissioned as surgeon of the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin but declined the appointment.

There were no less than twenty-two from the county who attained the rank of captain. In addition to those previously named were the following: Horace M. Walker, Wilson S. Goodwin, Charles Pizzalla, August F. Dumke, Cark H. Schmidt, Henry F. Belitz, Joseph Smith and Joseph La Count. There was, of course, a proportionate number of lieutenants, two of whom, Frederick Borcherdt and John M. Read, became regimental adjutants.

The companies as they went out were representatives of the diverse people then inhabiting the county. No nationality could claim to be more patriotic than another. The first company is a good representation of all. Classified according to nationality, it stood as follows when it went out: Native Americans, 42; Germans, 34; Irish, 8; Bohemians, 7; French, 4; English, 4; Norwegians, 3; Scotch, 2. Efforts were made later on to organize regiments according to nationality, and Manitowoc raised two German companies, one for the Ninth Wisconsin, and one for the Twenty-sixth; and a Norwegian company for the Fifteenth. In many localities the lines of nationality were not very closely adhered to, and it is with a sense of amusement one reads the roll of a so-called German company, to find it liberally sprinkled with such Teutonic names as Michael McGrath, William

O'Brien and Larry Donohue, or a Scandinavian contingent interspersed with John Fullerton, William Murray, Caspar Schmidt, and Johann Oppenheim. It is fair to say that the German companies and the Scandinavian company from Manitowoc were almost exclusively composed of the nationality they claimed to represent. The German company of the Twenty-eighth had quite a number of Bohemians, but judging from names, no Americans.

As a rule, the companies from Manitowoc found themselves in fighting regiments, and had but little holiday service. The first six companies suffered the following losses:

Company A, Fifth Wisconsin.....killed 20 wounded 42

Company B, Ninth Wisconsin.....killed 4 wounded 5

Company E, Fourteenth Wisconsin.....killed 9 wounded 21

Company F, Fifteenth Wisconsin.....killed 7 wounded 19

Company K, Twenty-first Wisconsin....killed 13 wounded 14

Company F, Twenty-sixth Wisconsin....killed 19 wounded 29

Total. . . Killed 72 Wounded 130

This makes a total of 202 killed and wounded, or more than a third of the whole number. While the company in the Ninth Regiment shows a very small casualty list, it saw some very hard service. It was stationed on the southwestern frontier, where long marches were the rule. The country was thinly settled and rations scant. The records of losses in the other five companies speak for themselves. It is not my purpose to tell the story of the military services of these companies; it is all published and those who desire may read it at leisure. I wish rather to narrate some things which are now mere memories and traditions, but which are illustrative of the period and necessary to a full understanding of its history.

KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN CIRCLE

Having now told of the patriotism and self-sacrifice displayed by the large majority of the people of the county during the war, I pass to some features of the conditions then existing, of which little is said and therefore little known. The actors, who happily comprised but a very small minority of the whole were not only

desirous of having it forgotten, but so far as possible, forgetting it themselves. But the story of the war period would not be complete without some mention of what Balzac calls "the *seamy side of history*." For two or three generations after the Revolutionary period, men and families could be found who would admit that they or their ancestors had been Tories. For the men who served in the rebel army, while we believe they were wrong, we have the respect that belongs always to brave men who hazard their lives for their convictions. But there was a disloyal element in the north who plotted the destruction of the property and lives of their neighbors at home, as well as those who were fighting at the front. To this element was given the name of the most repulsive and poisonous reptile known—"the Copperhead." I doubt if you can today find anyone willing to boast that he or any of his ancestors had been a "Copperhead."

During the war there existed a secret, oath-bound organization of the most disloyal and treasonable character. In the course of its existence it had various names, the original being the "Knights of the Golden Circle." It was later known as the "Order of American Knights," with the initials O.A.K.; also as "Knights of the Star and Sons of Liberty." In some parts of the north in order to disarm suspicion, they called themselves "McClellan Minute Men." Whatever the name, they were all parts of the same organization, with the same secret passwords, grips and signs of recognition. The leaders in the

north were in constant communication with the south, aiding and abetting it whenever they considered it safe. It is not my intention to say much about them. Any one who is curious in the matter can find an exposé of the whole organization in Vol 7, Series 2, of the *Rebellion Records* in the public library.

Their operations consisted of procuring and forwarding to the south information of projected military movements, organizing resistance to the draft, discouraging enlistments, burning and destroying property in northern cities, liberating rebel prisoners, promoting rebellion in the north, in short, endeavoring in every way to embarrass and injure the federal government. Among their acts were the attempts, partially successful, to burn the city of New York, to liberate the rebel prisoners at Camp Douglas, Chicago, and seize or destroy that city, to free the prisoners



GOV. EDWARD SALOMON

Fled Prussia in 1849, settling in Manitowoc. Served as Manitowoc county surveyor and deputy clerk of the circuit court. Moved to Milwaukee in 1853 to study law. Admitted to the Wisconsin Bar in 1855. Elected lieutenant governor on the Republican ticket in 1862. Became governor at the age of 33 upon the death of Gov. Harvey in 1862, a position he held until 1864. After the Civil War he moved to New York City where he practiced law and was active in politics. Moved to Germany in 1894 where he died in 1909 at the age of 81. Three other Salomon brothers served in the Civil War: Brigadier General Charles, Major General Frederick and Private Herman Salomon. A granite marker erected in 1927 on the lawn at Manitowoc County Courthouse commemorates the services of the Salomon brothers.

PHOTO TAKEN FROM A HISTORY OF MANITOWOC COUNTY
BY RALPH PLUMB

at Johnson Island, Lake Erie, and seize the United States war steamer, Michigan, thus obtaining control of the Great Lakes, and the successful burning of steamers loaded with government supplies. One of their most diabolical projects was the shipping into eastern cities of boxes of clothing infected with smallpox, typhus, cholera and other diseases, in hope of producing a general epidemic. All this is known in history in a general way. But it is not generally known that right here in the village of Manitowoc, in a county which sent nearly 2,500 men to the army, there was in existence a temple of these Knights of the Golden Circle.

Their meetings were held in the back room of stores, in garrets where no light could shine through, and their places for assembling were frequently changed, so that it was difficult to locate them. Some meetings I know were held in the rooms now occupied by the G. A. R. and other societies, in the Frazier building. But the organization was so closely watched that it was at all times difficult for them to get together and the feeling of animosity against them on the part of the loyal element was such that the Golden Circlers were thoroughly cowed. They were mostly men of middle age or over, old "hunker" democrats of the pro-slavery type, who believed slavery to be a divine institution which ought not to be disturbed, or so hide bound with political prejudice, that they considered any opposition or antagonism to their party a crime of much higher and greater heinousness than that of treason to the nation. The younger elements of the democrats, loyal to the core, were nearly all at the front fighting gallantly for the preservation of the Union. The men who belonged to this disloyal band were quite well known. It was a time when a man who was not for the Union, and strongly for it, was at once put down as *against* it. I knew some of the men who were reputed to belong to that disloyal organization, and I believe that in later years most of them sincerely regretted ever having taken part in it, or countenancing in any way its disloyal purposes. Some of them entered it without any real knowledge of its aims. They were opposed to the war, and supposed that the main object of the organization was to bring about peace. It would answer no good pur-

pose to mention the names of any of these men. The children and grandchildren of some of them are still among us. Nearly, if not all of them, have gone to another world, where their conduct in life will be weighed by other standards than ours. I do not believe any of them ever boasted of their membership in the Knights of the Golden Circle to their children.

These "copperheads," as they were called, never knew how closely they were watched. I had an opportunity to know something about these matters, because when I returned home after three years and four months of service at the fighting line, I was until the end of the war in the secret service of the provost marshal's department, with headquarters in Green Bay, and it was a part of my business to keep a quiet, but sharp outlook upon all such suspected movements. Traitors themselves, they had traitors among them. They hardly held a meeting but some one was there who reported who they were, what was said, and what movements were afoot in the organization.

At one of their secret meetings a rebel agent or spy was present. It was just previous to the projected uprising of the order in the north, whereby the rebel prisoners at Camp Douglas were to be freed. I was much interested a few years ago in reading the report of this spy, which was found among the archives of the Confederate government, after it had collapsed. It was printed in a government document which I have not been able to locate. He reported that he had traveled among the Temples along the lake shore, calling at Sheboygan and Manitowoc, in order to warn them to be ready for the contemplated rising. The report was not very encouraging to the Confederate authorities, nor complimentary to the courage of the local knights. It was to the effect that while their sentiments were all right and they favored and sympathized with the south and were willing to see a southern Confederacy established, they were not willing to take any risks in an effort to accomplish anything in its behalf, and especially would not take part in any rising to aid it, as they had a wholesome fear of the authorities and the loyal people of the community.

In plain English, that though they were thoroughly disloyal and rebel at

heart, they were too cowardly to fight for the cause. The finding of this document was the first intimation I had that the local "copperheads" had gone so far as to have direct communication with the enemy. Had it been discovered at the time some of them would have had a good chance of serving time in a penitentiary. By reason of the work in which the order was engaged among other things, that of conveying information of projected military movements, they were considered no better than spies and everywhere strictly watched. In some places many were arrested, tried by court martial, sentenced to imprisonment, and in a few cases, to death. I do not think any were actually hung. President Lincoln exercised his well known clemency on their behalf and their sentences were commuted to imprisonment.

PILOT INCIDENT

About the middle period of the war an episode occurred which created a genuine sensation and for a time appeared likely to create considerable disturbance in our little village. The



JEREMIAH CROWLEY

Founder and editor of the Manitowoc Pilot weekly newspaper, 1859-69. Crowley was a veteran Irish newspaper man who came to Manitowoc from Neenah. The Pilot was from the beginning strongly Democratic. During the Civil War Crowley served as Manitowoc county clerk of court, 1861-63, and as county superintendent of schools, 1864-69. He died in 1870.

PHOTO TAKEN FROM HISTORY OF
MANITOWOC COUNTY, WISCONSIN BY
LOUIS FALGE

Manitowoc Pilot, a newspaper still in existence, had been founded by Jeremiah Crowley sometime in the late 50's, taking the place of the Manitowoc Herald, which had been established by Charles W. Fitch several years previous. Jere Crowley was an ardent democrat and his paper was the organ of the party in Manitowoc county. He was a forcible writer and had a way of saying things which made them sting and rattle in the minds of those affected by them. He had published some things which gave great offense to those who had friends and relatives in the army. I will give some idea of the feeling he created in the minds of some people to tell of what the wife of a prominent democratic politician said of the paper, in speaking of it only a few years ago. The lady in question had a brother in the army and felt so outraged by some of the things he had published, that she stated that it was her habit during the war when the paper was delivered, to pick it up with the tongs and carry it to the kitchen stove and deposit it therein without reading.

One morning when the printers went to the Pilot office to resume their work, they found the place had been broken into during the night, the cases smashed, the forms nearly ready to go to press missing, parts of the press gone and others broken. Type was scattered over the floor in the utmost confusion and most of the equipment missing. Trails of type along the sidewalks and streets leading to the river indicated very clearly where it had gone. The following summer some boys were swimming in the river, and diving to reach bottom, one of them brought up a handful of dirt to prove that he had reached it. It proved to be a lot of type, and for a number of summers it was one of the feats of the divers to go down and bring up some of the Pilot type which had been dumped into the river that night. Of course the law abiding citizens of the village would not stand for anything of that sort and the act was generally repudiated by the people. On investigation it appeared that the deed was the work of a lot of half grown irresponsible boys whose fathers and brothers were in the army and who took this method of manifesting their disapproval of the sentiments expressed in the paper.

The republican papers condemned

the act in severe terms and placed their material and office force at the disposal of the Pilot, and the paper came out as usual. While some openly rejoiced, citizens generally, without regard to party, condemned the act and a liberal subscription was raised to replace the property destroyed. No action was taken in the courts about it but I think the occurrence opened the eyes of Mr. Crowley to the depth of feeling on the subject of the war, and from that time on the Pilot was much more conservative and less violent in its criticisms of the government.

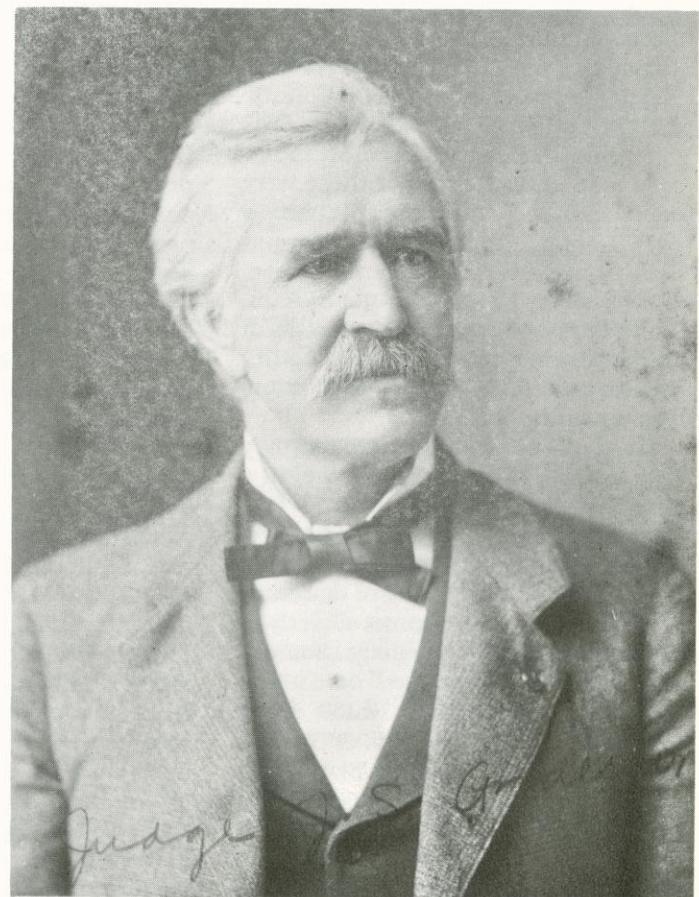
Mr. Crowley was suspected by many, in my mature opinion unjustly and without cause, with being connected with the disloyal order of the Knights of the Golden Circle, and a member of the Temple of that order in the village. It was my duty as an officer of the government for over eight months to keep close watch for that sort of thing and I never saw any indication that he had any such affiliation. Besides, he was a devoted Roman Catholic, opposed to secret societies on principle and I think it very unlikely that he would have joined any such order.

After the war I became quite intimate with him. I taught school under him when he was county superintendent. I was bitterly opposed to him in politics and we sometimes clashed in a way that left sore spots on both sides for a time. I believe that at bottom, Jere Crowley, though an ardent and un-

compromising partisan in politics, was at heart loyal to the constitution and laws of the country and in no sense favored disunion.

THE UNION LEAGUE

But there was another association of a directly opposite type. Quite early in the war the great secret organization known as the Union League was formed, originating, I believe, in New York. It was the deadly opponent of all such societies as the Knights of the Golden Circle. It spread all over the north and was especially strong in the border states. It even penetrated into the south, especially the mountain districts of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia and North Carolina, and fur-



JUDGE JAMES S. ANDERSON

After the Civil War Anderson studied law at Lawrence University at Appleton and was admitted to the Manitowoc County Bar in 1871. Served as County Court Judge 1895-1901. In 1906, Anderson and other prominent citizens organized the Manitowoc County Historical Society. Authored *Pioneer Courts and Lawyers of Manitowoc County, Wis.*, published in 1921 by the Manitowoc County Bar. Anderson was the sole survivor at the time he wrote *The Flag of Company A, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry*, published in 1925 by the Manitowoc County Historical Society. Died in 1927. Buried in Manitowoc's Evergreen Cemetery.

PHOTO COURTESY MANITOWOC PUBLIC LIBRARY

nished a means whereby Union men in the south were able to recognize and assist each other.

A lodge was instituted in this city, I think by Henry Sibree, who brought the authority on from New York on his return from a visit to that city during the war. The members made it their business to keep strict watch on the incomings and outgoings of the "copper" element. None but those whose loyalty was of the most approved and undoubted type were admitted as members. They, too, have all passed away, but the reasons for suppressing names which exist in the case of the Knights of the Golden Circle does not apply to the members of the Union League. I had knowledge of some of them. I recall now J. D. Markham, his brother, Byron Markham, John F. Guyles, who for a time acted as deputy provost marshal of the county, Fred Borcherdt, T.C. Shove, Lewis Sherman and Henry Sibree. My father was also a member. That these were members I am reasonably certain. In fact, I obtained most of the information I have given from Henry Sibree, who was my uncle, J. D. Markham, John F. Guyles, Frederick Borcherdt and my father. I might mention other names but after the lapse of so many years I cannot be sure.

To the best of my recollection they claimed to have had between a hundred and a hundred and fifty members right here in the village. Every member had a firearm of some sort and kept a quantity of ammunition in the house. They met secretly in different places in the village. Some of their meetings in summer were in the old Jones warehouse, which stood about where the hay barn of Samuel Hall now stands. They were drilled in the primary military tactics; my father, who had served in the British army, acted at times as drill master. I think the only time they ever turned out under arms was during the celebrated Indian scare in 1862.

About the time of the Camp Douglas episode, warned from Union League headquarters, every man had his gun and ammunition in readiness, and they were to meet upon a certain agreed signal to be given upon the fire bell at the foot of Seventh street, armed and equipped. Now that all these things have long since passed away, we may smile and the grim earnestness of these old men, but the Union League was no small

factor in the suppression of the great rebellion. It kept close watch upon all who were suspected of disloyal practices, encouraged enlistments, aided the families of soldiers, furnished information concerning deserters and disloyal practices to the provost marshals, assisted enrolling officers in enforcing the draft, contributed to the raising of bounties and other moneys to promote volunteering. Sick and wounded soldiers on furlough were helped to reach their homes and collections of vegetables, bandages and lint were made and forwarded by the members to the sanitary and Christian commissions.

PROVOST MARSHAL'S WORK

In order to combat the secret work of the disloyal associations I have mentioned, congress authorized an extensive organization of the provost marshal-general's office and jurisdiction. In every state an assistant provost marshal-general was appointed, with authority to appoint a provost marshal in each congressional district, who appointed deputies in each county of the district. In Wisconsin, Colonel Charles S. Lovell of the regular army, was appointed assistant provost marshal-general, and Lieutenant Colonel William Chapman, also of the regular army, was appointed the provost marshal for the congressional district in which Manitowoc county then was, with headquarters at Green Bay.

The printed instructions to provost marshals comprised, among other things, the following: "To secure the arrest of all deserters within his district....To detect, seize and confine all spies of the enemy....To serve notices upon all persons drawn in the draft for military service." Having begun this subject of the seamy side of the history of the war, I desire to tell something of a feature of it, with which I had some personal experience. The high bounties paid to volunteers in some localities, gave rise to a class known as "bounty jumpers." These were men without patriotism or conscience, who would enlist to help fill the quota assigned to some city or town, obtain the bounty, then desert from the army and enlist in some other place under a different name, draw another bounty and again desert, repeating the process indefinitely. Then there were deserters from the army, men who had simply

become tired of the hardships and dangers of army life, and in slang phrase, "jumped their job," taking the chance of facing a firing party some morning after a speedy court martial and thus bidding the world farewell. These were dangerous men, for they were in a desperate situation. They lived in constant dread of being taken and shot for their crimes. A third class consisted of men who had been drafted for the war and sought to evade service by going to Canada or some place in the country where they were not known and living in a state of half concealment. Such men were not given extreme punishment, but were arrested, sent on to the army and a part or all of the expense of their capture and arrest deducted from their pay and allowances. These deserters of all classes would seek to make their way to Canada, where they would be safe, as extradition laws would not affect them. The crossings at the straits near Detroit and along the St. Clair river and Buffalo, were so closely watched that there was little chance to get over without being caught and they would drift along the lake shores looking for a chance to get to Canada by the small trading schooners of that time. In winter there was no navigation and so they would work into the forest wilderness of northern Wisconsin and Michigan. Many built camps in the forest and stayed until spring and some spent a great part of the war time in these hiding places.

I returned from the army in August, 1864. I bought a couple of teams and began hauling lumber from the saw-mills in the back country on contract. One day I was called over to the office of the late J. D. Markham. I met there Mr. Markham, John F. Guyles, provost marshal for the county, and a gentleman who proved to be a United States secret service man. I was pledged to secrecy, and then informed that a couple of deserters had been located at Weeks' Mill in the town of Meeme, that an expedition would leave the village next day to capture them, and I was asked to take part in it. I was to take one of my teams along with a light sleigh, and two men. Captain Guyles and the United States officer were to go ahead in a cutter. We started, according to arrangement, and in the evening we met at a small log tavern on the Green Bay road, kept by a Mr. Phillips, of the town of

Meeme, where we had supper, waited till about ten o'clock and then drove cautiously to the mill boarding house, where we captured one of our men, the other making his escape. This was the beginning of my connection with the provost marshal's department, and until the end of the war I took part in every expedition of that sort in Manitowoc county, and also some in Calumet and Brown counties, near the line. Our work was arduous, being mostly done in the night and Captain Guyles, though a very efficient officer, was too advanced in years to stand it. He succumbed to a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism, and resigned. Frederick Borcherdt, Sr., was appointed in his place. It was feared that Mr. Borcherdt would be too good natured and easy going to perform the duties of such an office well, but he soon demonstrated that he had any amount of energy when occasion required it. He was enthusiastically loyal and devoted to the Union cause. His son and two nephews were in the Union army and he had scant patience with anything that savored of "copperheadism." He was absolutely without fear, cool, persistent and tireless in following up any clue or performing any duty upon which he was sent. He kept a keen watch on matters in his department and never let up on anything or anybody he went after. He worked men and horses to the limit and I doubt if the government was better served anywhere. One day he was ordered to report at Green Bay for special instructions. I went through with him, taking along a couple of drafted men that he had notified to report.

There he was informed that a gang of five bounty jumpers and deserters from the army had been located in a swamp in the big windfall in the town of Cooperstown. Sometime about 1838-40, a terrific tornado swept across the northern end of the county, laying thousands of acres of forest flat. Huge trees were torn (sic) up by the roots and scattered over the ground. They lay piled up and interlocked from ten to twenty-five feet high. Young trees from three or four inches to a foot in diameter had grown up through them and close to the ground, hazel brush, blackberry bushes and undergrowth of all kinds made a tangle worse than a tropical jungle. Here these deserters had built a cabin, got some tools and were



Soldiers monument erected in 1900 through the efforts of Joseph Rankin, G.A.R. Post No. 219, at Central Park, Two Rivers. Judge James S. Anderson of Manitowoc delivered the dedication address. The granite statue originally was located in the center of Washington Street. Relocated directly east of its original site in the public square during street improvements in 1931.

MANITOWOC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS

making shingles out of timber stolen from government lands. They carried the bundles of shingles out on their shoulders, having cut a road in, part of the way. A settler's team would carry the shingles to Manitowoc or Two Rivers and bring back supplies, they being paid for in store pay. The settler was well paid for two things, first for his trouble and work, and second, for his silence. It was the matter of selling the product that led to their detection. The camp was located and reported to the provost marshal. Captain Borcherdt's orders were short and emphatic: "Get them and bring them in, dead or alive."

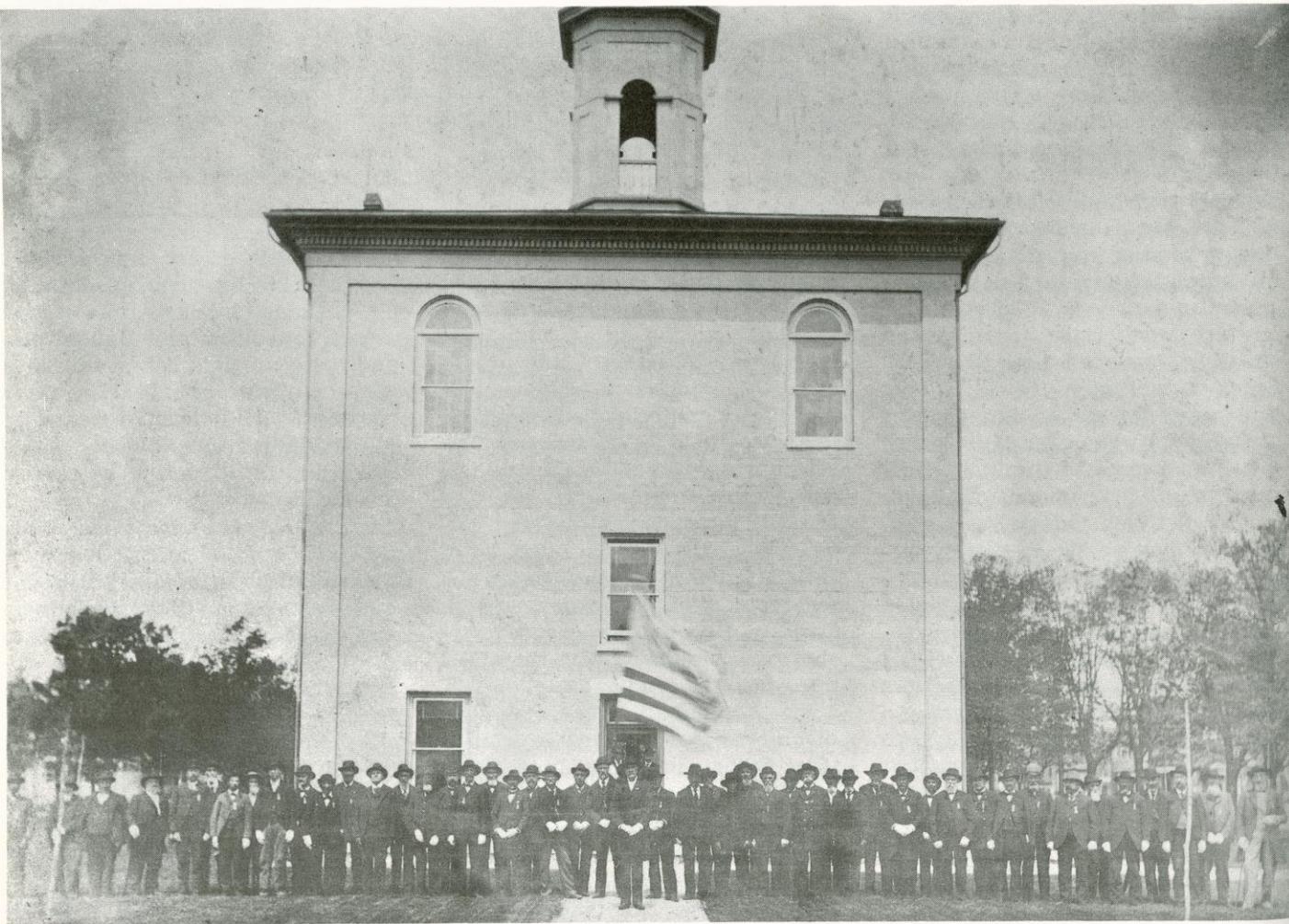
We stopped in Green Bay that night. Next morning I took a detail of three soldiers in my sleigh and Captain Borcherdt took in his cutter the detective who had located the camp and who was to act as our guide. We arrived at the hotel in Cooperstown, kept by the Widow King, about noon, and had dinner. After dinner we went back into the woods in the direction of the "big windfall." The plan was to drive as near to the locality as possible, divide into two parties, and approach the camp from two sides. We drove to the edge of the clearing, turned the teams out of the narrow road and tied the horses to trees, then proceeded on foot.

Our plans were knocked to "smithereens" by an unforeseen occurrence. As usual, we were all well armed, the soldiers with Enfield rifles and revolvers, the rest of us with a large cavalry revolver and a smaller pocket repeater to each. Near the edge of the windfall was a small clearing which we had to cross. As we entered it a man suddenly walked up on a ridge in front of us and not more than ten rods away. As he saw our party, he stopped and stared as though he had seen Banquo's ghost, then turned and ran like a deer. I had on Indian moccasins, and in those days was pretty good at the running game. I sized up the situation at once and was after him. I gained on him, shouting for him to halt, but he was likely to reach the bush before I could overhaul him. Suddenly there rang out behind me the crack of an Enfield rifle. One of the soldiers who was following behind had taken a shot at him. The bullet whistled past me and struck the snow close on one side of the man we were pursuing. He sprang in the air, half stopped and then ran on, shouting and yelling, evidently to warn some persons not far away. Several more shots were fired, and as I was by this time quite close to him and directly in the line of fire except as the path curved a little to one side

or another, my situation was none too safe. I had no knowledge of the marksmanship of the men who were firing. I kept calling to him to halt and finally he stopped suddenly, faced me and threw out both of his hands. I ran up to him, seized him by the arm and handed him to the first soldier who came up. Then I turned and with all the speed I could muster, ran along the path our man was taking. A small path branched off to one side on which the tracks in the snow were fresh. I rushed along on that and came to the place where the men we sought had been getting out shingle bolts. Everything showed they had just left suddenly and in the utmost confusion. Their axes, saws, mauls and wedges had been thrown aside

and left on the ground. A short look around disclosed a well beaten path, which I followed on the run and in a moment came in sight of the shanty. The soldiers were following me as rapidly as they could but I was the lightest on foot and outstripped them. With a revolver in my hand, I burst open the door, but no one was there. Their clothing was hanging on pegs, their blankets in the bunks, and two rifles were standing in the corners. Warned by the shots and the shouting, the birds had fled, leaving the nest and its contents behind. We left the secret service man and two of the soldiers behind in the shanty, thinking they might return to get clothing or money before clearing out. With the man we had captured, Captain Bor-

cherdt, one of the soldiers and myself drove at once to Green Bay. In the melee the man we had taken, got clipped in the leg with a pistol bullet. Captain Borcherdt dressed the wound temporarily, tearing up a handkerchief or two contributed for that purpose. We got to Green Bay about midnight and reported at once, turning over our man, who was at once placed behind bars under a heavy guard. Two of the men we had started after were arrested next forenoon near Depere, trying to get away. Two made their escape. None of them returned to the cabin and the men we left there returned to Green Bay within a couple of days. A similar nest was established in the big swamp in Maple Grove and we raided it one



Members of the Horace M. Walker Post No. 18, Grand Army of the Republic, in front of the 3-story brick Italianate-style county courthouse built in 1857, at the southwest corner of Washington and South Eighth Streets in Manitowoc. James S. Anderson, middle, is standing on the sidewalk in front of the Civil War veteran holding a flag. Photo taken sometime between 1881 and 1895 during Anderson's first term as post commander. The G.A.R. was

organized in 1868 by those who fought for the Union Army during the Civil War. The group founded soldiers' homes, did relief work and promoted pension laws. Local G.A.R. posts were organized—the Horace M. Walker Post No. 18 of Manitowoc in 1881; the Gen. Lytle Post No. 190 of Kiel in 1884; and the Joseph Rankin Post No. 219 of Two Rivers in 1886. The official dress was a dark blue uniform with brass buttons.

dark night only to find the birds had flown. We were guided in by a resident of the town or we never could have found our way.

The above is a sample of the work the deputy provost marshals were called upon to do. The work was arduous and had many disagreeable features. It was not without a spice of danger and several times our arms were called into requisition, either to intimidate and show our readiness to defend ourselves in case of resistance, or for actual use in enforcing orders. No one was killed, and the list of wounded was limited to the Cooperstown man I have told of. Two enrolling officers were killed and some were assaulted and badly injured in the performance of their duty, in other parts of the state. Some of the best men in the state accepted the office solely from a sense of duty, in order to assist the government. I know that with Captain Guyles the question of compensation cut no figure. He accepted the office solely because he was selected and urged by his fellow citizens to do so as a matter of duty.

The compensation for the office was the pay and allowances of a captain of cavalry, which enabled each deputy to keep two horses. We always called them captain, though in fact they had no army rank.

It was a characteristic of the time that men watched each other closely and in every town in the county there were loyal men who kept watch over their neighbors who had the least taint of "copperheadism." They promptly reported to the provost marshal any suspicious stranger who came into their neighborhood and any suspicious actions on the part of those not in sympathy with the war. Some of them had acted as enrolling officers for the draft and thereby incurred the enmity of their neighbors. Others did what they thought their sense of duty to their country demanded. In one way and another the provost marshal knew what was going on in the county as no one ever knew before or since. I recall now some of the men with whom I came in contact in some of our expeditions. There was "Uncle" John Robinson, of Kossuth, effusively loyal and absolutely fearless. Christ Hagenow, of Reedsville, was enrolling officer for that section and was a guide on one of our night expeditions; Mr. Phillips, of Meeme, I do not now recall his first

name, and Jason Pellet, of Gibson, at whose house we frequently stopped on our way to and from Green Bay. These men and many others kept us fully supplied with information of value. Most of them were war democrats and we rather preferred them, as they could obtain information more easily than a so-called black republican. It was a puzzle to some of the deserters who were nabbed within twenty-four hours after reaching home to know how the provost marshal got after them so quick. They did not see, perhaps, their nearest neighbors, start a sharp boy on the run with a letter to a man two or three miles off, who drove to the village that night and was back before morning.

There are many things of which I would like to write, but this paper is already too long. I would like to tell of the rejoicing at the collapse of the rebellion; how the news of the taking of Richmond was received and the jubilation over the surrender of Lee at Appomattox; the sorrow and consternation which followed the news of the murder of President Lincoln.

Especially would I like to tell of the heroic sacrifice and noble work of the women; how they sent their fathers, husbands and brothers to the field with encouraging words; how they met and worked, scraping lint and cutting up their linen into bandages for the wounded; how they made pickles and gathered contributions of vegetables for the hospitals and the sanitary commission.

The war fell with cruel hardship on some of the women in the little clearings in the woods, where the bread winner felt it his duty to volunteer, or was taken by the draft, leaving the mother with a flock of little ones, and scant provision for their wants.

From my personal knowledge, I could speak only of conditions at the beginning and end of the war. I have tried to bear in mind that this paper was a contribution to history and to write mostly of matters of which no record now exists, or such record buried in the huge mass of documents in the vaults at Washington.

I have been deeply impressed while writing with the sadness of the thought that all this splendid manifestation of patriotism, heroic deed and self sacrifice, already is but a memory. Of all those whose names have been mentioned in this paper, only two survive—Captain W. W.

Bates, at Denver, Colorado, and Captain Joseph Smith, in Calumet country. It is said "history repeats itself." Let us hope and pray that centuries may pass before such history is repeated in this land, now happily reunited.

HORACE M. WALKER

POST NO. 18,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

The above organization of old veterans of the Civil war came into being April 28, 1881. The charter members were: J. S. Anderson, W. J. Beasant, F. C. Buerstatte, H. C. Buhse, J. H. Buhse, C. W. Butler, Ela Cone, John Cone, Jeremiah Cox, James Cumberlidge, Charles Gustaveson, Frederick Heinemann, Paul Leubner, H. F. Liebenow, John Mill, Henry Noble, James Noble, Ferdinand Ostenfeldt, J. F. Reardon, Henry Sanford, G. G. Sedgwick, Frank Stirn.

The post in course of time reached a high state of prosperity and at one time had as many as 125 comrades on its rolls, but the ranks have been thinning out steadily from year to year and it will not be long before the post will have difficulty in mustering enough members to complete a corporal's guard. Those who have died since the organization are as follows: George Barker, February 6, 1897; Fred Becker, February 28, 1900; E. S. Bedell, August 23, 1897; John Bibinger, March 5, 1896; Charles Boettcher, February 28, 1890; Frederick Bruemer, January 26, 1897; Milo Burtt, April 22, 1895; Solomon Close, 1886; Jeremiah Cox, November 20, 1895; James Cross, January 26, 1897; George Edwards, January 24, 1901; Knud Erickson, February 14, 1891; August Gehbe, March 18, 1888; Frank Grun, January 17, 1895; Charles Gustaveson, April 5, 1894; W. H. Hemschemeyer, November 18, 1894; W. H. Hogan, June 1900; Adolphus Hudson, June 27, 1895; Ephraim Johnson, September 23, 1884; Patrick Kealy, November 9, 1895; John Killen, January 21, 1894; Michael Kleman, January 27, 1894; Esrom Knapp, May 5, 1890; William Lembke, September 23, 1900; Paul Leubner, December 27, 1892; Peter Markas, June 16, 1886; L. T. Mohrhausen, March 2, 1891; John Morgan, April 5, 1895; Peter Morrison, November 28, 1894; Peter Mul-

holland, February 25, 1894; W. H. Noble, October 21, 1894; Ole C. Olson, January 15, 1892; John Ording, May 2, 1892; Conrad Ostermann, February 1, 1900; A. J. Patchen, November 11, 1897; Peter J. Pitsch, May 27, 1895; Eduard Schindler, August 29, 1889; Jacob Thielen, November 9, 1897; Francis P. Williams, August 5, 1893; Joseph Wokalek, May 5, 1887; Mathias Wirth, January 22, 1901; Adolph Wittman, February 23, 1897.

PAST COMMANDERS OF THE POST

A list of the veterans who have been chief executive officers in command of Horace M. Walker post is here appended: J. S. Anderson, 1881-99; Ela Cone, 1883; C. E. Estabrook, 1884; James Cumberlidge, 1885; H. C. Buhse, 1886; E. R. Smith, 1887; E. S.

Bedell, 1888; Frank Stirn, 1889; Richard Maguire, 1890; Ferdinand Ostenfeldt, 1891; J. F. Reardon, 1892; Henry Schmidt, 1893; G. G. Sedgwick, 1894; H. Hentscher, 1895; C. E. Spindler, 1896; J. D. Schuette, 1900-03; H. Schmidt, 1904-05; J. S. Anderson, 1906-08; F. C. Buerstatte, 1908-12; James H. Cole, 1912—.

The post meets at Frazier's Hall and the present commander is James H. Cole.

JOSEPH RANKIN POST, NO. 219, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

This organization of the Grand Army, composed of veterans of the Civil war, received its charter June 26, 1886, with the following names of members attached thereto: Henry Wieman, Francis St. Peter, William Hurst, John Miller, Phillip Newman, W. T. Nash, Louis Hartung, Frank

LaFord, Henry Beck, Frederick Sonntag, Otto Kahlenberg, John Neumann, Otto Gauthier, Henry Thiele, August Ahrend, Henry Allen, Chris Miller, Anton Dietz, Charles Reimers, Peter Lafleuer, Jacob Mohr, William Rediger, Michael Laford.

At one time the post was quite strong in membership and through its efforts the splendid monument that stands on Washington street facing the park, was secured and erected. Death has played havoc with the rank and file of Joseph Rankin Post, until today it can only call from its rolls a total of fifteen members. However, the post has pleasant quarters on the second floor of the Schroeder building, where the remnant of the "old guard" meets once a month. The post commander is William Wegner; adjutant, Fred Schwartz; quartermaster, William Voigt.

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