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STORY OF COLUMBUS

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PP 601-821

Fred A. Stare

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COLUMBUS, WIS.

The day before we were to make our break, word came that we were all to leave except those Union prisoners from Tennessee. On the next morning cars came for all except those Tennesseeans, and some of those poor fellows who had been prisoners from the beginning of the war and who were put in prison because they wouldn't join the rebel army. October 24th we left Madison, Georgia, and on the 25th got to Augusta. We were marched around the city and then aboard the cars. When we got into Columbus, S.C. we were marched into their jail yard and kept all night. The next morning, October 27th we left Columbus for Charlotte, N.C. The prisoners had to help shove their train for seven miles, to get into Charlotte. The engine got out of order, so we had to help it along for seven miles. We left Charlotte on the 28th for Richmond, by the way of Petersburg. Arrived at Libby prison October 30th. It was here, for the first time during prison life, that I received white bread. We got better rations in this prison than in any other prison I was in. Remaining here for a short time, we left here for only a short time, we left for Akin Landing, November 15th. We were here paroled and turned over to our government.

Comrades, I wish you to go back with my twenty-seven years ago and look upon the scene that took place at Akin Landing, four miles below Richmond, on the James river. That time will ever be fresh in my mind. There were sixteen hundred souls which had been deprived for nine months of everything that was necessary to the existence of humankind. It was here that they had no use for blood hounds. As we approached the landing, there stood a South Carolina regiment in open rank with the stars and stripes floating in the breeze. When we came to the dividing line, there waved the two flags, Federal and Confederate, close together. Side by side stood a Tennessee and a South Carolina soldier with the flags. The Tennessee regiment all wore their new uniforms and white gloves, while our army was proud to stand there almost destitute. Such a feeling as came over me, when I found that I was under that good old flag —I never shall forget it. I kissed the flag and shed tears, and it was with much difficulty that I went aboard the boat, my limbs almost refusing to walk. As we came to the boat, oh my, what a welcome sight! Loug tables all over the deck and down in the cabin, were loaded down with more food than we had seen for nine months. Here we left our rebel guards and at nine o'clock we left Akin Landing for Annapolis, Maryland. From here we took the cars for Washington, and arrived there November 18th. Here Gen. Prentiss ordered us to fall in and in four ranks; he marched us to the White House.

Try to imagine the sight of that army as it appeared before the President of the United States. There were some with their shirts nearly gone, pants gone to their knees, pants tied on with strings, hair all knotted together with pitch pine tar and without any hats. But regardless of all this, you never saw men that felt as well as this crowd did, excepting a few who were sick. Gen. Prentiss took the President by the hand and such a greeting you never saw. Secretary Chase was on the right and as we passed between the Secretary and Prfesident, Gen. Prentiss gave each name and we shook hands. All of this time tears were flowing down their faces. When I came up, the General asked me to show my shackles and iron poker and he then gave a short description of what had taken place.

The President asked us if we wished to get any clothing, and we told him that we had no money. He then said that made no difference, but that we could get what we wanted. He would make such arrangements with the clothing stores on the avenue. We were all asked to meet the President at the capitol that evening. After we had assembled, Gen. Prentiss gave a short account of the most important incidents that took place while we were in prison. I think there were more than five thousand persons present. Lieut. Randolph and myself were called upon to show our shackles and I also showed some of the bonework which I had made.

When we separated at the White House our desires for new clothing led us to the bath house, barber shop, and to the clothing stores. The hotels were opened, free from charge, to all the prisoners, and when we had completed our change we hardly knew each other. We all drew our pay and on the next day started for our homes, which lay scattered in all parts of the United States. I arrived home November 24, 1862, At Madison, Wis., the adjutant general told us to hold ourselves in readiness to report at any time, and that he would give us notice when we were to do further duty.

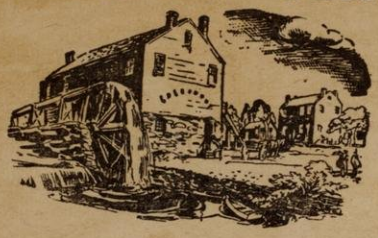
Comrades, thus ended my first memories and brought me back to my home and friends, where there were no more bayonets placed over my heart. On the twenty second of December, 1862, I received notice from the adjutant general, saying that he had received notice for us to report and to report to him at Madison at once. On the 23rd I went to Madison and on the 25th started for Memphis, Tenn. by way of Chicago and Cairo. I arrived at Memphis on the 8th of January, 1863. Capt. Fisk of the Eighteenth, was with me. We reported to the general in command, but I cannot recall his name. We were ordered to duty there in Memphis, in the quartermaster's department, out one and one-half miles, in camp. We learned there that the Eighteenth regiment was at Moscow, only thirty-nine miles away, and we also learned that there was a train leaving Memphis that evening at 8 o'clock. We made up our minds that we would go on that train. Guards were stationed around this camp and no one was allowed to leave camp at night. We looked the ground over before night and made up our minds we could get out all right, as there were only a very few guards. Near train time we made our way down to the bank of the river and then went along under the bank until we got to the fence where there were no guards in sight. We waded around the fence and were soon on the train for Moscow. We got there at 10 o'clock p.m. There we had a joyful meeting with some of those who left us at Macon prison, and others whom we had not seen since the battle of Shiloh.

Our regiment left Moscow for Memphis January 12th and arrived there January 13th.

January 18th we went on board the "Maria Denning." Leaving Memphis on January 20th, one o'clock p.m., we sailed down the river with Gen. Grant's Sixth division, commanded by Gen. McArthur, and arrived at Vicksburg on the 23rd. We went into camp here and did very hard, tiresome duty, building corduroy bridges and working in the water for some two weeks trying to open a pass to run boats to the rear of Vicksburg.

On the 8th of February we went on board the "Louisiana" and sailed up the river to Lake Providence. We then marched four miles south. On this march we took no rations, but were to live upon the products of the country. On the 10th I was ordered to take thirty men and go out foraging. This was a very rich country and the planters here owned a large number of slaves. We got our seven miles on the Vicksburg road and came to a large plantation, owned by a man by the name of Mason. He claimed to be a good Union man. He said the rebel army had taken everything away from him. We saw, way back in his field, nearly a mile away, a lot of houses which looked very much like a village. I asked him what place that was, he said it was negro quarand he said it was his negro quarters. We then told him what we were after. We had six mule teams following behind. I told him that our army had to have something to eat. He then said that the Confederates had taken everything they had. At this time Mrs. Mason came out and said that she had nine children and they had been robbed and that she was afraid they would starve. I then started for his negro quarters and when we got within forty rods I saw quite a number of rebels coming out from the stable with horses. Just as they had mounted and had started to leave, they fired at us. But in less than ten seconds they got thirty balls after them. They were none of them. One major was killed and two more wounded. We took them back to camp.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A STARE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13 — INSTALLMENT NO. 410

May 17th we marched from Black River bridge to the rear of Vicksburg and arrived there on the evening of the 18th. On the 19th we charged on their works and were obliged to fall back. On the 21st everything was in readiness for a final charge and on the 22nd every man had 200 rounds issued, and at ten o'clock the whole line for thirteen miles moved on those forts.

Their forts belched forth with all vengeance and our cannons likewise responded. In front of the city our gunboats and mortar boats sent their deadly missiles into the besieged city. Then after a pause, was heard the still, small voice from some 40,000 muskets, handled by men who were never found wanting. On we pushed, to where the heavy timbers had fallen, so that it made it almost impossible for a man to crawl through. Then when we were near the center of this slush the rebels opened up with grape and cannister. Oh, what a fearful place! We here received orders to forward by companies, and to go as near the forts as possible. Then to silence those guns the company commanders took their men and went forward. My men went within thirty rods of the rebel forts. I believe the whole division did the same. In a very few minutes we stopped the firing on all forts. This was about three o'clock in the afternoon. After the firing ceased, each one of my men dug down into the sand and got quite a good protection. That night the rebels came down to our lines. The boys agreed not to harm them. We had quite a visit and some of them never went back. We remained there until the next night and then went back to camp. On the 24th we were ordered to fall in, and started for Mechanicsville. Forty miles on the Jackson road the cavalry reported that the rebels were concentrating an army there, but when our division got there we found just a small force—only four small cannon. We captured what there were and started for Haines Bluff, down the Yazoo valley, a very rich country, with immense quantities of cotton. We burned it all and drove all the horses, cattle and sheep back to Vicksburg. We then had plenty to eat.

Everything moved on in this way until July 3rd. We then had orders to issue two hundred rounds to a man for a final charge on Vicksburg.

About five o'clock in the afternoon the white flags were raised all along the forts. This meant a complete surrender of Vicksburg, with Pemberton and some forty thousand prisoners. One day I was examining parole papers, on the Jackson road—I was in a cut in the road—when all at once I heard someone say, "My God, there is Capt. Ford." I knew the voice; it was Calhoun, the rebel general at the Madison prison.

Nine of those guards came up, and Calhoun said: "Well, Captain, you told me the boot would be on the other foot before this war was over; I find it is true. Now, can you make your promise true? "I told them to be seated here on the bank with me and I would be relieved in a few minutes. I took the nine guards down to my tent and our cook got them up the best that the house could afford. They said that they had not had a cup of coffee for four months, and that they were nearly starved to death. I told them that I knew just how they felt, for I felt that same way when I was in Madison. They stayed all night and on the next day they went upon their way, feeling much relieved.

I visited the City of Vicksburg. It was on a very high hill, with streets cut through the hills, some twenty feet below the surface. On the sides of these streets there were rooms cut into the banks — hundreds of them — where the people had lived all through the siege.

I might say here that I do not wish you to think the Eighteenth regiment did all of the fighting. All regiments which were faithfull to duty and obeyed orders, are deserving of the highest praise. Many of them suffered severely and perhaps endured more hardships than ours, if such a thing could be possible. For instance, the Twenty-third regiment, which I met near Vicksburg January 24, 1963, had been up the Yazoo valley in one of the most unhealthy places I ever saw. One half the regiment sick and the other half worn out, made them very discouraged. Among those were two comrades whom many of you know—Hugh Hall and Dill James—whose bravery and steadfast courage during the hardships of this regiment has made them more than worthy of mention.

Everything went on in about the same way until October. My company then numbered only twenty-two men. I was taken very sick with the plague, and then resigned and came home. In a short time I became reduced from 193 pounds to 137.

After I recovered my health I could not stay at home. I went to Madison to see Gov. Lewis. He informed me that there was a chance to recruit men for the artillery service. Soon after we received a recruiting commission—Capt. Coleman, Lieut. Southmayd and myself —and in a short time we had recruited 173 men, seventeen of them being from my own neighborhood. As we were allowed to take only 157, the balance was turned over to Battery "E." We were ordered to Camp Randall, Madison. There I was assigned to Company "M," First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, commanded by Col. C. C. Merservey. We were mustered in on the 6th day of September and soon after left for Alexandria, Virginia.

From there we marched to Fort Lyon, but remained only a short time before we were consigned to Fort Weed, near-by. This was very different from the infantry service. Our drill was very hard, as we had to drill both in light artillery and heavy artillery, which required eight hours a day.

Two or three times a week the boys, dressed in their uniforms, with glistening buttons and white gloves, came out upon parade in gallant array. They were just as fine a lot of men as ever left the state and did all they were asked to do with much promptness.

Everything moved along nicely until April 14th, when we received the report of Lincoln's assassination, which reached use ten minutes afterwards, and we were ordered into line for roll call. Detailed extra guards were sent out to the picket line and doubled our picket. The orders were not let anyone pass through with passes or password for three days and three nights.

About the time the army was gathering around Richmond we had orders to be in readiness to go there at the moment called upon. But the surrender of Richmond marked the close of the war and we were mustered out of Fort Lyon on the 26th of June.

That was a joyful day, as we bade each other good bye" and started on our homeward journey. When the band struck up the tunes of Home, Sweet Home" and "The Girl I Left Behind Me," it thrilled us with the thoughts of meeting once more those who were dearest to us and whom we had fought for.

I arrived home on the 3rd of July in company with my neighbor comrades, and on the 13th of July we went back to Milwaukee, where we were discharged and paved for our services. Thus ended my career in the War of the Great Rebellion.

Several years after the war had closed I visited the National Encampment at Lousiville, Ky. It was here that I met with another strange circumstance in the round of events. While taking a street car on the way to my boarding place I noticed in the seat opposite a familiar personage and recognized the face at once. Without hesitation I stepped to his side and held out my hand. I asked him if he did not know me, and he replied that he believed he did not. Then I asked him if he remembered capturing an escaped prisoner from the Macon prison. Rising from his seat he joyfully exclaimed, "My God, is this Capt. Ford?" This man was the one-armed rebel lieutenant who accompanied me back to prison. He was traveling here with his two daughters, and he immediately introduced me to them. They expressed their joy at meeting me here and insisted upon further acquaintance. I shall not forget the words of the lieutenant as he said: "Capt. Ford, we thought that we were fighting for the right, but the way ended just as it should."

Comrades, all I claim for myself is this: that I served my country when it most needed me, and I served it to the best of my ability. My father was a soldier in the War of 1812, and it was always my desire to follow his example, as a servant to my country.

It is now a pleasure to meet with the boys of the Harvey M. Brown Post, No. 146, and there to talk over the incidents of the war, and to continue our comradeship.

THE END

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As a follow up, for those who desire more details of the battle of Pittsburg Landing, on the Tennessee River, or as the Confederates preferred to call in Shilo, we suggest re-reading installment no. 324—September 26, 1957 "The Story of Columbus" where one will find a graphic account of the battle, a letter to his wife written by Capt. W. A. Coleman of Columbus who was Captain of Company I 18th Wisconsin Company Infantry of which Ira H. Ford was First Lieutenant.

Also from page 490 of "Wisconsin in the War of the Rebellion" by William D. Love, published in 1866 we quote as follows:

"The Wisconsin 18th Vol. Inf. regiment was put into the front of this battle just one week after leaving their camp in Milwaukee. Some of them had never seen more than four battalion drills, and some had never loaded a musket until forty hours before.

They had been promised drill and discipline in St. Louis, but moved under orders at once, to Savannah, and from there to Pittsburg Landing (which was not a town, but only a primitive landing dock, where river steam boats could put off, or take on cargo and passengers.)

"On the boat, from St. Louis to the landing, they had suffered for want of room and food, and had not time fairly to encamp on the field before the battle began. (See Capt. Coleman's letter.")

"Drawn up in line as the enemy advanced, their dark forms standing in bold relief against the white tents that had been erected in the general camp, were an inviting and sure mark to the rebel hosts. Besides, one adjoining regiment, being without ammuninition, and retreating, the 18th, after a few volleys and being outflanked, inevitably wavered, and fell back under the shock of furious battle."

"Confusion and further retreat succeeded, which indeed was the ill fortune on most parts of the field. "The regiment's loss was 24 killed, eighty two wounded, and 174 prisoners, among the last, four captains and four lieutenants."

"Governor Harvey wrote from the battle field during his visit there (only shortly before his untimely death, from drowning) "My heart bleeds at the sad fortune of this regiment (the 18th.) Without a single regimental officer, and I believe, no company officer of military experience, they were ordered out from Milwaukee to St. Louis, with the expectation of spending sometime at Benton Barracks in becoming familiar with their duties. Many of the men heard the orders to load, and fire, for the first time in their lives, in the presence of the enemy."

"Colonel Alban, of Plover, Portage county, a judge and one time state senator, without military experience, was mortally wounded about two hours after the battle commenced, the ball entering the right shoulder blade and passing out in the front of the neck. He bore his sufferings with composure, saying he was not better than a mere private."

"Major Crain's body was found pierced in more than a dozen places, showing that he must have been stabbed cruelly after he fell."

"The casualties were reported as Federal losses 1735 killed, 7882 wounded, 3956 prisoners totaled 13,-573: Confederates 1728 killed, 8012 wounded, 958 missing, total 10,699.

The End of this Episode

The Joachin Kunn Family

Joachin Kunn and his wife, Lizetta Heidbrak both born in Germany, came to the United States and settled in Erie County, New York, early in the eighteen fifties.

In 1860 the family came to Columbia County, Wisconsin, where Joachin purchased 160 acres of land a few miles west of Columbus. Some time later he bought two hundred acres adjoining, from Oliver Edson. Date of the last mentioned purchase was sometime later than 1873, as county atlas published that year shows the land under name of O. S. Edson.

When the family came to Wisconsin in 1860 (according to obituary of Fred) Joachin and his wife were parents of two sons, Charles and Fred and twin girls both of whom died in infancy. Another son, Albert, was born on the farm first purchased.

After the death of the parents, the total holdings, 360 acres was divided among the three sons, Charles acquiring the farm now owned by Joseph Curtis, Fred got the farm now owned by Elmer Lobeck and Albert the farm upon which his widow lived until a few years ago, which after her death was sold to Joseph Curtis who owned the adjoining land.

No pictures of Joachin Kunn and his wife are available.

Charles J. Kunn

Charles J. Kunn was the first born of six children to Joachin and Lizette Kunn, only three of whom survived to adult age.

Charles was born in the town of Eden, Erie County, New York, December 23, 1853 and was brought to Wisconsin when his parents came here in 1860-61.

On July 6, 1880 he was married to Miss Sophia Voss and began house keeping on the same farm where he lived until shortly before his death. His obituary was published in the Columbus Democrat of April 29, 1910 from which we quote "though long expected, the death of Charles J. Kunn, which occurred on Monday, April 25, 1910 was a great shock to all who knew him. The wife who for many years has shared his joys and sorrows and two sons, George and John H., both grown to manhood, and two brothers, Fred and Albert remain to mourn his loss.

George W. Kunn

First born son of Charles J. and Sophia Voss Kunn was George Frank William Kunn, who was born on his father's farm in the town of Columbus on April 23, 1881.

He grew up and became a farmer, attending the nearby district school, which had also been attended by his father, uncles and cousins.

He was married on October 10, 1906 to Miss Clara J. Raether who was born July 19, 1884. The young couple farmed on different farms at different times and at other times had lived in town. For several seasons he was employed by the Columbus Canning Company in the original wooden factory and for some seasons, after the new present brick buildings were built.

In 1937 the couple moved to Ludington street, where after a long illness he died April 14, 1945. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. William Nommensen, from the Albrecht Funeral Home and interment was at Hillside cemetery.

The couple had no children. Mrs. Kunn is still living, occupying the upper apartment of Hrs. Robert Arnold, on Prairie street.

Fred W. Kunn

Fred W. Kunn, second son of Joachin and Lizetta Kunn, was born November 8, 1855 at Eden, Erie County, New York and came to Wisconsin with his parents to settle on a farm of 160 acres in section 10, town of Columbus.

He grew up on the farm, went to school in the nearby school house, became one of the best known farmers in this vicinity and served the town of Columbus in various official capacities.

On February 14, 1878 he was married to Miss Mary A. Kersting of Hixton, Wisconsin and lived on the farm until his death, June 13, 1913.

a member of the school board of

He was active in township affairs and became assessor and at another time was treasurer. He was a member of the school board of District No. 8, of which he was also clerk for many years.

He early became associated with the Leeds Telephone Company as a stockholder, and was elected president in which capacity he proudly served for a number of years.

At that time, telephones were not as numerous as now, in fact at first there were relatively few, the switch board was usually located and operated in a farm home, by a farm wife or daughter.

Mr. Kunn was active in Columbus Lodge No. 75, F and A Masonic Order, having held all the offices up to and including Master.

He was a lover of nature and derived much pleasure from hunting and fishing.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kunn, became parents of three daughters, Edna who became Mrs. Arnold E. Knack then of Fall River but who moved to Stoughton several years ago; Ivah, who became Mrs. Alvin Ninabuck and Agnes who died at an early age.

Mr. Kunn's death was the result of an accident sustained only a few days earlier.

As previously stated he was president of Leeds Telephone Co. and in those days of very small farmer owned cooperative exchanges, the president took care of all details of extension, repair work and servicing. The subscriber's wall telephones the only kind there was then. He was at work on repairing the lines after a storm, and was standing on a berrel head to reach the work, but inadvertently stepped off or perhays lost his balance, sustaining internal injuries and great pain. An operation was performed, but the damage could not be repaired. Thus it was, that a man in good health, suffered injury in the performance of his duty, which caused his untimely death at age fifty eight.

Funeral services were from the home Sunday afternoon, June 15, 1913, held under a giant pine tree which stood on the beautiful lawn in front of the home. Rev. Vernon Emery of Olivet church conducted the services at the home. The Masonic Order officiated at the grave in Hillside cemetery.

Pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Kunn taken shortly after their marriage.

John F. Kunn

Second son of Charles and Sophia Kunn, was John F. born August 29, 1888. He was married to Miss Clara Vick, October 26, 1910 and to them were born four sons, as follows: Harold C. who grew up to marry Miss Agnes Mark, they have three children. Lester J. who was married to Miss Irene Whalen, and they had two children. Lester moved to the south or southwest and was engaged in the trucking business; he died May 18, 1941 as a result of a highway accident but we have no details of the place or circumstances.

Ralph W. Married Miss Teckla Starker and they have three children.

Earl R. is married to Miss Elizabeth Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Thomas of this city. They are living in Billings, Montana and recently adopted a four month old son.

John F. Kunn, was a member of Zion Lutheran church, was a good farmer, active in township and county affairs, was assessor of his township for several years and a long time school director.

He was ill for several weeks and died in St. Mary's hospital, September, 1936.

His widow is still living and resides in Madison at 2046 E. Mifflin street. She has kindly supplied a picture of her husband, shown here:

To Be Continued



Mr. and Mrs. George Kunn



Charles J. Kunn



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kunn



Sophia Kunn



John F. Kunn

Mrs. Fred W. Kunn

From her obituary in the local paper, following her death, we learn that the former Mary Ann Kersting, was born January 9, 1858 at Burlington but was brought up at Hixton, Wisconsin where she was married February 14, 1879 to Fred W. Kunn and they established a home on his farm in the township of Columbus.

After her husband's death she came to this city and built the home at 230 West Prairie where she resided for the rest of her life.

She was a member of Olivet Congregational church and of Olivet Social Circle, also of the Women's Relief Corps., the Eastern Star and the Royal Neighbors.

She died January 23, 1951 at the age of 93 having celebrated her birthday only a week or two before.

The funeral was held on Thursday, January 25 at the Murray Zeidler funeral home, Rev. Leslie Deinstadt officiating. She was the mother of two daughters, Edna and Ivah whose write ups will follow.

Edna, Mrs. A. E. Knaak

First born child was Edna, who grew up to marry Mr. Arnold E. Knack, a well to do and well known farmer and business man of Fall River.

Mr. and Mrs. Knaak became the parents of two sons, Floyd and Lawrence and four grandchildren.

Mr. Knaak was a stockholder and director of the Fall River Canning Co. as well as other activities including farming. Their son, Floyd, was employed with the Canning company for some years.

In 1941 a group of Fall River Canning company officials organized the Stoughton Canning company, and Floyd was appointed superintendent. When operations were discontinued at Stoughton several years later to be consolidated with the operations at Janesville, the Knaak's father and son took over the farming operations.

Floyd was married to Miss Florence Powers of Columbus June 18, 1929. They are the parents of Sally who is a graduate of Whitewater State Teachers college and two sons, Dann and James. Sally taught school at Janesville where she met another teacher, David Alberts of Mt. Hoeb. They were married and he is still teaching at Janesville. They have one child, a son.

The sons of Floyd are Dana who attended college at Dubuque, Iowa and Whitewater and James in high school at Stoughton.

Lawrence Knaak, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Knaak was married to Miss Arlene Anderson of St. Louis, Missouri on April 26, 1935. They live in Thiensville, Wisconsin, where he is a manufacturers agent. They have on daughter, Jill.

Ivah, Mrs. Alvin Ninabuck

Ivah, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Kunn, was born on the farm June 10, 1896. After finishing elementary school she attended Columbia County Normal school at Columbus, expecting to become a teacher.

However, because of the unexpected death of her father as a result of an accident, before she was seventeen, in 1913 her plans were changed as she was needed at home.

After her father's untimely death, it was decided to build a home in Columbus for the mother which was finished in 1916. It is 230 West Prairie and for some years has been the home of Ivah and her husband.

Ivah was married November 26, 1915 to Alvin Ninabuck, the young couple beginning housekeeping on a farm in York, where they remained for twenty-six years. They left the farm in 1941 and lived in one of the Bock Houses on Spring street for ten years. After her mother's death in January, 1951, they moved to their present home.

Ivah and Alvin became the parents of two sons, Wendell R. born October 27, 1916 and Neal Alvin born January 20, 1921.

Her husband, Alvin has been manager of the Columbus Co-operative Shipping Association 319 N. Dickason Blvd. for many years.

Wendell is a graduate of Columbus high school and has had considerable business experience; since 1939 he has been a resident of Watertown and in June 1942 he was married to Miss Laura Eisfeldt of that city.

They owned and operated the Sales and Service Center, specializing in the Pfaff Sewing Machines in Watertown and later in Milwaukee. Wendell sold the business in 1956, continuing to live in Watertown.

His business since has been Regional Manager, with a crew of men under his direction, covering several western states, for a specialized system of accounting for small business men and individuals, designed to simplify records from a tax angle.

They have no children.

Neal is making a career in the U. S. Air Force, in which he enlisted in 1942, shortly after graduating from CHS.

During the latter part of World War II he served two and a half years in Germany, and for a time was stationed in England.

In September 1948 he was married to Miss Esther Miller of Huntington, Kansas, who was and still is a registered nurse in the Air Force in which she has served about twenty years; she remains qualified but not active in recent years.

Neal was discharged from the Service in 1952, but soon after decided to make a career of the Air Force and re-enlisted in 1956 and was stationed in Iceland for a time but since August 1958 he is stationed at Columbus, Indiana.

Being without children, his wife remained in the service until a few years ago.

Albert H. Kunn

The third son of Joachum and Lizette Kunn, was Albert H. born in January 1869, and died in 1950, lacking only a few months of being 82 years of age.

He was married in July, 1893 to Miss Mary Kalkhorst and was a farmer, as were his father and

The couple had one son who brothers, all his life.

died in infancy. Albert H. Kunn, like his older brother Fred belonged to the Masonic Lodge he having been a member for nearly 50 years.

His wife Mary to whom he was married in 1893 was born in 1867 and lived until 1953.





Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kunn

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A STARE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 — INSTALLMENT NO. 413

One of the prominent names in Columbus in the post war period, the decade of the 1870's was that of Dr. E. D. Kanouse.

It has been impossible to determine from published records, just when Dr. Kanouse came to Columbus. But from an entry in Book 2 of the First Presbyterian church we find the first mention of the name Kanouse during extensive research was found on page 63 minutes of meetings of the "session" September 27, 1868. Apparently the pastor, Rev. Fish had closed a two year pastorate July 20th, 1868, and the pulpit had been supplied up to the date above mentioned. Being without a pastor it was apparently necessary to secure an ordained minister to be moderator during the session of the synod. The minutes record the following "Session met at the home of G. W. Campbell: Rev. J. G. Kanouse was chosen moderator and opened the meeting with prayer." "Again from the records we read.

"Friday, March 12th 1869, after preparatory lecture by Rev. J. G. Kanouse, session met and was opened with prayer. Rev. J. G. Kanouse, was chosen moderator." (omitting a few paragraphs, not pertaining to the name Kanouse, we quote."

"Dr. E. D. Kanouse and Sarah, his wife; Edward M. Kanouse and Edna M. his wife, presented letters from the First Congregational church of Sun Prairie, they were all admitted to the full communion of this church."

We find from the same minute book that Dec. 9th, 1869 Miss Mary A. Kanouse, was received by letter from the Presbyterian church at Cottage Grove, Wisconsin. (She could have been either a sister or a daughter.)

Dr. Kanouse Elected Elder

From minutes dated August 28th, 1870 we note that Elder E. D. Kanouse was the elected delegate to represent the church in the Presbytery to meet in the City of Madison. Tuesday, August 30th, and again in October, 1871 he was the delegate to the session. He had been elected an elder in the fall of 1864.

Throughout the record book the name of Dr. Kanouse appears frequently, part of the time as church clerk.

Apparently the good doctor was also a lay-minister as we find references in the local newspaper that Dr. Kanouse occupied the pulpit when the church was without a minister, which was quite often the case.

Dane County History

From the 1880 history of Dane County, we have picked up some background about the family.

The patriarch who brought his family west above 1832, was John G. Kanouse, a native of New York state who was a "New-School" Presbyterian minister and also a doctor of medicine.

Early Settlers

Settling in Michigan, where some of his children were born, he brought his family to Dane County, Wisconsin, in 1844 and took up land in the vicinity of Cottage Grove, where he preached twenty-six years in one church, and also practiced medicine in addition to his clerical duties.

Rev. Kanouse died in Sun Prairie in 1872 at the age of 72. He was the father of eight sons and one daughter seven of whom settled in various parts of central Wisconsin.

It should be recalled that in that period in the eighteen hundreds, farming was a way of life in which the farm produced food and fibre and feed, being almost self contained and self supporting. Every able bodied son knew farming and also the majority had learned a trade, such as carpentry, blacksmith, stone and brick mason, wagon-making etc., in many cases farming combined with school teaching, the practice of medicine, or veterinary work.

The practice of the several professions, law, the ministry, money loaning, surveying, lumbering, etc. was often combined with subsistance farming or better, as may have been noted in many of the family stories that have appeared in this column.

We do not have a list of names of the sons of Rev. John G. Kanouse, but we do know that D. M. Kanouse, one of the other sons was a wagon maker at Sun Prairie, and that another son, J. C. Kanouse, also of Sun Prairie, as of 1880 was a blacksmith: This son could have been the eldest, as he was born in Newark village, Essex County, New York, November 11, 1829, and learned the blacksmith trade during the familys sojourn in Michigan. D. M. Kanouse had four sons, Morris, Charles, James, and Joseph. J. C. Kanouse had three sons, Walter, Elijah, and Calvin.

In The Army

Both of these sons were in the Union Army during the Civil War. D. M. was unfortunate in having been taken prisoner in 1864 at Cold Haror and was in three prison camps, each for a week or two on the way to Andersonville, where he was confined for about seven months. Upon his release and return home he was almost a skeleton, and never did regain any measure of good health thereafter.

Another Son

Theodore Kanouse of Cottage Grove enlisted in the 6th Wisconsin but that is all we have about him. He was probably one of the sons of Rev. John G. Kanouse. One T. D. Kanouse in later years became Grand Worthy Chief of Wisconsin Grand Lodge of Good Templars could have been Theodore, but we have no documentary proof.

Dr. E. D. Kanouse

Just where Dr. E. D. Kanouse should appear in the list of sons, we do not know, as we have no record of date of birth or death, as he moved away from Columbus. However, it is safe to assume that he was one of the older sons, as he came to Columbus to practice medicine in 1869 or perhaps earlier and had at least two sons of mature age, one of whom Abiga was also a doctor and practiced with his father.

First Church in Columbus

As has been stated frequently in this column, the first church in Columbus to build a church building was a small group of less than a dozen persons from five or six families in 1850.

About half had been Congregationlists, the others from Presbyterian or other churches in the eastern states from which they came, there not being enough of any one denomination to proceed alone, they organized and chose the name First Congregational church, going into debt to build the church which still stands on the original site at the corner of Mill street and Dickason Boulevard.

As the settlement grew, so did the struggling church but they owed about $200 to $400 which could not be paid.

It was found that if the church changed from the Congregational form of government to the Presbyterian form, it could borrow $300 from the Presbyterian Church Extension Found.

This was done, but title to the property was never changed.

After several years, most of the members who had formerly been Presbyterians elsewhere, thought it best to divide into two groups, Congregationalists and Presbyterians, each to have their own church.

But it was found almost impossible for the divided group to finance separate church, both being in debt, and frequently without a minister in either church.

The wiser heads and less radical in their views worked out a plan of union, in which Dr. E. D. Kanouse who had remained Presbyterian at the time of the split, was one of the strongest proponents. (See Page 679, Columbia County History 1880.)

However a small minority of the Presbyterians refused to cooperate, and threw the matter into the court, and the merger fell through.

Active in Civic Affairs

Dr. Kanouse was very active in community activities, became an alderman in 1875, clerk of the Presbyterian church during 1877-8-9-80 which may have been about the time he moved elsewhere.

He was musically inclined, as we note that in the graduating class exercises of Columbus high school at Olivet church in 1878, he sang a solo, and was also one of a quartette, consisting of the Misses Flora and Matie Walsh and Messrs, D. Griffith and Dr. E. D. Kanouse.

The doctor was a charter member of the Columbus Lodge No. 46 Independent Orde rof Good Templers organized in February 1874 and also of Columbus Temples No. 19, Temple of Honor, April 23, 1875.

Mrs. Secor's Letters

Mrs. Mildred Secore, still living as this is written in July, 1959, at Elko, Nevada and is nearly 100 years old, who was born in 1860 and raised in Columbus, has been of great assistance in supplying information about Columbus: in one of her letters in 1952 she wrote, "I wonder if you have found anything about Dr. Kanouse, who was our family doctor for many years?"

Quintuplets

"I have a photo taken in Columbus, in 1875, by photographer W. K. Haskins, of Male Quintuplets, born to Mr. and Mrs. Ed. M. Kanouse, then of Watertown, a son of Dr. E. D. Kanouse. The children lived only a short time, a few hours at most, and were buried at Sun Prairie.

"But there was so much excitement and notoriety that the family was afraid the bodies might be stolen from the grave, that Dr. Kanouse had the bodies exhumed and brought them to Columbus and preserved them in alcohol.

"I remember them, as I went with my father and mother to see the babies at the Dr.'s office, the photo that I am sending is as they were preserved.

"The mother of the babies, died a few years later and the father, Ed H. Kanouse came back to Columbus and took the required medical course and became a doctor also. I am quite sure that he was married again, later to Miss Alice Randall. (Correct)

"The other son, Dr. Abija Kanoushe (who practiced in Columbus, with his father, was married to Miss Mollie Campbell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Campbell of Columbus and sister of Miss Julia (Dudy) Campbell (who will be remembered by many residents of Columbus, still living.)



Kanouse "Quintuplets"

Chicago Tribune Said

In its issue of August 11, 1953, in a column "By the Way" by Thomas Morrow, a write up about Watertown, Wisconsin as it had been years ago, we found "It was February 18, 1875, when Mrs. Edna Beecham Kanouse, then 22, gave birth to five boys." The Watertown Gazette, then current, didn't think too much of the happenings, and dismissed the matter in 18 lines.

"Unfortunately, neither the husband, nor the attending physician, Dr. T. H. Vesty, found it possible to be there for the births. Mrs. Kanouse had said to her spouse, "I think you had better go for the doctor," a mild sort of understatement. (This being before the days of electric lights, telephones and ambulances.

A heavy snowstorm came up, though, and delayed both the husband and the doctor; by the time they got there, all five of the boys had been born. They all died within a few hours.

Editor Wetter pointed out that quintuplets come up about once in 55 million pregnancies, and in the past two centuries there had been only 63 sets recorded."

Mrs. Alice Harris

Mrs. Alice Harris born in this area, in the town of York in 1855, and lived to be in the high nineties, left behind her eleven different scrap books, besides a couple of boxes of clippings that would fill many more books. They all had one thing in common, and that is very few had been dated, which left much to be desired in doing research. They were left to Rev. L. C. Partch, who has kindly loaned them to the writer.

In book II there is an undated clipping three columns wide and about six inches deep, half of which is taken up with a picture above which is the heading. Here is Proof of Badger Quintuplets.

We belive it was from a Milwaukee paper, not named or dated: but the picture is from a small photograph taken by photographer W. K. Hoskin in February 15, 1875, and of which the writer has an original print.

Beneath the print is the following story "In view of the deluge of publicity attendant on the birth of the Dionne Quintuplets, one would hardly believe that only eighteen lines in a newspaper would be devoted to the phenomenal birth of a quintuplet of boys shown in the picture above.

But that is exactly what happened in Watertown, Wisconsin, in 1875 when five squirming babies were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ed M. Kanouse. The babies, all boys, were born on February 15, 1875.

The father, was at the time, an express company agent, and a nephew of T. D. Kanouse, Grand Worthy Chief of the Wisconsin Good Templers. The weekly Watertown Democrat (the Tribune account said Gazette) devoted exactly 18 lines to the event.

There is no question as to the authenticity of Watertown's claims. Besides the official and documentary evidence contained in the birth certificates on file in the court house, one photograph shown above is on display at the home of the Watertown Historical Society.

One of the boys pictured here died the day after the photograph was taken. The last survivor died at the age of two weeks. Three of the Watertown quints died on the same day about a week after the picture was taken.

W. K. Hosken, an early photographer at Columbus, made the picture at the Kanouse home."

Mrs. Harris, who was twenty years of age, at the time, and no doubt saw the bodies of the five boys, as did Mrs. Secor, who was 15 at the time, has written below the clipping "This is not a correct history."

The Columbus Democrat

Being somewhat confused, we searched the files of our own "Columbus Democrat" and in the issue of February 20, 1875 under the heading "Five boys at one birth" we find this brief story." On the 12th inst. Mrs. E. M. Kanouse gave birth to five boys, four of whom were alive at the time of birth, but all died in a short time thereafter.

The boys were all perfect in form and of good size. Mr. Kanouse is agent for the Express Company at Watertown Junction, and is a nephew of T. D. Kanouse, Esq. the Grand Worthy Chief of Good Templers in this state, and a son of Dr. E. D. Kanouse of this city."

In the issue of February 27th, one week later, we found the following: "It was mentioned in the Democrat of last week that the wife of E. M. Kanouse of Watertown, several days previously, gave birth to five male infants at one time: that all were born alive except one, and that the other four died shortly after birth.

They were buried in that city, and remained interned about a week, but it was very reasonably supposed that they were too much of a prize for the body snatchers, to make it probable that they would be permitted to remain long under ground.

Accordingly they were exhumed, and brought to this city, and have since been in the possession of the Drs. E. D. Kanouse and Abijia Kanouse his son (the father and brother of the children's father, E. M. Kanouse) at their office.

They (the bodies) presented indeed a singular appearance, and the doctors office has been thronged with people to see them.

They lay side by side in a square box like a coffin, dressed in white with a blue ribbon around their waists.

All of them are perfectly formed; four are about the ordinary size, sixteen inches in length, but the one dead at birth was somewhat smaller. Their total weight was fourteen pounds.

They are to be preserved in spirits and will doubtless be placed in the museum of Honnemann Medical college at Chicago." This raises a question: Had the bodies been preserved in alcohol as Mrs. Secor wrote or later! The editor uses the words "They are to be preserved in spirits."

Since the editor of the Columbus Democrat, no doubt got his facts from Dr. E. D. Kanouse, the grandfather, we believe the newspaper reports, which also in the main, are in agreement with Mrs. Secor's letters, should be accepted at face value.

A Few Scattered Notes

We fully realize that this is not a full and completely satisfactory story about the Kanouse families, but it is the best possible, considering the limited information found.

From the Democrat in March, 1875 "J. G. Kanouse took a half interest in the machine shop and agricultural machinery shop of S. Hutchinson. They manufacture pumps on a small scale." And five years later, April 1880, "Mr. Kanouse has sold his interest in the shop back to Mr. Hutchinson." This could have been the same J. C. Kanouse, blacksmith of Sun Prairie, mentioned earlier, but the middle initial is different. We assume that he was a resident of Columbus during the five years he was a half owner of the shop.

From the Democrat of October 8, 1861, "Dr. A. W. Kanouse, of Lancaster, Wisconsin, with his wife and little boy, arrived here last evening for a visit with friends and relatives." This could have been Dr. Abija Kanouse who started practicing medicine with his father, Dr. E. D. Kanouse some years before, was married to Miss Mollie Campbell of this city. If the facts were known, it could well be that having gained sufficient experience while with his father here, he had started a practice of his own at Lancaster.

The Milwaukee Journal of January 13, 1953 printed a story about "Wisconsin's First Auto Race" July 16, 1878. The story was written by Richard Weiner, is well worth reading.

We commented on
ment No. 257 in May
one of the cars
the race was built by
ouse, a blacksmith in
and his brother, D. M.
wagon maker of Mad
men were brothers, or
relatives of Dr. E. D. K
Columbus.

Incidntally, whil it in no
ties in with the story of Dr.
Kanouse, it may be interesting
note that the winning car, called
the "Oshkosh" made the trip from
Green Bay to Madison, in a rather
round about way through Fort Atkinson, a distance of 201 miles and
total actual running time 33 hours
and 27 minutes, an average speed
of about 6 miles per hour.

The Oshkosh was a two cylinder
steam engine, with one forward
and one reverse speed. With
"tender" hitched behind,
with fuel (wood) enough
of five miles, the com
weighed a total of
pounds.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A STARE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 — INSTALLMENT NO. 415

Kenneth Edgar Wright

In June 1959 a young man from Sioux City, Iowa called at the home of the writer one Saturday afternoon and introduced himself as above.

He followed this up, during a long conversation, with what the writer considers a story worth telling in this column," the Story of Columbus."

Kenneth Wright had never been in Columbus before, but his grandfather, Francis William Wright came to the United States as an immigrant from England, arriving in May, 1855, and after a few years in New York found himself in Columbia county, Wisconsin and found employment as a farm hand for T. Clark Smith one of our earliest settlers, whose farm now being one of the three or four farms that constitute the Wisconsin Academy, a few miles northwest on U. S. Highway 16. He was the first sheriff of Columbia county, 1848-1850.

We spent some three or four hours together, searching various records to find whatever information we could about his grandfather, for the purpose of Kenneth Wright's visit was to find additional facts to add to what he had picked up, as he is in the process of writing a history of his grandparents and the present descendants. A family tree, so to speak.

At the time he was here he told me that his grandfather had enlisted in Company G of the 23rd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, which fact we were able to verify from published records, as Company G was largely made up from the Columbus, Fall River, York Center area; that after he was mustered out he returned to Mr. Smith's farm and resumed his job, but that later he had gone farther west and took up land in western Iowa.

But we took no notes as our only thought at the time was to render such service as might be possible to "get the feel" of the place where his ancestor had lived and worked, and had become Americanized.

It was a few weeks later, after an exchange or two of letters, that I thought that the early days of the young Englishman who volunteered to fight for his adopted country would be an interesting side light in this column, and asked Kenneth for permission to use such portions of what he had told us, and latter had written us as were appropriate to the story of Wisconsin.

Therefore from here on, what is written, or verbal on the occasion of his visit, should be considered but not ver batem as the result of Kenneth Edward Wright's own research, and writing, perhaps with an occasional assist from the writer. We will not attempt to tell the main part of the story, which took place in Iowa, just enough, in brief, to have a happy ending.

Francis William Wright

Francis William Wright was born at Welford, Glouscester, England on May 10, 1837 one of six sons of Charles and Sarah Badger Wright. When he was 18, he came to the U. S. on a sailing vessel, frequently in storms, during the 22 day passage, the boat leaked badly necessiting "all hands to the pumps." (Name of boat not given.)

"He worked in New York state for a few years, where he received six dollars, or less per month (presumably also board, lodging and washing.")

He then came to Wisconsin (but it is not known how or why he happened to come to Columbia county. There were many English and Scotch families among the early pioneers) where he found the wages paid farm hands was also six dollars per month.

This was before T. Clark Smith had built the big brick house and was still living in the large log cabin, a picture of which was shown in installment No. 247 "Story of Columbus."

Information known to the writer, is only fragmentary, but piecing it together, it seems that Francis Wright's parents and all his brothers eventually came over from England, passed through Wisconsin and moved on westward to western Iowa; however no dates are given. It could have been before the war, or during the war, or after the war.

Kenneth wrote "grandfather arrived in Wisconsin ahead of "most" of the family.

T. Clark Smiths farm was in the town of Columbus in section 3 and 2, adjoining Fountain Prairie township in which Fall River is located, so it was natural that Frances (or Frank) had become acquainted with many of the younger folks of the area, at church, or at such gathering as brought people together. Kenneth says also "he knew many of the men who volunteered from the York center area (as he often mentioned in his letters to Mr. and Mrs. Smith and others.)

Francis Wright enlisted August 12, 1862 and was discharged at Mobile, Alabama July 4, 1865. We take the following from the records—

Company G. of the 23rd Regiment shows 52 names of enlistees from the town of Columbus, as follows: George S. Campbell, John H. Hughes, George H. Harrington, Lewis Kehler, John I. Morey, Abel H. Silsbee, Charles E. Quinn, Joseph S. Whiting, Garitt Halverson, Robert Swanger, Michael Karney, Alfred E. Fuller, Edward Grey, John W. Jones, James M. Tibbets, Elijah Walrod, Theophilus Perry, Henry Weis, James Nolan, Herman Klug, Nichalos Didesh, George W. Gibson, Ira Trobridge, Allen D. Thomas, Edward Parry, Henry Beaver, Henry Russell, Alfred W. Fuller, Benjamin Dayton, E. E. Eason, William H. Grindell, Francis W. Wright, Quincy A. Page, August Hein, Charles W. Allen, John Krouse, Joshua Tomkins, James Downey, John Wagoner, John F. Kent, Mathew Lowth, Daniel O'Rourke, John Rohan, Nathan W. Mead, Capt. J. E. Hazelron, J. C. Axtell (surgeon) James McConnell, (Fife Major;) Joseph S. Edwards, Daniel C. Cooper, Seth Trasch, Chester W. Tuttle, John Mahl, Warren I. Whiting.

In addition to Capt. Hazelton Fife Major McConnell and Surgeon James Axtell other Columbus officers of the 23rd were Col. Joshua J. Guppy and Lieut. Col. Edmund

Jussen both formerly from Columbus.

The original strength of the 23rd was 994, and gained by recruit replacement another 123, loss by death 289, by transfer 124, by discharge 281, missing and desertion 7, mustered out 416. Mustering out officer Col. J. J. Guppey, Adjutant Carl Jussen, Capt. Joshua F. Tolford and First Lieutenant Frank H. Luce, were from Columbus or had been.

Kenneth Wright stated that, while his grandfather had very little formal education, he wrote many letters "back home" and frequently mentioned names of his comrades. Most of the letters were kept by his mother and others and are now in the keeping of one of his three sons, and copies of them are in Kenneth's research material and it is from these letters that he began, several years ago to gather the material for a book he is writing.

He also sid that before coming to see the writer, he had spent two days in Madison, going over various records in the Wisconsin State Historical Society Building, and GAR exhibit and records in the State Capitol building.

In one of his letters, Kenneth wrote, "There are many ways to obtain an education. All you need is the desire. "My grandfather added to his (somewhat limited farm education) through the lessons he learned in life and through a desire for self improvement.

Our County Histories, are filled with descriptions of the trials and hardships of the early pioneers. (Whether it be the early English Colonies, the eastern mountains, the prairie states, the wooded Wisconsin, or elsewhere, all were similar.)

"My grandfather was such a man. I will always consider my grandfather a wise man educated in the ways of life. No amount of (formal) education could ever make me feel that I had learned more than he.

"He was an individual who learned (from experience) along life's pathway, many things which some people never learn. Woven through his civil war letters was his d e s i r e and determination toward a better education. He constanly (in his letters) urged his parents to encourage his brothers to obtain a good education.

"His letters show very clearly that his education even then was not below (or equal) that of the average Civil War private. Grandfather possessed a faith and determination with which a person cannot fail."

We gain the impression from the above, although not stated, that Francis W. Wright may have been the elder son, for he was eighteen when he came to the U. S., twenty-five years; when he enlisted in the army in 1862, serving three and one-half years and in his thirtieth year when he and his brother, Fred (who may have been older drove from Wisconsin to Battle Creek, Iowa in a buckboard (a two wheeled cart pulled by one horse) and was over thirty-four years of age when he was married to Miss Pluma Lazette Skinner on August 20, 1871 in a "dugout" in western Iowa.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, — INSTALLMENT NO. 416

"Kenneth E. Might" Continued

Since he was accompanied by a brother, it could be that his parents and their other sons may have been "temporary citizens" of Wisconsin, possibly in the Fountain Prairie area, which is merely a possibility, as we have no proof whatever, or that they had gone on ahead, and that the brother Fred had remained working as a farm hand, which was about the only kind of work available then.

Kenneth writes "while working as a farm hand (on the farm of T. Clark Smith where the buildings of Wisconsin Academy now stand) for a few years, before enlisting, grandfather became acquainted with some of the people living around Columbus, Fall River and York Center (in Dane County).

"Many of grandfather's Wisconsin friends were men with whom he served during the Civil war. Quite a number of members of Company G. of the 23rd regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry were from the Columbus area.

"He was also acquainted with quite a few of the men of the 29th WVI including Major Bradford Hancock. He wrote that Major Hancock's father had been a Deacon at the meeting house at Fall River. (There were 22 men from the town of York. Dane county in Company S. of the 29th including Capt. George Weeks, who in later years was commander of Harvey M. Brown, GAR Post 146 (Columbus).

The 29th was recruited largely from Columbia, Dane, Dodge and Jefferson counties, but the roster shows none from the town of Columbus, Fountain Prairie or Hampden; the regiment was mustered in September 27, 1862 at Madison.

Following the usual custom of Regimental Officers, and so far as possible the Captains were men from other earlier troops with some actual field experience.

The only familiar names were Captain Bradford Hancock and Second Lieutenant George Weeks both of Campany A. The original strength was 961 officers and men; replacements by recruits 128; total 1089. Loss by death 296—discharge 184—transfer 103—desertion 39—mustered out 467.

The only reason for bringing the 29th into the story is because Francis W. Wright knew many from York Center, and at different times the two regiments had been in the same engagements, particularly in the battle of Champion Hills.

Between September 1862 and mustering out April 30, 1865 Captain Bradford Hancock had become Lieutenant Colonel and George Weeks was a Captain.

During this research by the writer, he noted that Major Hancock was wounded in the thickest of the fight at Champion Hills. General McGinniss highly praised the regiment for their behaviour during the battle, and said of Colonel Gill and Major Hancock, "they are deserving of all honor for their endurance and bravery, and the complete control which they evinced over their respective commands.

Kenneth Wright wrote, "the Winterbothams of York Center were very good friends of his. I have a copy of a letter which grandfather saved. It was written on August 17, 1870 by Thomas Winterbotham, who was married later to Miss Lydia Sharp. In the Historical Society building at Madison I read some newspaper articles written by her. I have corresponded with a grandson of his."

"One of my grandfather's very good companions in Company G. of the 23rd Wisconsin was James Tibbits (who enlisted at the same time).

"I have mentioned that historical research work has been a hobby of mine for a number of years. Until recently I had explored from a distance the history of my grandfather's "Old Wisconsin" as he called it.

"I felt that a visit to the area would give me a better understanding and thereby help me in my attempt to pay tribute to the courage, faith and loyalty of the men with whom grandfather served in Company G. of the 23rd Wisconsin.

"Grandfather always carried within his heart an undying devotion and loyalty toward the men with whom he served in the Cviil War. So great was his devotion and loyalty to his old outfit that it was to pass on from him to his sons and to me, leaving me with a great desire to pay tribute to the courage, faith and loyalty of the men who served in Company G. of the 23rd Wisconsin Volunteers.

And now just a bit about how Francis W. Wright's own experiences, as extracted by his grandson, Kenneth Wright from the sizable bunch of letters written back to the home folks, wherever they were, copies of which are among his proud possessions.

Francis Wright served as a private; he was in the great majority of the battles in which the 23rd was engaged including Chicksaw Bayou, Miss.; Arkansas Post, Ark.; Greenville, Miss.; Cypress Bend, Ark.; Grand Gulf, Miss.; Port Gibson, Miss.; Champion Hills, Miss.; Black River Bridge, Miss.; Investment of Vicksburg, Miss.; Spanish Fort, Ala.; and Blakley, Ala.

He was wounded May 22, 1863 at the siege of Vicksburg when a bullet entered through his check, lodging in the jaw on the opposite side.

During a part of his service, he was a teamster driving six mules pulling an ammunition wagon; at other times he was a foot soldier meeting all the hardships he and his companions had to endure, such as short rations, scarcity of drinking water, inadequate blankets and clothing, forced marches and lack of sleep.

Like many others exposed to heavy rains, clothing soaked he suffered greatly from rheumatism to beyond the point where the doctors could give no relief.

One night a Negro soldier came to his aid, wrapping him in hot wet towels and a heavy blanket and at intervals massaged the aching muscles and joints; the treatment gave great relief and he was able to keep going.

Passing on briefly, after Francis W. Wright and his brother Fred had driven from Wisconsin (presumably from this area) to Battle Creek, Iowa, he easily found work as a farm hand, became familiar with the area through which flowed the Little Sioux river, he came to the mouth of a small creek, then nameless, but soon became known as Wright Creek, he followed it to higher ground, where he bought 40 acres from the railroad company paying five dollars per acre.

Continuing to work for others for wages, he made a dugout a sort of half cave, half sod house, with marsh hay roof, in which to live during the time he could spare to begin breaking the sod, soon followed the building of a cabin from logs haulded several miles from the banks of the Little Siouv river.

We skip oved the prairie fires, the drouth, the floods, the rounding up his scattered stock, for there were no fences.

After living alone a few years and still working for others, he was married and fathered three sons who are still living.

In addition to the original 40 acres Frances Wright bought other adjoining land, from time to mtie until he had a total of 160 acres.

He died in the nice frame house he built to take the place of the log cabin, at the age of eighty three, leaving three sons, Frank of Highland, California; Henry of Correctionville. ville, Iowa and Bert of Sioux City, Iowa.

This story is typical of thousands more, where hardy young men from a farming background, after returning from the war, evincing a desire for a farm of their own, acquired land, perhaps by purchase, perhaps to claim government land for homestead as a government bonus, or otherwise, got their start in founding a home and a family.

Kenneth E. Wright for the past sixteen years has been on the staff of the Journal Tribune Publishing Company, Sioux City, Iowa in the business advertising department, but has done considerable writing, as a hobby.

He, as a boy of 14 was stricken with a heart condition ,heumatic fever, which seriously interrupted his education. He finished the 9th grade from his bed, and was out of school for a solid year, and again for a shorter period, but the doctors discouraged further school attendance.

After 12 years delay he received the coveted diploma from Central high school after attending adult evening classes for three years.

This was in 1953, and he had held down a job for 10 years, married and has a son Danny.

He was 26 years old when he graduated in 1953. He has devoted a lot of his evening hours to research and writing, particularly the life story of his grandfather Francis William Wright, which he hopes to finish shortly.

We wish to give full credit to Kenneth Edward Wright whose research and writing the story of his grandfather, and who gave permission to use such portions as were appropriate for the "Story of Columbus" was made possible.

We have not used all of his material, by any means, particularly that pertaining to the years in Iowa; and we have supplemented what Kenneth has written, as well as some given in conversation when he was in Columbus.

In particular, we have quoted from the 1880 "History of Columbia County" and the 1866 "Wisconsin in the War of the Rebellion" regarding the 23rd and the 29th Wisconsin Regiments Infantry.

There are still a few elderly residents of the area who will remember T. Clark Smith's son "Jeff" and daughter, Mrs. John Williams and a great many who knew that three granddaughters, Mrs. Sadie Lueders, Mrs. George Bunsa and Mrs. John Albright, and two great grandsons, Jeff Smith on the farm and Don Smith, Supt. of the Water and Light Department of the City of Columbus and their children are direct descendants as are also Thomas Bunsa and Bernard Lueders who live elsewhere.

On the occasion of Kenneth's short visit to Columbus, we drove to various parts of Columbus, to gratify his desire to see as many as possible of the pre Civil War homes, business blocks, churches etc. that no doubt were familiar sights to his grandfather's eyes. He took numerous photographs such as the Pomery House, (first school) the first church building—Congregational-Presbyterian, Mill street and Dickason; the original frame Lutheran church which was moved many years ago to Water street (it was burned down by the Firemen the next day) the Corner Drug Store, the several business blocks on lower James street, the writer's home (1854-6); and the old stone barn in the rear, built some years earlier as a windmill powered grist mill; the mill dam (which is not the original for several other dams had been washed out by floods since the original was built in 1840; and the marker across the tracks from the foot of Dickason Blvd., which marks the location of Major Dickason's first cabin, 1839.

Keep up with your research and writing Ken; thanks for permission to use portions of your writing; and if the additional facts about the 23rd and 29th we have inserted have helped you in anyway, we are glad to have assisted you to a small degree.

Earlier Times of Columbus
Travel Now and Travel Then

From the Columbus Democrat, March 11, 1869

"One of our villagers has pressing business in Milwaukee, and while yet the nocturnal curtain shadows his sleeping neighbors, he shakes himself from his slumbers, and reaches the railroad depot.

The quiet of the gloomy period that precedes daybreak by a couple of hours, rests on all the surroundings, which look as if light or animation never fell upon or enlivened them.

It is the period when animal life is at its lowest ebb, when the powers of darkness and of radiance are beginning to combat, the result of which will be a new day.

He feels the depressing influence of the time, and half regrets the precipitantcy that led to his taking the early train, but he waits drowsily for the coming convevance, and perhaps in the meantime draws a practical comparison as to the yielding of slumber, between the hard benches of the waiting room, and his own comfortable bed.

There is a languor upon him that speaks of a law of nature violated, in the diminution of her sweet restorer: and he falls into a troubled nap. And amid the dreams that flit across it, the carpet bag beneath this head seems gradually to assume Alpine altitude and ruggedness and to produce a proportinate strain on the back of his neck.

Presently he catches an approaching rumble which suggests to his bewildered faculties the opening of an overture whose full burst is the terrible natural phenomenon of late so prevalent in South America and California.

Only half awake he reaches the platform, and is in the midst of the glare of the great, firey eyes of the advancing locomotive. Though expecting it, he cannot repress the momentary impression that it is a colossal living monster glowing with accumulated life, as it is passing its hot breath steams into his face.

Amid the clanging of the warning bell, the shrieking of the fhistle, the grinding of the brakes the multiplied rattle of wheels, the voice of the conductor, baggage man and brakeman, the din of the gradual annihilation of trunks, words of goodby the thud of the fuel falling into the tender to replenish the red hot maw of the engine, he takes his seat in the cushioned car, and is soon wrapped in comfortless unconsciousness, and is passively gliding at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour, towards the coming of morning and his place of distinction.

And who can indicate the magnificance of those unlockings of the eastern portals from the first purple flush that steels through the orient gate when it is but half ajar, to the full glory of the perfect day as it streams forth regardless of any barrier.

Seen from a car platform, with the pure fresh breeze rushing against the cheek, youth and health find an ecstasy in the situation, that words do not express.

Our traveler arrives in Milwaukee just as the first murmer of business has begun to rise from the busy metropolis. He breakfasts liberally at the Newhall Hotel and has a full half day to devote to business before the next train, taking which he is at home again the same day at five o'clock p.m.

This is the manner in which the people of this vicinity now reach the chief city of the state, but some of our residents (1869) remember when travel was a thing far different.

It was quite another affair in 1844, when a visit to our county seat, then at Plover (yes that is correct) was a horseback pilgrimage of many days duration, on which the solitary taveler guided his course through the wilderness "by the blaze." (patch of bark cut off the trunk of a tree on both the arrival and departure side of a prominent tree.)

We meet on our streets every day, comparatively young men who have gone to Milwaukee from the village with teams (oxen, and later horses) when the trip was a campaign of fourteen days, through rain, and mud (hub deep) and swamp and woods.

The main route was by what was known as the old government road by way of Lake Mills. Aztalan and the junction of the Watertown and Aztalan road twelve miles east of Watertown, at which junction stood an old tavern that many had good reason for remembering very well.

Thence the road was to Summit, to within two miles of Oconomowoc where the Watertown Plank Road was reach, (built in the early eighteen fifties).

In particularly bad weather it was necessary to go around by the way of Whitewater, Palmyra and Waukesha. Men who were on the road in those days tell us of being stuck in the mud, and after ineffectually laboring till nearly night to extricate their wagons, mounted a horse and going for assistance, and being all the next day in getting back to them.

Subsequently travel went by the way of Lowell and not infrequently it was a day of hard work to transport a load to that point.

Gliding so easily across the country in these times (1869) we do not realize how arduous was travel in those days of the pioneers. (This account was probably written by Editor M. D. Bath.) This present day writer can vividly recall in 1917-18, when Columbus Canning Co. was operating the Lowell Canning Co. plant which was before improved roads as we know them, were much more than a little gravel mixed on the clay surface and "dragged" by a split log drag; in the breakup of spring the Lowell road was in spots, just one chuck hole after another, it was an all day job for a light one ton truck or a Model T Ford, or even a locally made Badger Motor Car, to Lowell and back.

We sometimes wonder what any of the pioneers of a hundren years or more, ago, would say if they could see our present day highways and the myrid of all sorts of vehicles with pay loads far greater in both bulk or weight far greater than the locomotives and cars of 1869.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1959 — INSTALLMENT NO. 418

From the Democrat of Friday, July 23, 1869

Fatal Casualty

A woman in the midst of her family was instantly killed by a rifle.

Looking from our office window on Monday afternoon last about 5 o'clock we observed from the conduct of the people in the street, that some unusual event had occurred.

A tendency to collect in groups with intent faces and excited gestures indicated some extraordinary occurance and we soon learned that the wife of Mr. Fred Heise, the butcher, had just been instantly killed.

He occupies as a market and residence, a brick building on James street nearly opposite the former post office. In the rear of this and separate from it by a small space, is a detached wooden building, long and narrow (a sort of summer kitchen, we understand) which is much used during the summer months by the family, being alomst constantly occupied during the warm season.

Through this building Mrs. Heise was passing about 5 o'clock on this ill starred afternoon, leading a little child.

In a moment, like an unexpected flash of lightning, came her death summons. There was a report of a rifle, a scream from the unfortunate woman and she sunk to the floor, almost in the midst of her family, a corpse in a pool of blood, her children motherless and her husband widowed by the transaction of a second.

The weapon that wrought the tragedy was a Sprinfield rifle, the tremendous power of which is known to every soldier. A brick wall can scarcely stay the missile which is sent on an errand of death by this potent instrument.

The ball penetrated the side of the building, entered the deceased between the fourth and fifth rib on the right side, passed laterally through her body and made its exit on the left side below the scapula, or shoulder blade, and probably severed the large artery.

It was still unstayed and going on a few feet further struck a window casement and rebounding, struck the floor at a distance of eight feet, and was picked up, battered and bloody by Mr. Fox who found it to be an ounce ball. Doubtless the deceased never knew the cause of her death.

The disaster occurred in perhaps the most thickly populated portion of the village. Men on all sides heard the report and the outcry and hastened as men always do at the cry of distress, suffering and peril, to know the cause and give relief if possible.

Ole Anderson (the grandfather of Bob Anderson of Anderson Electric) the proprietor of the adjoining store, was the first person to reach the dying woman. (His grocery and general store was in the same building as Anderson Electric, excepting for a new front many years ago).

A young man named Barney, employed in the store of Harvey Loomis (present location of Weber Shoe Store) reached the spot next and almost instantly the premises were crowded by anxious sympathizers, among whom was the ghastly face of the person who had fired the fatal shot.

Dr. Robert Earll arrived within two or three minutes and Doctors Burrington and Davies shortly after; but human assistance was of no avail.

Mrs. Heise was presently laid out in the chamber of death, and quiet restored as much as possible. She was the mother of an infant only a few weeks old, besides two other children who were cared for by kind neighbors.

It was indeed a spectacle that might move men unused to the melting mood to see the infant so suddenly bereaved, tenderly removed from the house of mourning. The deceased was a woman of whom everybody spoke in terms of praise.

She assisted her husband in a manner more faithful than any service that money could secure. Her commendation is the highest that any woman in any sphere could have; she was a faithful wife and a true mother.

As to the cause of the casulaty, it must be stated that the second building to the east of Heise's market (present Krueger's Grocery) extends to the rear nearly as far as does the latter. (Heise's market, present Gavinski's Barber Shop, and Holtz Agency).

Note (to make the layout clear, a different building, at that time occupied the ground where Maloney's Jewelry store and the Krueger Grocery now are, that was not as wide as the present buildings are; and there was some open space possibly twenty feet wide.

The front portion was accupied by Hopkins Furniture Store and the rear portion, once a cabinet shop, where cupboards, coffins etc. were once made; had only recently been occupied by Graham and Riders Monument Works.)

Again quoting, "The general locality contains many little angles, gabels, roofs and nooks and is the favorite haunt of many cats, which are doubtless attracted thither also by the proximity of the meat market. These cats were very annoying, and it was the practice or usual thing to discharge every availabel missal at them.

On the day mentioned several shots had been fired from a Springfield rifle owned by the deceased brother of Mr. C. Hopkins (the brother having been a soldier.)

Finally a cat was discovered upon a dry goods box which stood against the rear building that we have mentioned as often being used by the Heise family in the summer months.

An employee in the marble shop, named Kimball H. Gordon seized the rifle and fired through a large open window in the shop. The ball passed more than a foot above the box, and pierced the thin siding on the Heise shed. Mrs. Heis happened to be passing the exact spot. The remainder of th tragedy, we have related. Gordon heard the shriek that ensued and excitedly exclaimed "Have I shot anyone?"

Soon he was told that he had killed Mrs. Heise, and he sank into a chair overpowered; shortly the distraught man went where the dead woman was lying, and saw the blood he had shed and heard the screams of the children orphaned by his careless act.

He has since remained almost distracted with remorse and ready to make any sacrifice to atone for what he had done.

In the meanwhile a crowd was gathering in the street, who were much agitated by what had transpired, and some of the more excited began to talk of summary vengeance upon Gordon.

It is known that in an emergency Columbus is practically without a marshal, and in the present instance while dazed but still august functionary who is nominally marshall, and also deputy sheriff, was endeavoring to cipher up the difference between any given portion of himself and thirty cents in fractional currency, men better adapted to a crisis took Gordon to a secure place where he could be obtained, whenever he could be obtained, whenever process issued for him.

He is a young man recently from Vermont, and an excellent workman; he is of a kindly nature that would ...t wittingly injure any human being; and there is not the slightest ground for charging him with any willful intent.

There is, however such a thing as gross carelessness that approaches the boundary of criminality so closely as to render discrimination difficult.

All this time Heise himself had been absent, and knew nothing of the clamity that had befallen him.

Men went to him, and broke the news as gently as possible. They had expected a violent outbreak but though completely overpowered by the disaster, he received the news sensibly and like a man. He has many warm sympathizers in his sorrow.

The accident happened on Monday the 19th, the deceased was buried on Wednesday the 21st, and her funeral was a large one. In addition to many residents of the village, the members of the "Odd Fellows" Lodge, in regalia, marched in procession to and from the cemetery. Twenty-three members of the Portage City Odd Fellows were present.

(It is rather strange that no mention was made as to what church the deceased may have belonged, nor who the officiating minister was).

On Tuesday the 20th Justice Hoppin issued a precept and the following gentlemen were summoned as a coroner's jury: Silas Axtell, E. S. Griswold, George W. Campbell, Fred Heidbrak, Joseph Schaeffer and Julius Fox.

Much of the day was consumed in the taking of testimony, the details of which we are omitting. Drs. Burrington, Davies and Earll were sworn as were Ole Anderson, Charles C. Hopkins, Frank Graham and Adam Rider.

The verdict of the coroners jury was a simple statement in accordance with the facts, and "by a bullet fired from a gun in the hands of Kimball Gordon and that said Gordon is guilty of culpable carelessness and a warrant for the apprehension of said Kimball Gordon be therefore issued and delivered to A. McConnell, Constable.

The penalty for manslaughter in third degree is imprisonment in the state prison for not more than four nor less than three years."

Gordon was not in court (having been taken to the County Jail for safe keeping).

We will follow through and report what may be found in the subsequent issues of the Democrat.

However in the same issue from which we have taken the above there is another news item pertaining to the tragedy, which we report as follows:

Turbulent

The Germans of this vicinity are law abiding citizens, as they almost invariably are everywhere.

They understand fully as well as any people on the globe that the individual enjoyment of all, depends upon the general preservation of order, and the maintenance of the supremacy of the law.

In common with every person endowed with human sympathy they felt most deeply the death of Mrs. Heise but although a few talked widly at the period of excitement, the careless perpertator of the act could doubtless have appeared upon the streets at any time with security.

What then shall be said of the president of our village, Daniel E. Bassett, who publicly, passionately and profanely advocating the lynching of the young man who was the careless but unintentional cause of the woman's death; and this at the very time when a few other excited and ignorant men were shouting lynch law on the streets.

Nothing More Found

In carefully scanning all issues from July 23rd to mid October, not another word has been found concerning the outcome of the case against Kimball H. Gordon, so we will have to leave this particular case unfinished.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1959 — INSTALLMENT 419

Story of William Dempster Hoard

While there are, no doubt, many of our readers who know that a former governor of our state was once a citizen of Columbus, in the person of James T. Lewis, we believe that relatively few know that William D. Hoard, Governor of Wisconsin, 1888-1890, was also once a resident of Columbus.

As a matter of fact when he was only 23 years of age he showed up in Columbus in December, 1859, and announced to the public through the columns of the Columbus Journal of Tuesday, December 8 that he was here for the purpose of starting a class in vocal music, usually referred to as a singing school.

The notice in its entirety read thus "Singing School. We call the attention to those who are lovers of music, and who desire a thorough and systematic training in the science, to the class of Mr. W. D. Hoard, in this town, which commences next Friday evening, where a desirable and thorough knowledge of music may be obtained, until as it will be, with the most scientific and improved styles of instruction.

18 Lessons for $1.50

Term to consist of eighteen lessons. Tuition $1.50 per term for gentlemen: 75c for ladies, payable on the expiration of the fifth lesson, to Mr. G. W. Shepard, Treasurer."

A search of the newspaper up to April 1860 fails to find any further reference to Mr. Hoard, so we cannot say whether a class was actually formed or not. It is possible that not enough persons who were musically inclined, could be enrolled, or on the other hand, that it met with enough encouragement to proceed.

However, nearly ten years later the name shows up in the Columbus Democrat of January 14, 1869 in the list of "uncalled for" letters at the post office and again on February 11: also in the issue of July 16, 1869 in a list of members of the "Good Templars," a lodge supposedly made up of "total abstainers," we find the name of Lester Hoard, which was probably a relative; but at least we were encouraged to go on with research not only through the local newspapers, but published biographies of state officers and other important people. (We found later that the advertised letters had been received after Mr. Hoard had left Columbus), leaving us to wonder what he did during the interval before his leaving.

In a book owned by George C. Holtz, "Old Settlers and Prominent people of Wisconsin Vol. No. 1, published in 1899 from the "Democrat and Dairyman Printing Co.," Waterloo, Wisconsin, written by A. O. Huffman and H. H. Hyer, we find a biography of Mr. W. D. Hoard, along with about eighty more several of whom were from he area of Columbia, Jefferson, Dodge and Dane counties, from which we quote portions, and condense other portions.

Honorable William Dempster Hoard

"It is astonishing how much power there is in an intense desire and determination to accomplish a thing, no matter whether it is hard or easy. Beginning life in a humble manner, the subject of this sketch, by industry, and the intelligent manner in which he performed every duty, was enabled to gain the confidence of those around him, and was enabled to advance himself to posts of greater responsibility. His worth, his ability and his earnestness in everything he undertakes are reasons for his successes which have crowned all his efforts.

"William Dempster Hoard, the eldest son of Rev. William Bradford and Sarah C. (White) Hoard, was born October 10, 1836, at Stockbridge, Madison County, New York, and is decidedly a self-made-man, and an example of one who made his own way in life without advantages, and is an example of American pluck.

"His early education was derived entirely from the common schools. At the age of twenty-one, he started out for himself, located at Oak Grove, Dodge County, Wis., working on a farm in the summer and teaching singing school during the winter. Being a good violinist or "fiddler" as people who played a violin in those days were denominated, he used this instrument with much effect in his teaching.

"In the fall of 1860 he removed to Lake Mills, Wisconsin (presumably because it was a somewhat larger community than Oak Grove, as a central point from which to travel to and from his classes or singing schools of which there must have been several, and the further fact that he had married a young woman there.

He Enlists

In May, 1861, at the first call of President Lincoln for troops, he enlisted in Company E of the 4th Wisconsin Vol. Inftry. and serving until July 1862, when he was discharged for reason of disabilities."

He Re-Enlists

"Mr. Hoard returned to his former home in New York state to convalesce, and upon regaining his health, he re-enlisted in the army, this time in October, 1864 in Co. A. New York Light Artillery, remaining in the service until the close of the war, participating in the battles of New Orleans, Grand Gulf and Baton Rouge. Upon being mustered out of the army, he returned to Wisconsin in 1865 and located at Columbus, where he engaged in the nursery business until 1869 when he moved to Lake Mills, Wisconsin where in March, 1870, he embarked in the newspaper business, starting the Jefferson County Union, and the same year was appointed Deputy United States Marshal and took the Federal Census in the towns of Lake Mills, Waterloo, Aztalin and Milford.

We here repeat what we have frequently written in the "Story of Columbus," that there are no newspapers in the files from December 30, 1863 to September, 1868, nearly five years.

Therefore no research in Columbus papers during that period is possible, which accounts for our inability to trace any activity of Mr. Hoard in this community during the above interval which included three years at the beginning of his actual residence here, as far as the newspapers are concerned.

It is not of record that any nursery other than that of D. F. Newcomb operated here, and quite reasonable to suppose that Mr. Hoard took it over in 1865 when he came to Columbus the second time.

Two Brief Biographies Found

Turing our research to different published books, we find in a book published in 1940, entitled "Wisconsin, a Story of Progress, written by William Frances Raney, Professor of History at Lawrence, page 228" Hoard came to Wisconsin in 1857 and married. After service in the Civil War he returned to Wisconsin and settled in Columbus. He made some money in the nursery business, but lost it all, and more, growing hops, and it took him twenty years to pay his debts."

In H. Russell Austin's book, "The Wisconsin Story" published by the Milwaukee Journal, page 206, we find the following, "William Dempster Hoard, had come from a New York dairy farm to Wisconsin in 1857. He served in the Civil War and returned to live at Columbus afterward. He prospered in the nursery business there, but lost his money in the "hop craze" of the late sixties."

These two books mentioned, published in 1940 and 1941 respectively, undoubtedly were based on the same source material.

(To Be Continued Next Week)

Story of William Dempster Hoard

He Takes on Other Work

Resuming our search for facts, in the biography of Mr. Hoard previously mentioned we find that 1871, or about two years or less after his move, he was elected Justice of the Peace at Lake Mills, which we believe was his entrance into politics; and being the owner and editor of the Jefferson County Union gave a powerful impetus toward his election.

We quote "he was elected Sergeant at Arms to the Wisconsin State Senate in 1872, and also during that same year he was "largely instrumental" in organizing the Wisconsin Dairyman's Association, of which he was secretary the first three years of its existence; and was president of the earlier Northwestern Dairyman's Association from the time of its organization in 1869 (up to at least 1899) without opposition. To no man in the west is more credit due than to W. D. Hoard for the spread of dairy knowledge."

Organized Dairy Association

In installment No. 341, January 23, 1958, in "the story of Columbus, about the early movement to improve the dairy products of this state, we said "First Dairy Association."

In March 1867 a convention was called in Fond du Lac for Illinois and Wisconsin Dairymen, during which the Illinois and Wisconsin Dairyman's Association was organzed; and in 1869 it developed into the larger Northwestern Dairyman's Association.

Two years later, on February 15, 1872, the Wisconsin Dairyman's Association was organized at Watertown.

"The quality of dairy products in the early days and "factories" left much to be desired, when the cheese and butter began going into the eastern markets. Wisconsin dairymen, were obliged, in the beginning, to submit to the humiliation of concealing the identity of their cheeses and their butter was comptemtuously quoted on eastern exchanges as "Western Grease."

"To help remedy the charges of low grades, poor quality, etc. made by the dealers and consumers in the East, in 1866 the Wisconsin Legislature, enacted the first dairy law passed in Wisconsin, "An act to prevent fraud in the manufacture of cheese."

"Fortunately for the state, a number of earnest and public-spirited leaders were ready to devote their time and energies to the improvement in the quality of dairy products, through an educational program through (these) associations.

Founds a Newspaper

"One of them was W. D. Hoard (at one time a citizen of Columbus) who was destined to become the great dairy editor, when he left Columbus to establish at Lake Mills, the Jefferson County Union in 1870, a weekly paper devoted to the improvement of Wisconsin dairying.

"Fifteen years later he founded Hoard's Dairyman. It was he who coined the phrase, "The cow is the foster mother of the human race. From the day of the ancient Hindu, to this time, have the thoughts of men turned to this kindly and beneficient creature as one of the chief sustaining forces of human life" and many other apt. phrases.

The above phrase is emblazened upon the walls of the main agricultural building and the campus of the University of Wisconsin.

From what we now know, we have published proof that Mr. W. D. Hoard was a citizen of Columbus during the period of the organization of the two earlier dairymen's associations.

Again quoting "Aided by the Jefferson County Union, the Dairyman's Associations and his Hoard's Dairyman, a journal which he established in 1885, the value of dairy products in Wisconsin increased from about one million dollars in 1872 to about thirty-six million dollars in 1899, (the year of publication of the book from which we are quoting.)

Moves to Fort Atkinson

"In 1873 Mr. Hoard removed to and established his paper in Fort Atkinson in 1877 he was elected president of the village of Fort Atkinson and a member of the Board of Supervisors of Jefferson County. He was one of the prime movers in organizing the Wisconsin Farm Institutes, and as the leading lecturer on dairy matters he delivered more than 300 lecturers to different institutes on dairy subjects in two seasons.

"Mr. Hoard's efforts, both through his publications and from the rostrum, entitle him to the laurels of victory for the great progress which the dairy business has made, which means wealth, increased profits, better education and more comforts in life to every maker of butter and cheese in Wisconsin.

Hoard for Governor

"In the spring of 1888, without any knowledge or consideration on his part, his name was brought forward by the Milwaukee Sentinel as a suitable candidate for Governor.

He was almost totally without political experience, but the Republican masses, and with them a large portion of the Democratic farmers of the state, demanded his nomination and after this had been accomplished in convention, finally elected him by a vote of 176,696 against 155,423 for his Democratic opponent, James Morgan.

"Acting upon the recommendation of Governor Hoard, in his message, a law was enacted by the legislature, that provided that every child between seven and fourteen be given some English instruction during each school year, and further to compell the education of nearly 50,000 children who were not attending any school, the legislature passed the Bennett Law compeling parents or guardians to give their children at least twelve weeks instruction in English during each year.

Trouble

"Immediately thereafter the German Lutheran and Catholic clergy who represented parochial schools, in many of which no English was taught at that time, commenced a vigorous and hostile agitation against the law.

"The Democratic party united with these elements and demanded its repeal, Governor Hoard defended the law in nearly seventy addresses and numerous newspaper articles. The Republican state convention unanimously nominated him to the office of Governor and declared unequivocally in its platform against the repeal of the law. Owning to the vigorous assaults of the Democratic party against the McKinley tariff law of the Congress of that year, the northern states lost heavily through the stay at home vote of the Republicans the next Congress being overwhelmingly Democratic through this cause.

"In Wisconsin alone the Republican vote was nearly fifty-thousand less than two years before. The activity of the German Catholic and Lutheran clergy, who turned their churches into political wigwams, resulted in bringing out the whole Democratic vote. Nothwithstanding Govrenor Hoard's defeat, he received nearly 8000 more votes than any other on the Republican ticket.

"He retired from politics and devoted all of his time to the work of editing his dairy paper, Hoard's Dairyman, which at the turn of the century had the largest circulation of any dairy paper in the world.

GAR

Governor Hoard had always taken a deep interest in the Grand Army of the Republic and in 1895 was elected Department Commander of Wisconsin GAR.

On Memorial Day 1895, Governor Hoard was the principal speaker at the unveiling of the Soldiers Monument, put up by the Harvey M. Brown Post 146, GAR of Columbus through contributions from 341 individuals.

Unfortunately, the stenographer who had been engaged by Editor C.C. Eaton to take down the former Govern's speech, was taken sick and no substitute could be found.

But in his remarks Governor Hoard referred feelingly to his early experiences in Columbus and of the many kindnesses wrought by his old friends here and the marks of affection which he had received at their hands.

Seek and Ye Shall Find

The writer, believing that there must have been published a more intimate biography, wrote to Mr. William D. Hoard, jr., a grandson, who now heads up the Hoard's Dairyman and the Daily Jefferson Union, who has generously loaned one of the few copies of "The Life of William Dempster Hoard by George William Rankin published in 1925 in their possession from which we have permission to quote, "It is a most facsinating book, full of human interest which we will review and from which we will quote briefly.

To Be Continued Next Week

Story of William D. Hoard

The Authors Foreword

The authors forword reads, "This book is dedicated to every man who follows in the footsteps of the dairy cow.

It is written in commemoration of a man who stands without a peer, past or present, as an agricultural leader.

It is written to inspire the struggling, ambitious dairy farmer by placing before him the shining example of an enduring man who succeeded in the face of almost insurmounting difficulties.

It is written to throw the light of experience upon dark paths and places.

It is written with the hope that he who reads may gather renewed courage and be impelled thereby to greater effort in meeting every situation in life squarely, manfully and intelligently.

It is written for the farm boy and the farm girl, to instill into their youthful minds the thought that agriculture is an honorable profession and that in its fullest expression it calls for keen intellects and trained minds.

It is written for those who think."

Ancestry

"Hoard was the scion of a family with an unbroken line of ancestry dating back to the twelfth century.

The surname in the first form of which there is any authentic record was le Hore, a Normandy (France) family.

"In 1637 a number of the le Hores emigrated to America, joining the Plymouth colony in Massachusetts; Hezekiah Hore, a member of this expedition, was one of the group who purchased the site upon which the town of Taunton, Mass. was founded. The subject of this sketch is a direct descendant of this family.

"Some of the Massachusetts colonists changed the spelling to Hoar, in which form it has been preserved to the present day. George Frisby Hoar, for many years a United States senator from Michigan was a distinguished member of this branch of the family.

"Another member of this colony, James Hoar, was responsible for the changing of the surname to Hoard, and his descendants have since borne the name in this form.

"In the year 1800, one of the members of the Hoard Colony at Taunton decided to seek his fortune in the "West."

"New York State was considered "west" in those days, so, with his wife and child, he set out with a team of horses and a sleigh, in the middle of the winter.

Crossing the Hudson river on the ice, he traveled westward and reaching the town of Augusta, Oneida County, he decided that here he would make his future home. (Oneida County is four counties west of the Hudson river, on the Mohawk Trail.) This man was Enos Hoard, a blacksmith by trade, the paternal grandfather of William Hempster Hoard.

"Enos Hoard later bought a tract of land in the town of Stockbridge, paying cash for it, with six pences and shillings that he had saved out of his earnings as a smith. He soon became a prosperous and influential farmer, for he was a man much above the average in intellectual attainments. Deeply sensing the value of education, he was one of the moving spirits that built the little log school house that later became his grandson's only temple of learning.

"Hoard's progenitors on both sides, played prominent parts in the Revolutionary war and later in the war of 1812. His maternal great grandfather Captain Jesse Sawyer, commanded a company in Ethan Allen's famous regiment at the capture of Crown Point and Ticonderoga.

His Father

"Hoard's father was born in Madison county, New York in 1806 and his mother in 1808. For a time his father was a farmer, leaving it in later life to enter the ministry, a vocation which he followed for many years.

"He was a "circuit rider" and he received a salary of $400 per year with which to support his wife and three children. In addition to his circuit work, preaching, marriages, funerals, and ministering to the sick, he preached among the Oneida Indians for about 30 years, by whom he was held in very great esteem. In speaking of his father Hoard said, "He was a man possessing a singularly tender nature, and was very sensitive, where his personal honor was concerned. He was in no sense worldly — acquiring of wealth giving him small concern. He was a very high-minded man and of intense and sincere religious bearing and thought."

His Mother

"Hoard's mother was a descendant of the White and Sawyer families of Vermont. Of his mother, Hoard said, "she was the best read woman I have ever known, in spite of the fact that she never had an opportunity for schooling except such as the district (rural) school afforded.

"She had a wonderful memory, and she was the greatest story teller I have ever heard. She was very religious, and her impassioned flow of language was almost startling as she put forth her wonderful pleadings at the "Throne of Grace."

"The Hoards were a sober, steady and sturdy type of people, not easily aroused and possessing somewhat of a Quaker tendency. The Whites were a resolute and resourceful group of men, equally ready for a frolic or a fracas. Many of them were noted for fox and deer hunters. The Hoards were very religious and the Whites later became so.

Such was the character of the foundation stock from which William Dempster Hoard sprung.

His Early Life in New York

"It is said that heredity and environment are the controlling factors in human life. William D. Hoard was favored in the possession of a remarkable ancestry, and also in his early environment. In common with all pioneers, he endured the privations of early settlers, and these very conditions produced a strong, independent, assertive race. His close association with his paternal grandfather and his next neighbor, with whom he spent many happy hours, also had a marked influence.

"Hoard's early associations with his grandparents were responsible also for his first lessons in dairying.

There was no "winter dairying" whatsoever in those days; cows gave milk in summer and went "dry" in winter.

This grandparent made a business of buying up the best cows after they had gone "dry," and carrying them over the winter months and selling them as "springers" in the spring.

"He was very skillful in choosing only the best cows and frequently took his grandson William with him on his buying trips, and the boy soon learned the good points of a dairy cow, based on the standards of his grandfather.

Physical Comforts

If the pioneer of that day could get the simple necessities of life, he was indeed fortunate. Farming was a way of life, where every member of the family, if physically able, carried on his share of alloted work, producing and storing away the food, fuel and fiber needed for the family.

Among the necessities which must be bought or bartered for were salt, tobacco and rum. Liquor was sold by the local merchant just as any other merchandise.

The women of the family did canning and drying of fruits and vegetables, spun cloth from wool and flax, from which homespun clothing was made.

Traveling boot makers made their rounds, making and repairing enough boots and shoes for the entire family, using home tanned leather, made from cow hides.

Farm products were exchanked for store goods, the exchange of currency being very limited.

Social Pleasures

"Social pleasures consisted of singing school, the spell downs, the paring bees, where both men and women and some of the older young folks, pared, cored and sliced apples, to be strung on cords and hung up near the ceilings to dry.

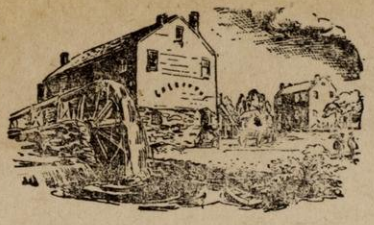
There were pumpkin pies, cheese and cider for all when the required quantity of apples had been hung, and then came the dancing, consisting almost entirely of quadrilles, (square dancing) schottisches, the Virginia Reel, and others of similar character. The waltz was only rarely attempted, and present day dances were entirely unknown.

The husking bee, with the traditional red ear ceremony was also made much of socially.

It was among such conditions that of hard and toilsome work, plain living, church activities, and social life that young William Hoard spent the first twenty-one years of his life. His formal education was no more than that of his school mates, limited to the nearby district school, and such limited other reading found in the homes of that period. Imbued with the ambition planted in the minds of many young men by the great editor, Horace Greely, who constantly preached "Go west, young man, go west," Hoard gathered together his few belongings, which included a "fiddle" and turned his face toward the setting sun.

To Be Continued

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1959 — INSTALLMENT NO. 422

STORY OF WILLIAM D. HOARD

Hoard's Early Life In Wisconsin

"The state of mind of William D. Hoard may be imagined as he set out upon his first great adventure, for like others, he had never been far away from home.

The journey of several hundred miles, itself, through a supposedly wild and unknown region, was an undertaking of great significance, but he wanted the new experiences, for he was convinced that in this new land he would find fame and fortune awaited him.

"He left Oneida, New York for Chicago, Illinois on October 1, 1857 by train; there were no through trains, and no comforts as we know them today: numerous changes of cars, and of waiting, slow and uncertain connections, required two nights and one day to cover a distance, that could be covered today in a few hours.

"The trip was a never ending panorama of intensely interesting sights and scenes for the Yankee boy, but the one that made the deepest impression upon him was Niagra Falls, and the suspension bridge that carried the train over the river just below the falls, the train stopping on the middle of this apparently frail structure, he held his breath in fear lest the bridge give way and they all be thrown into the yawning whirlpool below.

"He stopped for a few days in Chicago, at the home of an aunt, Mrs. Fannie Horton: Chicago, at that time, was not much of a city, built around Fort Dearborn, on the swampy marshlands on the shore of Lake Michigan, even its principal streets were a quagmire, not at all inviting.

Going on to Milwaukee, the railroad ended at Walkers Point, South of the river, a mile or so from the present center of the city on the east side of the Milwaukee River, sometimes referred to as Juneautown, to distinguish it from Kilbourntown on the west side of the river.

Young Mr. Hoard found accomodations at the American House, the predecessor of the old original Plankington House, which in its day was famous among the hotels of the mid-west. It stood where Plankington Arcade now is.

The last lap of his trip was from Milwaukee to Watertown, the route being, at that time The Milwaukee and Watertown (which reached Columbus in May, 1857).

Stage Coach

The route then was stage coach for 15 miles north of Watertown to Oak Grove, his final destination, where he took up his abode in the home of a cousin. G. G. White, a prosperous farmer who owned an excellent farm of 200 acres on the edge of Crossing Prairie.

"This cousin, Mr. White, had migrated from New York state coming to Dodge County by way of Chicago in 1846, and in ten years was rated as a prosperous farmer. He was married to Miss Harriet Birdsey, daughter of Levi Birdsey, who had also migrated from New York, (and is believed to have been related to Almond P. Birdsey, who located in Columbus in 1844 or earlier).

No Dairy Farms Then

For a number of years before leaving New York state, young Hoard had worked during the summer months, for a very successful dairyman, a close friend and neighbor of the Hoards, and in coming West he had hoped to be able to capitalize to good advantage the knowledge of dairy farming he had thereby acquired. In this he was greviously disappointed for he soon learned that in Wisconsin agriculture consisted of wheat raising, and as for dairying, as he had know it in New York, there wasn't any worthy of the name, except here and there an isolated case. Rarely, if ever, was there a farmer who kept as many as five or six cows, and any man who had a herd numbering ten to fifteen cows was considered a real dairyman.

Wanted a Job

Hoard's scant funds being exhausted, it became necessary for him to seek and find work of any kind.

He found work as a farm hand, becoming a member of the family of David Blissert, a former friend of his father, whose farm was near the village of Lowell.

Having come from a wooded country, Hoard was an excellent woodsman. In speaking of his ability with an axle, he said "that he could easily cut down and chop into four foot lengths, and pile two cords of wood a day, for which he received twenty-five cents per cord, and board and room. He was thus employed throughout the winter of 57-58.

A cord of wood was a solid pile 8 feet long by 4 feet wide and 4 feet high.

It was usually left exposed to the air until the following summer, then hauled into the farm yard, cut into stove lengths of 16 to 24 inches in length, then split, and piled for further drying.)

Singing Schools

To supplement his limited earnings as a woodsman, Hoard decided to establish singing schools, such as he was familiar with in his native state, where a circuit of singing schools was an institution as much as the church and the school.

He could sing, and read notes, and he had some skill in the playing of both the violin and the flute, both of which he used effectively in his singing classes.

His first class was started in the town of Elba, but he soon started a circuit starting with Waupun, Lowell, Fairwater, Ripon, Reeds's Schoolhouse, and Ripon Prairie. The next winter, his circuit starting with Waupun, Lowell, Fairwater, Ripon, Reed's Schoolhouse, and Ripon Prairie. The next winter, his circuit included Fall River, Waterloo, Lake Mills, Fort Atkinson and Edgerton. With about a dozen classes covering quite a mileage, he must have had classes both in the afternoon and evening if they were held weekly.

Earlier in this sketch, we mentioned his advertisements of a class to be conducted in Columbus, in which his price was stated at $1.50 for men and 75 cents for women, for a term of eighteen lessons. Since Columbus is not mentioned in the list above, we have an idea he substituted Fall River in place of Columbus, for we have learned that a well established singing school had been conducted in the Welsh settlement near Columbus, at an early date.

Mr. Hoard did quite well during the winter months, but kept alert to any possible job at full time.

(To be Continued)

HOARD STORY

He Sells Pumps

In the summer of 1859 he secured his first real full time job, that of selling pumps as a traveling salesman, called peddler at the time. He had heard of a new type of pump being manufactured by A. J. Althouse of Waupun.

He persuaded Mr. Althouse to make a miniature pump, usually called a working model, for him so that could actually demonstrate to prospective farmer buyers the excellence of the mechanism of the pump, and thus equipped, Hoard traveled through the southern counties of the state, doing a very satisfactory business.

He continued to teach singing schools during the winter months and sell pumps in the summer until the late fall of 1860, when he took up residence at Lake Mills, in consequence of his having married a daughter of William D. Bragg of Lake Mills.

Times were hard, money was scarce and hard to come by, banks "here and there" had failed and the entire country was greatly disturbed. The war clouds of civil strife were slowly gathering.

Like Lincoln

Intensely American in every fibre of his being, young Hoard was profoundly affected by the attitude of the South. He was a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln, whom he first saw and heard in 1858 at Freeport, Illinois and it is recorded that the life and example of Abraham Lincoln had a greater influence upon the character, ideals and purposes of W. D. Hoard than any other single contact or control. So like Lincoln, was Hoard both physically and mentally, that in later life he was often called "the Lincoln of Wisconsin."

His Civil War Record

We have mentioned briefly, earlier in this sketch, what little we then knew, about Hoards enlistment, his discharge because of disability, and his re-enlistment, but we then had no details.

He was the first man in Lake Mills to write his name on the enlistment roll, on May 21, 1861, only five weeks after Fort Sumpter had been fired upon. Hoard's musical accomplishments resulted in his being chosen as one of the fifers of his company, E. Fourth Wisconsin Infantry.

The 4th is said to have been one of the best officered regiments sent out by the Badger State. So highly did Hoard regard his superior officers that he named his first born, Halbert Lewis. Halbert being for Halbert E. Paine of Milwaukee and Lewis for Lewis Aldridge, Adjutant, of Milwaukee.

In the early part of July the regiment was ordered to Washington. Private Hoard was permitted to take his young wife of less than a year, to the home of his father at Munnsville, New York, who had invited his daughter-in-law to make her home with them for the period of his son's enlistment.

We omit all details of the engagements in which the Wisconsin Fourth participated, while a part of the army of the Potomoc. Early in February, 1863 they were ordered to Newport News, Virginia, on the James River, to embark for Ship Island off the coast of Mississippi, where a vast force of men and ships was being assembled for the purpose of capturing the City of New Orleans.

This was accomplished. Ten days after taking the city Hoard's division was included in the expedition to capture the defeated and retreating Confederate Army. Going up river for about sixty miles they left their ships and for twelve long hours the division floundered in mud, slime and the putrid water of Cypress swamps, a distance of about seven miles to dry ground only to find they were about a half hour too late to catch the enemy.

Many Died

This expedition, brief as it was, exacted a heavy toll from the Union forces. The death-dealing miasma of the swamps, the fatal dengue or breakbone fever, and few there were who had the resistance to throw it off.

Hoard was one of the relatively few who, after weeks of suffering, (after having been listed with the dead) and a 19 day sea voyage during and which he slowly recovered, aided by the invigorating breeze, and good care and suitable food, he was able to rejoin his family at Munnsville, New York. For them it was a return of the dead.

During the long convalescence, as he slowly regained his strength, he engaged in the business of selling nursery stock, at which he was quite successful.

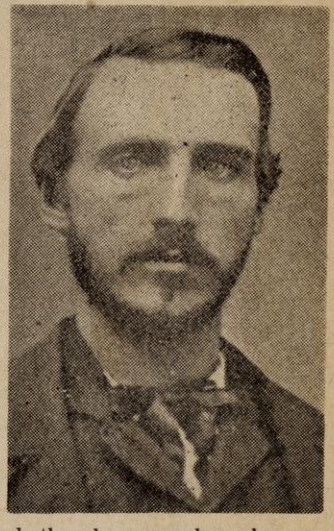
When he felt fully able, he re-enlisted in Battery A. First New York Light Artillery in the summer of 1864.

Hoard saw no active service during his second enlistment. His battery which had suffered severely in previous engagements, was maintained, as a home guard to repell Confederate forays and raids on the border towns and cities.

Hoard remained with his battery until July 4, 1865 when he received an honorable discharge. He spent a few days at Munnsville, New York and then returned to his home at Lake Mills, Wisconsin. The family had now two sons, the second, Arthur, having been born in the fall of 1863 at Munnsville.

This, then is the brief narrative of the war record of W. D. Hoard.

He Returns To Columbus



Earlier in this narrative we mentioned briefly, his activities during the approximately five years Hoard lived here., about which we could find very little published matter. However in the Life Story from which we have been quoting, or at least gained information, one can now give many details not possible otherwise.

Returning from the war, Hoard determined from his past success in selling nursery stock in the East, he would embark upon this business in Wisconsin. So after returning from his father's home in Munnsville, New York to the home of his wife's father in Lake Mills; he decided upon a suitable location, and moved his little family to Columbus in 1865. It is not clear whether he came here because there was a nursery here or if he was a salesman for some other nursery, but our assumption is that he either bought or leased the Newcomb nursery.

And Prospers

With high hopes, good health, and the determination to succeed he started out on the business venture. Fortune smiled on him and he prospered.

It is a matter of record that he became the owner of ten lots, the entire block 8 of Lewis' addition to the village of West Columbus. A plat book published in 1873 shows no building on the property. Old timers in Columbus recall that the property was fenced in and used as a pasture, and for circus grounds for many, many years, and was always referred to as the Hoard Block.

Another map dated 1914 also shows no building on that block; and only in recent years have homes been built in Block 8.

A Momentous Decision

It was during this period of Hoard's life that he made a decision that ultimately resulted in changing his entire life's course. He decided to give up the nursery business and engage in hop raising, about which he knew something as hops were extensively raised in his native state.

Hop culture had become a special and featured agricultural activity in several counties in Wisconsin including Columbia County, with Sauk County the center of activities. (See installments 342-3-4) the Story of Columbus).

The profits accruing to the hop farmers, measured by the standards of that time, were enormous for a few years.

New York had been one of the chief hop producing states and being entirely familiar with hop culture as a result of his early training, Hoard plunged into the venture, believing that he could not fail.

Far too many had the same idea; the result was over production, and reduced demand so greatly depreciated hop prices that before Hoard could mature his plans, and produce his first crop, hops became a drug on the market, the price having fallen from fifty cents to three cents per pound.

(To Be Continued)

The WILLIAM D. HOARD STORY

Wiped Out As By Fire

Thus did he see his earnings, together with the few hundred dollars he had managed to save out of his soldiers bounty, swept away. Worse than this, he was in debt to the amount of two thousand dollars, with no immediate prospect of repaying his creditors.

Hoard's creditors, however, were not of the Shylock type, for they said to him in effect: "Give yourself no particular uneasiness neighbor Hoard, for what you owe us. We have seen you work night and day to win success. We know you will succeed in the end, so pay us when you can and what you can.

This attitude of his friends and neighbors in Columbus, deeply touched Hoard, and although it was many years before he could pay in full, he finally was able to do so.

Back To Lake Mills

Following this disastrous experience in hops, Hoard took his family to Lake Mills to the home of her father while he tried his best to make a living for his family and pay his creditors. He traveled southwestern Wisconsin and a large part of Iowa in a borrowed "Democrat Wagon" pulled by a team he had retained, selling washing machines and musical instruments.

He then conceived the idea of starting a country newspaper and was sure he would succeed in that field. He recalled that he had only three dollars and fifty cents, had a sick wife and three young children on his hands, his third son Frank having been born in Columbus in 1866.

He had never set a "stick of type" and knew nothing of the newspaper business, except that a little sheet called "The Bugle" was being published in Lake Mills, but no serious attempt at real newspaper work had ever been attempted.

Another Decision Reached

He talked it over with his father-in-law, William Bragg, and a friend, George Bishop, both of whom encouraged him to go ahead. His first move was to go out and get subscriptions in advance, at 50c per year: his next was to arrange with Julius Keyes, publisher of the Watertown Republican, to print his paper; he was to send his copy over weekly, and when printed, the papers were sent back to Lake Mills by stage.

Thus it was that on March 17, 1870 the "Jefferson County Union" was born, a little 16 column, four page weekly newspaper.

At last, at the age of thirty three, Hoard had found his life's work. He did not sense the fact then; he only knew that he was happier than he had ever been before.

A Different Kind

Country newspapers up to that time had confined their circulations very largely to the towns and villages in which they were published and the trading area.

Hoard decided to widen his sphere of influence and he, therefore set out with the purpose of making his paper one of county wide circulation and influence.

So he traveled all over the county, either afoot; by horseback, or in the old "Democrat Wagon." Working early and late he called on practically every worthwhile farmer, with the result that he soon extended his circulation very considerably and thereby increased his income.

The good country folks were always glad to see Hoard coming down the road, as they thoroughly enjoyed his humor and his never ending fund of stories, and with his ability to sing and play the violin made him a welcomed guest at every fireside.

When he went into a community, he always arranged to secure a local correspondent, and in time the "Union" carried local news from every hamlet and from many school districts in the county. This was a departure in country newspaper journalism. Hoard may have been a pioneer in inaugurating a feature that has become almost universal.

Additional Activities and Another Move

Earlier in this story we gave a brief resume of Mr. Hoard's additional activities; census taker, Justice of the Peace, Sergeant-at-Arms in the Wisconsin Senate, and his influence and energy in halping to organize the first and other Dairy Associations, so we will not elaborate on these.

Hoard continued to publish the "Union" at Lake Mills, until 1873 when, in response to an attractive offer from the business men of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, in the way of increased advertising patronage and greater circulation, he moved his activities to that city, and issued the first number from the new address, May 2, 1873.

Still being without a printing plant of his own, he made arrangements with the "Wisconsin Chief" a little temperance paper published in Fort Atkinson by Miss Emma Brown, in whose office the "Union" was printed for a number of years, but ten years later he was able to equip a printing plant of his own.

The Power of the Press

Recalling the tremendous influence of Horace Greeley's editorials in the "New York Tribune," Hoard determined from the first that his publication should carry as strong an editorial column as he was able to write—a page setting forth in decided terms his opinions upon political and all other matters of public interest.

This policy soon made the "Jefferson County Union" an outstanding publication in the press of Wisconsin, a prestige that has been sustained and strengthened under the editorial direction of the oldest son, Halbert L. Hoard.

Helps Create A Real Dairy Industry

Elsewhere in this narrative it has been stated that Hoard while still in his native state had worked during the summer months for a very good dairy farmer, whos name was Waterman Simons. This contact laid the foundation for Hoard's career in constanly trying to improve the lot of Wisconsin farmers whom he found were making the same mistake as those in New York, robbing the soil of its natural fertility, and not replacing it.

Here he found relatively few cows, the area being devoted mostly to the raising of wheat, and constantly depleting mother nature's great gift of soil fertility.

While he may never have expressed the thought in so many words, the truth of the old aphorism had sunk deep into his mind that "it is a story as old as Abraham that wheat robs the soil and cattle drop fatness."

The reception that the agricultural page in the "Union" had received, convinced Hoard that a farm publication having for its principal objective the promotion of the dairy industry would meet with popular favor.

Hoard's Dairyman

Hoard's second son, Arthur, also associated with the "Union" urged his father to start an organ.

At first it was published as an agricultural section of the Union, but in January, 1885 it was first issued as a separate publication. It was priced at $1.00 per year and up to the time of publication of the book, from which we have quoted so freely, 1925, its subscription price was still a dollar a year although through the years the Hoard's Dairymen became a magazine of many pages, and as this is written in the fall of 1959, it is still going strong and still has, possibly the largest circulation of any journal in the dairy field.

A few years after he launched Heord's Dairyman he also started his well known three hundred acre experimental farm, just north of Fort Atkinson, where visitors were always welcome, and where he proved repeatedly that the methods he advocated were sound and progressive.



Associate Editor

As of now Hoard's Dairyman Farm is located on highway K, one half mile north of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin in Jefferson County.

The farm itself, part of which was purchased by W. D. Hoard in 1899, now consists of 350 of fertile, productive land. Before 1900 Ex-Governor Hoard, founder and editor of Hoard's Dairyman, decided to change from the conventional wheat farming that was prevalent in Wisconsin to Dairying. Since that time the farm's fertility has been built up through good management, liberal use of fertilizers and manure and carefull crop rotation in which alfalfa, corn and oats are prominent.

WILLIAM D. HOARD STORY



Farm Source of Information

The Hoard's Dairyman Farm has always been operated as a practical dairy farm. It serves as a constant guide and source of information to the editors of Hoard's Dairyman. Certain new recommended practices are demonstrated.

In 1929 the University of Wisconsin began a series of pasture experiments on the Hoard's Dairyman Farm which have been continued ever since. The pasture for the milking herd consists of 38 acres. It is divided into plots of a little more than three acres each. The regular pasture mixture is 8 lbs. alfalfa, 2 lbs. ladino, 8 lbs. brome. Each plot so grazed from one to three days, then clipped and allowed to rest until sufficient growth has again been made for further grazing.

Associate Editor

Due to the fact that Mr. Hoard spent a great deal of time lecturing at farmer's institutes and meetings of dairy associations, it became necessary for him to secure editorial assistance; he therefore invited Mr. Joseph Smith, the brother of Honorable Hirum Smith, then the leading dairyman in Wisconsin to become associate editor; the first of several who followed later.

During his one term of Governor of the state of Wisconsin, Governor Hoard's third and youngest son, Frank W. Hoard was his private secretary while finishing his University course. Returning from Madison in 1890 his son became associated with the magazine and devoted the rest of his life to the upbuilding of Hoard's Dairyman.

It should be stated here that as of 1959 Frank W. Hoard's son, William Dempster Hoard jr. is presently managing the activities of both the "Union" and the "Dairyman" to whom the writer expresses his thanks and appreciation for placing such a mass of information at his disposition.

Early in this sketch we covered that part of Mr. Hoard's life during which he was elected and served as Governor of the state; and the Bennett Law which aroused great antagonism. There is much that could be written but this column must limit its space, so we will not go into this period any further. Those interested will be able through supplemental reading at the library to get the full story.

Likewise we referred to Mr. Hoard's deep interest in the G.A.R. and his address in Columbus on Memorial Day 1895 when the Soldier Monument was dedicated.

Only a Portion of Book Reviewed

We have reviewed less than half of the chapters in "The Life of William Dempster Hoard" only those earlier chapters that tied in with him before, during and shortly after his sojourn here as a citizen of Columbus.

Other chapters, Educational Activities, Political Career, the Bennett Law, Agricultural Career, Association with men and movements, Attitude on Religion, Domestic Relations, Wisconsin's Most Distinguished citizen, a Monument for a Farmer and the Measure of a Man, we regret but must pass over, as they belong to the state and the nation.

Adversity—Then Success

Some one has said, or written, that"Adversity is often a blessing in disguise." Who knows that such was not the case when "hops" dropped to less than a fourth of the cost of production thereof?

Had Hoard been successful in that particular venture, he might have been satisfied and content to remain a Columbia County squire and farmer.

But through a great adversity, he struggled on for years and found success and fame, honored many times by his state and nation.

William Shakespeare, in his comedy "Twelfth Night" wrote "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them."

William Dempster Hoard, a son of humble farm folk, was not "born great" but he not only achieved great stature, but also found greatness thrust upon him" in the form of many honors and citations, of which we will mention only two, not previously mentioned.

Fifty years Hoard spent in preparation for the work that fell to him to accomplish but when at last he was fairly started upon his career, his progress was truly remarkable. Men in all walks of life soon recognized the fact that a real leader had come among them.

In agriculture and dairying he was hailed as a great evangle, a Moses who was to lead the dairy farmers of this country out of the bondage of ignorance and tradition.

Unusual Honor

Of the many honors that came to Hoard in his later years, one of the most conspicuous was an award by a jury of his peers, nominating him as Wisconsin's most ditinguished citizen.

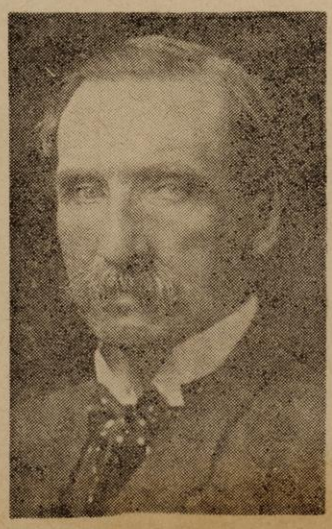
This was in 1915 during, and in connection with the Panama Pacimic Exposition held in San Francisco, a feature of which was an invitation to the Governors of Western States to appoint a commission or committee of prominent business and professional men to designate which citizen in each of the various states, had rendered the greatest service to the commonwealth. Following the selection on a specially appointed day, and accompanied with due ceremony, each nominee was to have this distinguished honor conferred upon him.

Hon. Emanuel L. Phillip, was Governor of this state at that time. The following are the names of the members of the commission he appointed.

Dr. E. G. Updike, Clergyman, Madison; Theodore O. Vilter, Esq., Manufacturer, Milwaukee; Hon. George H. Gordon, Attorney, LaCrosse; Prof. L. D. Harvey, Educator, Menomoniee; Dr. H. A. Sifton, Surgeon, Milwaukee; Charles L. Hill, farmer, Rosendale; A. E. Manchester, Railroad Executive, C. M. and St. P. Railway, Milwaukee.

This committee met in executive session but once, because it was of one mind, and was in complete accord as to which resident of this state merited the distinction of being proclaimed its most distinguished citizen. This signal honor they bestowed upon a plain man of the people—William Dempster Hoard.

The certificate is a large framed document, which did not photograph distinctly, for which reason we cannot show a reproduction, as intended.



Mr. Hoard



Mrs. Hoard

To Be Continued

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1959 — INSTALLMENT NO. 427

THE WILLIAM D. HOARD STORY

A Memorial Monument for a Farmer

The other great honor conferred upon Mr. W. D. Hoard was on February 3, 1922 at Madison.

"William Dempster Hoard was the first man in this or any other country to the best of our knowledge to have a monument erected to his memory in recognition of the signal service he rendered agriculture.

A monument for a farmer! From the beginning it has been the custom among all civilized peoples to raise enduring monuments or memorials for the great-the poet, the painter, the sculptor, the warrior and the statesman—but never before for a simple son of the soil.

This new idea was conceived by a long time friend and admirer of Governor Hoard—Wilbur W. Marsh of Waterloo, Iowa and was first voiced by him upon the occasion of the presentation of the Hoard portrait to the Saddle and Sirloin club in Chicago.

The suggestion was received with spontaneous enthusiasm and shortly afterward it took definite form as the result of official action by the Holstein Friesian Association of America at their annual convention in Worcester, Mass. June 6, 1917, adopted a broad resolution, after the president Hon. D. D. Aiken had brought the matter before the delegates representing several thousand members.

The Resolution

"The resolution read as follows: Whereas—History records the recognition of human achievement by testimonials, grants, titles, and various other distinctions, and

Whereas—Those engaged in other arts and sciences who have conferred lasting benefits upon humanity, nations, municipalities, classes or individuals, have been freely recognized and so honored by their fellow men as to arouse in others an ambition and a determination to equal or excell them in their labors, with a view to receiving like testimonials and honors, and

Whereas—In agriculture alone, of all the arts, public recognition of those whose discoveries and accomplishments have been of the highest benefit to humanity, has been most lax, so that the achievements of those who gave us the steel plow, the reaper, the centrifugal separator, and the Babcock test for butterfat, thus contributing to the better living and direct uplift of hundreds of millions of individuals, have been practically unknown and recognized and

Whereas—Animal Husbandry, of which dairying is the most important branch and upon which the very existence and propagation of the human family depends, constitutes a field of labor and achievement worthy of the greatest minds, and

Whereas—Those who have done substantial things in agriculture tending to uplift and better the condition of all humanity are deserving of the highest distinction at the hands of their fellowman, and certainly from those devoted to the art of agriculture.

Therefore—Be it Resolved, that this body, the Holstein-Friesian Association of America does hereby authorize and direct the Board of Officers to contribute the sum of one thousand dollars toward the fund now being created for the purpose of erecting a suitable testimonial to the Honorable W. D. Hoard of Wisconsin in recognition of his distinguished services in behalf of the dairy industry."

National Approval

Following the action of the Holstein-Friesian Association, the Wisconsin Legislature passed a strong resolution strongly advocating the memorial and calling upon the citizens of the state to support the movement.

With this auspicious launching of the project its progress was rapid. The press gave it wide publicity. A permanent organization was formed and thousands of subscriptions, both large and small, poured in from every state in the union, attesting to the strongest possible manner to the esteem in which this man was held by the country's greatest industry.

As a typical example of the attitude of the press, the following excerpt is taken from an editorial in the "Democrat" of Madison, Wisconsin.

No more just thing could happen than a monument to Governor W. D. Hoard on the University grounds or the Capitol Park itself; and let it not be erected to Hoard only as a pioneer in making Wisconsin the most famous among the states for its dairying alone, but also for his prophetic vision as a statesman and a patriot. Hoard admittedly deserves high honors for exceptional achievements in agriculture, but, incomparably, his higher work is symbolized in the Bennett Law, which entailed his political martydom. Yes! Let there be a monument to W. D. Hoard, and let it be erected in honor of the most distinctively American character since Abraham Lincoln.



The Hoard Monument

Gutzon Borglum Chosen

From among the most noted American sculptors the committee selected Gutzon Borglum to execute its commission. In due time the work was finished, a bronze statue of heroic mold rising above a beautiful frieze on either side, symbolizing various steps in the development of agriculture.

On February 3, 1922, the dedicatory exercises were held in the gymnasium of the University of Wisconsin, where amid a distinguished assemblage of America's great, agriculturally, Charles L. Hill, Esquire, (a farmer and Chairman of the Board, or commission, that had directed the project) formally presented the statue to the state of Wisconsin, the address of acceptance being made by the then President E. A. Birge, of the University.

Hoard Once Said

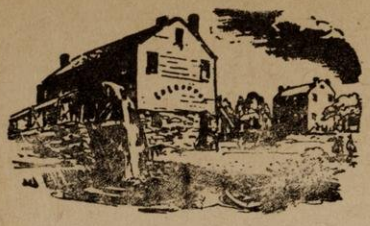
By a strange coincidence, the site chosen on which to erect the statue, immediately in front of the main building of the College of Agriculture, is almost the identical spot where many years earlier, Governor Hoard had stood as he addressed an earnest, eager body of young men who had wended their way to the great seat of learning in search of agricultural knowledge. He spoke to those boys on this occasion, in these words:

"My young friends, over on yonder hill, (pointing to the main University buildings) they are wont to speak of this "cow college" in terms of derision, but I want to say to you that the business of farming is the greatest vocation of all.

The idea use to prevail that all the farmer had to do was to plow in the springtime, plant his crops and harvest them in the fall. If this was ever true, it is not true now. The man who succeeds in agriculture today, and especially in dairying, is in fast company.

To Be Continued

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1959 — INSTALLMENT NO. 428

THE WILLIAM D. HOARD STORY

The truth of the matter is, as far as mental effort, excessive learning, and applied knowledge are concerned, the soil and animal life call for the exercise of brain power a thousand times greater than is required in the so-called learned professions.

The life of the humble cow, for example, is just as important as the life of the statesman. The secret of life is just as unexplainable in the cockroach as it is in the mammoth. The source of life is as yet undiscovered, and the farmer in the man, more than any one else, who must deal with these mysteries in all their amplifications.

You speak of the great men of the world, the lawyer, the preacher and the doctor. Who and what are they when compared to the man who feeds the world? The lawyer interprets the changing law of man. The farmer interprets the eternal laws of the universe. The doctor and the preacher administer to the occasional needs of mankind. The farmer labors for humanity throughout the course of his whole existence.

When He Died

When a president of the United States dies, the newspapers of the country carry his life story from the history of his progenitors and the incidents of his earliest childhood to his last official act. Tributes and eulogies are penned concerning him that attain the ultimate in human expression.

He may be great in his own right, and he usually is, but the glamour that surrounds the most exalted station on earth is largely responsible for the tremendous acclaim and the outpouring of word that follow. The office makes the man not the man the office.

When Governor Hoard died, November 22, 1918, at the age of 82 years one month and twelve days the telegraph flashed the news throughout the land. The press of the entire country, from the great metropolitan dailies to the little country weeklies, carried an abbreviated story of his life and many of them featured editorial comment.

Why this remarkable interest in a simple farmer, a man of the soil, living without show or ostentation back among the pastorial scenes of Wisconsin?

He held no great office whose reflected splendor enveloped him in the light of publicity. His one term as governor of his state happened more than a quarter of a century before his death. Why then the nation's wife attention to this common man of the people?

There is but one answer to the question. The race of men who lived contemporary with William Dempster Hoard recognized in him the idealist, the master mind, the true American, who by virture of his vision, his intellect, his fidelity of purpose, his power of leadership, elevated every standard of our national life.

In the last chapter of the book, "The Life of William Dempster Hoard, that we have been reviewing, there are a large number of editorial comments from all over the country eulogizing and paying tribute to this man.

We regret that we cannot print them all, and that a copy of this book does not appear in our library, for they reflect many different facets in the manner of expression by hundreds of editorial writers as they saw his accomplishments, from where they sat.

Finis

This column, "The Story of Columbus" has room for only a condensed history of the early pioneers and their families, brought down to date whenever possible. It has been running now for about eight and one half years, appearing once a week in the "Columbus Journal Republican."

The settlement was only twenty years old when Mr. Hoard first appeared here, his purpose being to conduct a singing school. Five years later after the end of the war between the states, he came back to Columbus with high hopes of financial success, which he attained for a few years, in a small way; then lost all his worldly possessions in a new venture that went wrong; leaving here owing considerable money. All of his debts were eventually paid in full, and by diligence, and hard work the turning point came.

His is the story of a life filled with good deeds of "service before self" and great accomplishments, the history of a man who stood without counterpart in the pastorial peoples of the earth.

As mountains rise in stately grandure, above the plain, so do some men rise above the plane of mediocrity to exalted heights. Tall, rugged and majestic.

Such a man was William Dempster Hoard. All citizens of Columbus should feel a sense of pride that he was once of our humble citizenry.

MORE ABOUT THE MONUMENT

In the story of the G.A.R. and the monument, installments 374 to 385 we mentioned the scarcity of information found.

While searching for an entirely different subject in July, 1959 we ran across a special Memorial Day issue of the Columbus Democrat, of May 29, 1895 in which were several pages devoted to the monument, including the dedication exercises.

We take pleasure in reopening the story for it tells many of the details that were lacking in the previous story, including a picture of the monument at its former location, including the original statue of the soldier carved in stone, which had to be replaced because of an act of vandalism.

From Special Memorial Edition, May 29, 1895

The Monument

Our Tribute to the Brave Boys who fell in their country's defense and sleep in honored though unknown graves—History of its' growth and the dedication.

Not long after the observance of the last Memorial Day by our local G.A.R. Post and citizens, incidentally the question again arose of erecting a monument to the memory of the soldiers from this vicinity, who lost their lives in their country's defense, and who now rest in unknown graves.

Some discussion followed and the matter was brought before the next regular meeting of Frank A. Haskell Post No. 146, of this city in June, but was held over until the meeting

in July, when the following resolutions were presented before the post and unanimously adopted.

Resolved that we the surviving members of this post, desiring to commemorate the memory of our comrades who fell in action and were buried in unknown graves upon the field of battle where they fell, therefore be it Resolved that we erect a monument to their Memory, and call upon all loyal citizens to subscribe towards paying for the same.

Resolved that this post head such subscription with the amount of one hundred dollars.

Resolved that the commander appoint a committee to circulate said subscription, and that the commiittee report progress until an amount sufficient to pay for said monument is pledged.

In accordance with the foregoing resolutions Commander O. M. Dering appointed Comrades F. A. Ross, Hugh Hall, George Weeks, George Johnson, Jonah Jones, E. Maxfield, Ira H. Ford, and J. N. James, a committee to circulate the subscriptions and obtain signatures thereto.

The movement met with a generous support upon the part of the citizens of Columbus and vicinity, insomuch that within a comparatively brief period—five months—sufficient money had been subscribed to warrant the placing of a contract for the monument, with the purpose in view of having the same erected preparatory to its unveiling and dedication upon the following Memorial Day, May 30, 1895.

The Monument Committee

To a committee composed of veterans and citizens was committed a charge of selecting the material and design, and the awarding of a contract for the monument.

This committee consisted of Comrades J. M. James, F. A. Ross, George Weeks, and Messrs. James T. Lewis and L. J. Sawyer.

The contract was placed with Messrs. Turner, Blumenthal and Miller, Marble and Granite dealers of this city and Beaver Dam; the wisdom of the committee's decision to award the contract to them was amply sustained by the gratifying result.

The material of which the monument is composed in Barre, Vermont granite, save the carved figure which is life size and made of armodite, a stone quarried in Indiana, that readily yields to the sculptor's chisel.

(It should be stated here that the original shtatue was ruined by an act of vandalism, some years later and replaced by the present bronze figure.)

As the day appointed for dedicating the monument drew near, some difficulty was experienced in finding a suitable site for its location. The committee was unable to secure the consent of the cemetery trustees of the town of Columbus, to the placing of the monument in the city cemetery, as at first intended, and so the site decided upon was in the center of the Broadway (now Dickason Blvd.) in front of the high school, a short distance away from School street. The common council promptly voted to vacate sufficient space on Broadway for its erection.

The foundation was laid and the lower base placed in position and on last Tuesday (May 21st) a somewhat impromptu ceremony was held, of depositing certain records in a copper box, properly sealed and the second base placed over it.

The hermetically sealed box contained the following—copies of the Columbus Democrat and Columbus Republican publications; Grand Army of the Republic Ritual; a list of 341 contributors to the fund; roster of the officers and members of the local G.A.R. post first called the Frank A. Haskel Post but changed to Harvey M. Brown Post only recently before); a Bible, Testament, Grand Army Badge and Button and several other articles not named (probably including some coins of different value.)

On this occasion the new Commander George Weeks presided—prayer was offered by Rev. J. R. Fretts of the M. E. church and in the absence from town of Mayor Coles, Prof. M. H. Jackson made a few appropriate remarks.

The work of completing the erection was finished by Saturday the 25th and all is ready for the dedication on Memorial Day. A photograph was taken by photographer A. S. Ralph, and published in the Democrat (and also no doubt in the Republican).

The Special Edition

The special Memorial Edition was dated May 29th and it gave the program to be followed, but actual report of the dedication printed the following week will be given later.

The program read as follows: to begin at 1 o'clock.

Unveiling of the Monument, Miss Dolly Brown.

Prayer, Rev. J. V. Trenery, Fall River.

Presentation of Monument to G.A.A., Mayor Coles.

Dedication Service by the G.A.R. Post.

Solo, Mrs. Clarence E. Eaton, (Editor Democrat).

Dedicatory address by Ex. Gov. W. D. Hoard (former resident of Columbus).

Closing exercises by G.A.R. Post.

Benediction.

The special edition contained several features including poems by Hattie Tyng Griswold, Sarah D. Hobart, Mrs. Emma Mineer, all pertaining to the war.

A three column article about Col. Frank A. Haskell, for whom the post was first named, written by A. J. Turner of Portage.

Another three column article "The Red River Expedition" by Col. Nicholas Smith.

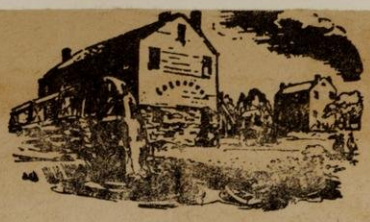
A list of the names on the monument, together with date, battle in which each gave his life, and the company and unit to which each belonged.

A complete list of the officers and original members (81) of the post when organized in April 1886.

A full length picture of Col. Frank A. Haskell in full dress uniform, head and shoulders of Col. Nicholas Smith and Ex-Gov. W. D. Hoard who at that time was Commander of Wisconsin G.A.R.

A large picture of Ex Department Commander J. A. Watrus, with a full column article by him.

(To Be Continued)



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1959 — INSTALLMENT NO. 429

MORE ABOUT THE MONUMENT

A full column in prose entitled "Our Literary Standing at the Beginning of the Civil War" by Mrs. Hattie Tyng Griswold (Mrs. Eugene Griswold).

A picture of Commander George Weeks, of Harvey M. Brown Post No. 146 with a brief summary of his personal war record.

Three columns of local war news, enlistments etc. in chronological order, pictures of Ex. Gov. and Mrs. James T. Lewis of Columbus.

Three and one half columns, being the first chapter of a book by Lansing Williams, Post Adjutant, entitled "Southern Prison Pens."

Two of the pages 5 and 8, had Red and Blue, wide stripes superimposed on the printed white pages.

The issue was a very creditable job, surprisingly good considering the type of presses in use in the small weekly newspapers of that time.

(It would be interesting to know what the Republican, the other paper, did for the same occasion, but unfortunately, while the Republican issues from Vol. No. 1, have been saved, they have never been bound in book form; they are stacked away in large cartons, awaiting and hoping the day will come when a few hundred dollars can be found to pay for the binding.

Meanwhile they are slowly deteriorating and soon may be thrown out as rubbish, as that part of the library in which they are stored, was never intended for storage, being underneath the front porch and having only a dirt floor.

This column has pleaded from time to time for an appropriation to cover the binding, but to no avail. Soon these records will be lost to posterity if something is not done to save them.

We intend to re-produce in the Story of Columbus some of the features enumerated above to supplement what has already been written about the G.A.R. and also of the actual dedication as it appeared in the Democrat of June 5, 1895.

List of Original Members

From special memorial editorian Democrat, May 29, 1895, names of present (1895) officers Harvey M. Brown Post No. 146 G.A.R.

Commander, George Weeks	S.V.C., E. J. Cripps
Junior V. C., A. V. Federly	Surgeon, H. Annis
O. D., T. O. Edwards	O. G., L. Borden
Q. M. F. A. Ross	Adj., Lansing Williams
Q. M. Sergeant, Ira H. Ford	Sergeant M., C. Moll
L. Sentry, D. Hanes	O. Sentry, A. Bowen
Chaplain, J. M. James	

Roster of the original members of Frank A. Haskell Post 146 Columbus, now Harvey M. Brown Post 146 organized April 10, 1886.

O. M. Dering	J. S. Babcock	C. R. Stone
H. M. Brown	J. E. McMahon	Ed Oliver
A. C. Parkinson	Hugh Hall	John E. Grout
H. D. James	David McLarty	W. H. H. Keefer
J. C. Hutchinson	Wm. H. Nelson	Julius Engelke
A. J. Fuller	H. S. O'Brien	F. H. Coon
W. G. Bresee	T. B. Russell	A. H. Russell
Miles G. Todd	John Hicks	Thomas Owens
F. P. Holt	M. Trayner	R. Emerson
E. A. Holmes	G. R. Malone	Charles Voss
Harvey Rowell	S. M. Crossman	John Felker
George Brown	Peter Harger	E. Maxfield
Carl Leitsch	Washington Loomis	W. E. Smith
Conrad Koblitz	C. Rockafellow	F. Ashley
Wm. Enbank	Robert Bell	J. H. Newuham
August Fritz	George Kirk	J. Bullin
Chas. Wood	Chas. H. Green	T. B. Elmer
Elias Kalar	F. Councilman	John J. Jones
James Kelsey	Wm. Colville	Johah Jones
James McConnell	James McCabe	B. B. St. John
Wm. Ebert	M. C. Hobart	J. Jackson
Milo W. Martin	David Colville	Thomson Thompson
Geo. W. Johnson	John Ficke	A. S. Sizer
Geo. W. Knapp	T. V. Dunn	C. W. Everson
John Eckhoff	Michael Carlin	Chas. Pietzner
A. T. Brown	O. W. Traynor	W. G. Williams
E. A. Dean	G. P. Stanton	

In Unkown Graves

A list by townships of the names of the soldiers who died and were buried in unmarked graves in the south, together with dates, names of engagements in which each died and the company and unit to which each belonged:

The names only, with no other information, for want of space on the monument, appear on the sides of the monument that stands on Dickason Blvd. between the Library and the Farmers and Merchants Union Bank.

Town of Columbus

Charles A. Searls, Co. G. First Wisconsin Infantry, killed at Chickamauga, Georgia, September 19, 1863.

Thomas Downs, Co. A., Second Wis. Inf. Killed at Ganesville, Virginia, August 28, 1862.

John McDonald, Co. A., Second Wis. Inf. Killed at Gettsburg, Pa., July 2, 1863.

Edwin E. Polley, Co. K. Third Wis. Inf. Killed at Cedar Mountain, Virginia, August 9, 1862.

Wm. H. Hubbell, Co. K. Third Wis. Inf. Killed at Cedar Mountain, Virginia, August 8, 1862.

James Holmes, Co. A., Seventh Wis. Inf. Killed at Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864.

Francis A. Fowler, Co. A. Seventh Wis. Inf. Died at Andersonville, Georgia, June 2, 1864.

L. P. Holmes, Co. A. Seventh Wis. Inf. Killed at Bethesda Church, Va., June 2, 1864.

Wm. Kurth, Co. A. Seventh Wis. Inf. Killed at Wilderness, Va. May 5, 1864.

Albert McCalvey, Co. A. Seventh Wis. Inf. Killed at Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864.

Jacob D. Sawyer, Co. A. Seventh Wis. Inf. Killed at Antietam, Va. September 17, 1862.

Alphonzo Harrington, Co. D. Sixteenth Wis. Inf. Killed at Shilo, Tenn., April 6, 1862.

Wm. McConnell, Co. E. Sixteenth Wis. Inf. Died at Lake Providence, La., August 2, 1863.

John B. Lowth, Co. I. Eighteenth Wis. Inf. Died Andersonville, Ga. July 26, 1862.

Benjamin W. Shaver, Co. I. Eighteenth Wis. Inf. Killed at Shilo, Tenn. April 6, 1862.

John Kelly Co. K. Eighteenth Wis. Inf. Died of wounds at Jackson, Miss. May 20, 1863.

Nicholas Didesh, Co. G. Twenty third Wis. Inf. Killed at Vicksburg, Miss. June 25, 1863.

Alfred W. Fuller, Co. G. Twenty third Wis. Inf. Died at Melikens Bend, La. March 27, 1863.

Charles Quinn, Co. G. Twenty third Wis. Inf. Died of wounds at Vicksburg, Miss. June 26, 1863.

Milo J. Waterhouse, Co. K. Third Wis. Inf. Killed at Antietam, Va. Sept. 17, 1862.

Otsego

Hugh M. Dunning, Co. D. Sixth Wis. Inf. Killed at Bull Run, Va. August 30, 1862.

Isaac H. Mead, Co A. Seventh Wis. Inf. Killed at Gettysburg, Pa., July 1, 1863.

Joseph H. Maxfield, Co. B. Seventh Wis. Inf. Killed at Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864.

Wesley J. Richardson, Co. B. Seventh Wis. Inf. Killed at Wilderness, Va., May 5, 1864.

York

George M. Dexter. Co. I. Eighteenth Wis. Inf. Died in prison at Macon, Ga. May 26, 1862.

Oscar A. Hurlburst, Co. B. Seventh Wis. Inf. Killed at Wilderness, Va. May 6, 1864.

Ira A. Wood, Co. C. Eleventh Wis. Inf. Died of wounds at Batesville, Ark. June 29, 1862.

Charles B. Andrews, Co. A. Twenty Ninth Inf. Died of wounds at Port Gibson, La. May 10, 1863.

Newton H. Carter, Co. A. Twenty ninth Wis. Inf. Killed at Champion Hills, Miss. May 16, 1863.

Lionel E. Robbins, Co. A. Twenty ninth Wis. Inf. Died of wounds at Port Gibson, La. June 24, 1863.

John S. Bridges Co. A. Twenty ninth Wis. Inf. Died of wounds at Port Gibson. La. May 8, 1863.

Elba

Andrew Johnson, Co. G. First Inf. Killed at Dallas, Georgia, May 27, 1861.

Wm. M. Taylor, Co. D. Sixteenth Wis. Inf. Killed at Shilo, Tenn. April 6, 1862.

Michael Anthony, Co. D. Sixteenth Wis. Inf. Died at Corinth, Miss. August 9, 1862.

Melvin Weist, Co. I. Eighteenth Wis. Inf. Died at Corinth, Miss. August 9, 1862.

Alfred O. Edson, Co. I. Eighteenth Wis. Inf. Killed at Shilo, Tenn. April 6, 1862.

Hampden

Thomas Laskey, Co. I. Eighteenth Wis. Inf. Killed at Shilo, Tenn. April 6, 1862.

William Smith, Co. I. Eighteenth Wis. Inf. Died on steamer, Nov. 27, 1863.

Milner Hawes, Co. B. Thirtysixth Wis. Inf. Killed at Ream Station, Va. August 25, 1864.

Morris C. Cook, Co. I. Eighteenth Wis. Inf. Killed at Shilo, Tenn. April 6, 1862.

Calamus

Zeno Gibbs. Co. D. Fifth Wis. Inf. Died at Camp Griffin, Va. Dec. 29, 1861.

Henry Jones, Co. C. Sixteenth Wis. Inf. Died at Corinth, Miss. October 10, 1862.

John G. Jones, Co. G. Twenty third Wis. Inf. Killed at Jackson, La. October 5, 1864.

Fountain Prairie Absent

You, like the writer, have no doubt noticed no names listed from Fall River or Fountain Prairie and have wondered why. We do not have the answer but do surmise that when Haskel Post No. 146 was organized in 1886 at Columbus, a great many soldiers from Fountain Prairie became members of the Columbus organization, proof of which is the published list of original members which contained 81 members. A dozen or more names can easily be recognized as people from the Fall River area, and a careful check against enlistments would show many more.

(To Be Continued)

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1959 — INSTALLMENT NO. 430

George H. Brayton Post 271

In the meantime the George H. Brayton Post No. 271 was organized, and it is perfectly natural to assume that G.A.R. members from that area would leave Haskel Post No. 146 and join Brayton Post No. 271 which we have stated in prior installments of "The Story of Columbus" had a much larger membership than the Columbus Post.

Having a Post of their own, and a monument project of their own to support, we submit, would be a valid reason for not supporting, or submitting names for Haskel (now Brown) G.A.R. Post No. 146.

The beautiful Obelisk, erected in Fall River cemetery has a bronze plaque of dedication but bears no names.

Perhaps some day we may run across the story during research, and if so, will re-open the subject in this column.

The writer has checked the published list, with the names on the monument, and finds they are all there, plus a group of five more names, that were, obviously added at a later date.

These names, chiseled on the face of the monument towards the library are Gardner B. Johnson; Charles B. Mills; William Foster; William Richards and Travis Elmer Keefor.

We have information that the first and fifth names are from families in the town of Elba, but we have no details as to company or regiment, or place and date of death.

If any of our readers can supply any information whatever, about any of the five names or how they came to be omitted and subsequently added, we would greatly appreciate knowing about it.

Gardner B. Johnson

Gardner B. Johnson was a younger brother of George Johnson, one of whose sons was named after his uncle. Gardner B. Johnson. George Johnson and his brother the original Gardner went to war, but his company or number of his regiment apparently are not known; his nephew, who bears his name, is Dr. Gardner B. Johnson of Evansville, Indiana and often is a visitor in the Columbus area and is here as this is written, August 5, 1959 and is 88 years of age.

During an interview by the writer Dr. Johnson stated that his namesake uncle, died in Libby Prison, Richmond, Virginia, a prisoner of war.

George Long, now living in Florida, a long time resident of Columbus, a retired rural mail carrier visiting here (August 1959) is a son of one of Dr. Johnson's sister, Mrs. Charles Gamidge who died some years ago, was also a sister of Dr. Johnson.

Travis Elmer Keefor

Travis Elmer Keefor was the second son of Christian W. Keefor and Mary Jacques Keefer who settled in the town of Elba, Dodge county in the spring of 1847. He was born in New York October 8, 1839 and was married to Miss Ella Hopkins in Wisconsin. He enlisted and died in the Civil war, but no details as to dates, company, regiment, engagement in which he was wounded or killed, prison, etc. has been found.

There were eight sons and two daughters in Christian Keefor's family, one of whom was a barber in Columbus, William Henry Harrison Keefer, whose shop was a room in the back of George Griswold's Law office that once stood in front of where the library now is. "Billie" as he was called was also a Union soldier.

We have found no information about the other three whose names were mentioned earlier.

The Memorial and Dedicatory Services
As reported in the Democrat of June 5, 1895

We take from the paper portions pertaining to the event in an effort to convey the highlites of the occasion, "Once more has Columbus in a special way, honored its soldier dead —commemorated their sacrifice, revered their memories and strewn flowers upon their graves.

"Memorial Day of 1895, (only thirty years after the close of the war between the states, we'll go down in the history of Columbus one frought with special significance—a day upon which our people, as has been their custom for years, not only renewed their remembrance of those who fell in battle, during the remembrance of those who fell in battle, during the dark days of 61-65, or have passed on since, but monumented in imperishable granite, the deeds of forty three of the many thousand federal soldiers who rest under southern skies, in southern and unmarked graves.

"In spite of the threatening weather of the morning large numbers began to arrive from the surrounding country during the early hours and before ten o'clock it is thought that upwards of 1500 strangers must have assembled to witness the exercises of the day.

"With this number came representatives of the G.A.R. Posts of Fall River, Waterloo, Watertown and Lowell, the latter coming in a body.

"At 9:30 the local Post and visiting delegations assembled at headquarters preparatory to decorating the soldiers' graves in the cemeteries and conducting the regular G.A.R. services incident thereto.

"Headed by the Waterloo Merchants Band the veterans marched to the city hall and from thence escorted the school children to the cemetery where the graves of soldier dead, were decorated with wreaths of flowers and small flags, during the course of the exercises.

Rain interferred somewhat, but the showers were light, and did not appear to dampen the ardor of the participants in the least.

(We omit a half column of very small type, the remarks of Prof. J. F. Hughes of Reeseville).

The graves decorated were those of the following: Dr. J. C. Axtell, Dr. R. G. James, Dr. C. D. Winch, M. Tennant, S. Bennett, A. T. Hopkins, S. McLarty, C. W. Tuttle, S. A. Sawyer, J. B. Tompkins, A. Starkweather, H. W. Stuttson, Eri Silsbee, O. M. Shadduck, M. Silsbee, E. E. Polley, H. K. Dodge, W. G. Whiting, H. D. Bath, Michael Carney, C. J. Drabble, A. Hoffman, W. Kuhl, George S. Campbell, W. H. Horton, J. S. Babcock, J. Wegner, George Brown, J. O. Hutchinson, George Swift, O. Williams, Col. H. M. Brown, Carl Leitsch, (all soldiers in the Civil War) and the six following from the war of 1812.

Capt. J. Burke, Col. J. J. Smith, John Hasey sr. F. C. Farnham, Waldo Field, Henry Cheeseborough.

Returning from the cemetery the column broke ranks at the post hall and dispersed for the noon hour.

City Hall Open To All

In throwing open the city hall to the legitimate use of the visitors whom we expect to have on Memorial Day, Mayor Coles has determined wisely; strangers may seek its pleasant precincts for rest or shelter, and many also leave surplus wraps or parcels there.

Besides they can, if they wish, obtain a lunch on the European plan, which the G.A.R. ladies (the Women's Relief Corps.) propose to serve in the building at reasonable rates.

So come and make yourselves at home. We are going to have a big day of it.

Pursuant to the above announcement in the paper the previous week, the women of the W.R.C. served large numbers throughout the day.



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1959 — INSTALLMENT NO. 431

CORRECTING AN ERROR

In last week's "Story of Columbus" we stated that Mrs. Charles Gamidge had died some years ago.

Our attention has been called to this as an error and that Mrs. Gamidge is still living, having been in an Epospical home in Milwaukee for several years.

We regret the error, which was based on mis-information and are glad the lady is still living.

STORY OF THE MONUMENT

THE DEDICATORY SERVICE

Shortly after 1 o'clock upwards of 2000 people had assembled on the street and the schoolgrounds, and about the monument, in spite of the threatening weather, to witness the unveiling and dedicating of the G.A.R. monument.

A little later the Waterloo band escorted the Posts and invited guests from the city hall to the scene, the veterans forming a hollow square about the monument.

After a selection by the band, and a prayer by Rev. J. V. Trenery of Fall River, Mayor Coles gave the order for the unveiling, which honor fell to Miss Dolly Brown (Mrs. Nelson Webster) daughter of the late Col. H. M. Brown, whose name the local post now bears.

Then forty three little girls, clad in white and bearing in their hands wreaths of flowers, marched through the throng, and forming about the monument, sang a song and then deposited their flowers upon the grassy mound at its base.

At this juncture, unfortunately, the rain began to descend and forced an adjournment to the auditorium (the entire second floor of the city hall) the capacity of which was, of course, far from being sufficient to accomodate the immense throng.

The exercises were continued by a formal presentation by Mayor Coles, in the name of the municipality, of the monument to the Grand Army of the Republic, for dedication in accordance with its ritual.

This done and after a solo by Mr. C. C. Eaton, Mayor Coles in a few well chosen words expressed the pride which he felt in the part which he, as Mayor, was called upon to take in the exercises and then introduced ex-Governor W. D. Hoard (a former citizen of Columbus) the speaker of the day; he was at that time Commander of the Wisconsin Division of G.A.R.

EX-GOVERNOR HOARD

In his address, Governor Hoard referred feelingly to his early experiences in our city, (he lived here from 1865 to 1869) and of the many kindnesses wrought by old friends here, and the distinguished marks of affection which he had received at their hands.

Calling attention to the significance of the war of the rebellion he maintained that it had been too little thought of. To the character of America, he said, it brought the respect of European nations such as we never had before.

He viewed evidently with not a little anxiety what seems to be a danger that surrounds our citizenship. Partisanship caused the war; and he warned his hearers to guard against floundering upon that snag. Whatever politics one adhered to, he would have them, Republicans, Democrats, prohibitionists or "any other 'ists" only for the glory of our counttry; and whatever or whenever politics stopped between our country and its welfare, one should turn his back upon it with a firm determination to seek first the good of country.

And when any man is in doubt as to his duty in politics, let him shut his eyes and think, "My Country 'tis of Thee, of Thee I Sing," and he will be set right.

A soldiers monument is needed in every community to tell men to stand by their country and honest conviction. Yes, "stand by your convictions though the heavens fall." And that monument must teach us loyalty to duty and country.

His address lasted one hour; Editor Eaton had arranged for a stenographer to take down the address ver batem. The stenographer was taken sick too late to secure a substitute.

There was about $100.00 still owing on the monument, but pledges to cover were easily obtained before the exercises were over.

A little surprise that was not on the program, then occurred when ex-Governor James T. Lewis arose and advancing to the front of the stage, he recalled some of the incidents of the war, and continued a eulogistic strain, touching upon the bravery and faithfulness of army officers and privates; he referred in warm praise to the military record of our late townsman, Col. H. M. Brown, commending him for his daring and constancy, and concluding by presenting to Harvey M. Brown, Post No. 146, on behalf of Mrs. Brown, his widow, a life size bust drawing in India ink, of her late and much lamented husband.

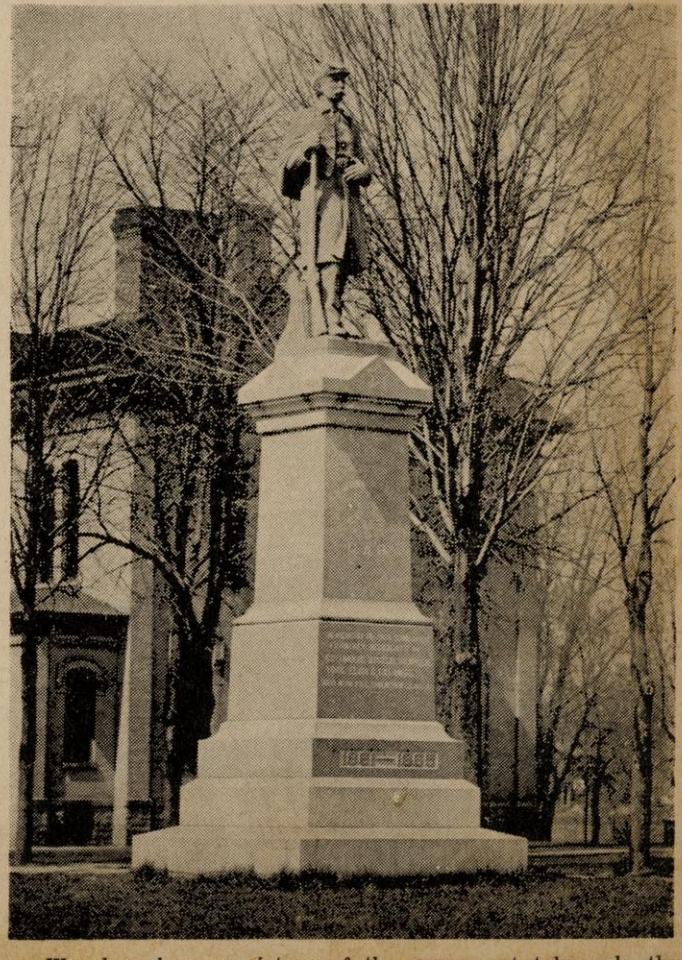
When the applause which followed this had subsided, Governor Hoard advanced, and on behalf of the Post, at the request of Commander George Weeks, very gracefully thanked the donor for the gift, adding some pointed facts in relation to Col. Brown which had come under his own personal observation.

Reverend J. V. Trenery then pronounced the benediction, and the great audience withdrew.

The Auditorium

Many of our citizens perhaps do not know that the entire second floor of the city hall, built in 1892 consists of a sloping floor auditorium, with a large stage, with scenery, wings, curtains, dressing rooms and even most of the seats.

Together with a large gallery across the rear we would judge the seating capacity was five or six hundred. It was condemned many years ago and has not been used for a long time.



We show here a picture of the monument taken shortly after its erection on the original site. The building in the background is at the corner of Dickason Blvd. and School street; from there it was moved to its present location.

End of Monument Story

630

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 432

Mrs. Mildred Secor

Mrs. Mildred Secor, of Elko, Nevada, who was born in Columbus passed her 99th birthday October 29.

A newspaper clipping was recently received which showed her picture and a nice account of her long and useful life.

For some years she has been a correspondent and has contributed much of the information used in this column.

Installments 92-3 of the Story of Columbus was devoted to the story of Hiram Seffens and his family of which Mrs. Secor, his daughter, Mildred was one, which was published six or seven years ago.

The recent, widely publicized news story of the birth of quintuplets, at San Antonio, Texas, prompted us to call renewed attention to Mrs. Secor, for it was she, in one of her many letters about her recollections of her girlhood here, who sent a picture of the "quints" and give us the details, which were incorporated in the story of the Kanouse family, published in this column, only recently.

Since there are many residents of Columbus, who have come here in recent years, we are reviewing briefly some of the interesting facts revealed in the Hiram Seffens story, all from letters from his daughter Mildred.

Hirman Seffens, was one of the master workmen, who left many monuments to his skill as a brick mason and plasterer, having come to Columbus in 1856, and only by chance, as will be seen.

He was born in Yorkshire, England in 1922, a son of William Seffens, a British soldier who fought in the war of 1812; after the end of his service in the defeated army, his unit was returned to England where he resumed his work as a wool carder; but he always had it in his mind to return to America to make it his home. In 1828 William Seffens, wife and eight children set sail for America on a sailing vessel, this being before the days of steamships.

The passage required about six months (which probably means it was following a round about course to many ports). Small pox broke out, almost everyone on board coming down with it. The Seffens family all had it and a small baby girl died and was buried at sea.

In England, Mr. Seffens had become skilled in the operation, care and maintenance of wool carding machines that were rapidly replacing hand carding, (combing out burrs, nettles, slivers or other extraneous matter from the fleeces of wool).

At the port of embarkation, all of the possessions of the passengers were carefully searched to make sure that no one was taking drawing or designs of labor saving machines or equipment out of the country.

Mr. Seffens had nothing of the kind on paper, but he had it in his head, and upon arrival in New York he drew sketches from memory, which he placed with a manufacturing concern who soon brought out and marketed one of the first carding machines made in this country.

The son Hirman became an apprentice to a brick layer, then a journeyman workman, and finally a master mason, which included plastering and ornamental decorative work. In time, Hirman worked his way west as far as LaPorte, Indiana and during his sojourn there he was married to Miss Marguerite Watkins, probably in the mid forties.

Brick layers, as well as the followers of other building trades, frequently moved to new locations, growing towns where there was plenty of work; Hiram's next location was Niles, Michigan but the length of his stay is not of record.

Early in 1846, the Seffens family left Michigan in a covered wagon, bound for Waterloo, Iowa where an older sister of Mrs. Seffens was living; not finding it to their liking they decided to go to Wisconsin, where another sister was living on a farm near Ripon.

The assumption is that on the way back from Iowa, they passed through Columbus, which impressed Hiram favorably, so after a short visit with the relatives at Ripon, they returned to Columbus, a rapidly growing village, with plenty of work in sight for sometime to come.

We quote from one of Mrs. Secors letters "my parents happened to stop overnight in Columbus,a covered wagon, a good team of horses and three children. They were given such a good welcome, and urged to stay in Columbus that this might be a good place to make a home."

The new brick high school (the first brick building built, which was torn down when the Dickason Blvd. central building was built) had just been finished, and the brick building on James street and Broadway (Dickason) (now the telephone company building) the homes of William Lewis and A. G. Cook on the hill of James street (presently the F. A. Stare home, and the American Legion, respectively, had just been started, so my father saw a future for the town.

Returning from Ripon, Mr. Seffens bought a block of ground on Fuller street (the 600 block on south side of Fuller street and built a small house) which was my birthday place in 1860" and "about two or three years later, they built a larger house on Fuller street, on the way to the grove. (The first small house where she was born was, for many years the workshop for the late Ed "Cap" Stark, the next or larger house is the home of Mrs. Edward Stark, the grove mentioned shows on old maps as Whiting's Grove, later caller Fullers grove; it was north of what is new County trunk K. west of Franklin and extended out beyond the new Lutheran school and several of the new homes west of Div, Line and Charles streets. It was the site for Sunday school picnics, Fourth of July celebrations etc.)

"In 1870 the brick house on Prairie street was built and father sold the Fuller street property to Josiah Whiting, whose previous home was a house in the grove beyond the end of Fuller street" (before it was extended up the hill recently) (The Prairie street home is the house at 322 West Prairie, until recently the John H. Miller property).

In 1873 building must have slackened somewhat for Mr. Seffens moved to Augusta, Wisconsin where a school house and several business blocks were being built. After the completion of the jobs at Augusta (two years perhaps) he moved back to Columbus, where several new brick buildings were to be built.

It it not clear whether Mr. Seffens sold the Prairie street house before going up to Augusta, or later. However the assumption is that or the brief period at Augusta he may have rented it to someone and that when he came back it was his own house.

Mr. Seffens, one of several brick masons, frequently worked with Mr. Henry Boelte, father of Otto and Martha, according to information in different letters from Mrs. Secor, in one of which she writes "Henry Boelte was a fine stone mason, and built most of the basements for homes and stores, and then my father did the brick work and plastering."

During the next few years after returning from Augusta Mr. Seffens worked, both brick work and plastering, on the Griswold block (Schroeders) Leitsch block (Derings) Bassett, Davis and Price (Western Auto Stores) Olivet church, German Lutheran church, German Methodist church and other buildings of which we have no record.

Mr. Seffens was a member and supporter of the Baptist church (Columbo Garment) served as clerk and was a member of the building committee. Mrs. Secor writes "we were members of that church for many years, as long as there were enough to keep the church going. Among the member families I recall were the William Lewis, Elija Butterfield, the Merriams, Sawyers, Ingalsbee's and of course many others."

Mr. Seffens' work was interrupted by the Civil war in which he was a Lieutenant, after the war he was assistant postmaster of the legislature in Madison during the administration of James T. Lewis of Columbus, as governor.

In the Prairie street home, the Seffens oldest daughter was married in 1876 to Mr. Samuel McClatchie of Augusta, Wisconsin. Mary had been a teacher in the Columbus schools at the same time that James Quickenden's sister "Libby" taught here.

In 1878 Mr. Seffens decided to move farther west so he sold his Prairie street home to Mr. J. J. Sutton and moved his family to Jefferson county, Nebraska where he owned a farm. There in 1879 his youngest daughter, Mildred, our correspondents, was married to Mr. James H. Secor, son of Peter Secor of Fall River, Wisconsin.

After some years in Nebraska Mr. Seffens sold his farm, came back to Wisconsin, located in Osseo, where he died in 1888.

Mrs. Secor writes "after the death of my husband, I went back to Augusta, where I lived supporting my little boy, working as a practical nurse, I was blessed with good health and much ambition, and was able to educate my son."

"He took his medical work at what is now Marquette at Milwaukee. An older doctor persuaded him, my son, Dr. Charles E. Secor, to come to Nevada as a good place for a young doctor to set up a practice."

Then came World War I in which he served two years as a doctor; returning to Nevada he came to Elko, then a village of 2200, which now is a small city of nearly 9000.

After my son retired at 75 years he never wished to go anywhere else, he said all his friends were here and here is where he wanted to live.

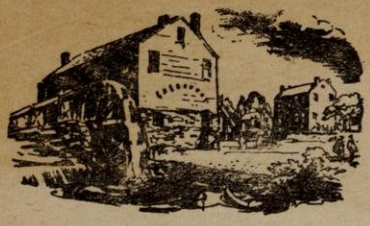
There is only his mother and his widow left but they will stay in Elko among their friends.

My son was a good doctor and much loved and highly honored, so I feel that my 99 years have been well spent.

My eyes now are nearly gone with cataracts, so it is very hard to write. I think I have had ever since I was a high school girl, as a motto, "If we do every day, each day what we think to be our duty, we will not think life a failure."

The end of the Secor story

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 433

From Columbus Democrat Feb. 4, 1869
Volumn one number 22
"Among the Schools"

One subject most everyone is always interested in is the Public Schools.

Editor Henry D. Bath was no exception. The first brick school here had been built about ten years before, but apparently could not accomodate all of the pupils, so some were attending the old original school built in 1846 at a cost of $400. and served many purposes in the interim, and was frequently referred to as the town hall, which is confusing for there was a town hall in the township.

Mr. Bath wrote "A visit to the Union school in this village leads to the statement that some changes made in its management at the commencement of the term; and that in its first month's operation have been successful.

We are able to speak with a degree of certainty of the conditions of the school, having passed Friday morning in its several departments, and being on that occasion much gratified with the general appearance of the school.

Order and system were noticable features. Columbus has excellent school facilities; and all things considered has a school second to none in the country. Its grading is now better and the courses of study more judiciously arranged than at any former period.

First Primary Departments

The first primary department is under the care of Miss Alice Sturgis who seems to be the right person in the right place. In this department the smaller classes are taught the alphabet, spelling, reading and oral exercises in the various "tables."

In teaching pupils of this class we would especially recommend oral exercises; as the experience of our best educators has shown that a vast amount of useful information can be permanently fixed in the mind in this manner; upon the register in this department there are 53 names.

Second Primary

The second primary is devoted to reading, spelling and primary arithmetic. Miss Martha Dean is teaching it with commendable industry. In this connection we again take occasion to advocate as much oral exercises as possible.

Aside from its positive benefits it beguiles many hours of weariness; and makes the school room a place of delightful resort to children. 60 names are registered here.

First Intermediate

The school in the town hall (old original wooden school) is designed for pupils who are somewhat advanced in reading; for instruction in primary geography and for beginners in arithmetic and the tables. We must again repeat the advice already given, as with this class of scholars also, oral exercises can be made eminently useful.

The pleasure of our visit (in old school) was marred by a little deficiency in order. A little judicious supervision by the school board would doubtless improve this department.

Miss Nicholson is doing her best, and with a little advise will be successful. 60 names are on the register, and to govern and teach this large number requires great talents, especially in one so young.

Second Intermediate

The second intermediate department is designed for a higher grade in reading, geography, mental arithmetic and spelling. Miss Mary Seffins has its controls and is doing her work well. She has 63 names registered.

Next Intermediate

The next higher intermediate is in all respects an advance upon the last mentioned. In it are taught mental arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, reading, spelling etc.

Miss Ada Maxwell is teacher; both in teaching and in government there is progress in the right direction, and this department ought to be a success.

If there is a failure it will be the fault of the pupils and not of the teacher.

We heard one of the spelling classes, and thought a little more study would be an improvement; 60 names are on this register.

High School

The high school is now in reality what its name indicates, it being intended for instruction in the more advanced studies of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, bookkeeping, physical geography, history, grammer, phylosophy, rhetoric and geology being among the branches taught.

A marked feature in this department also is thoroughness in all its work. The pupils are taught with energy and skill. The object of the higher mathematics is a discipline of the mental powers—is thus realized.

The mind gaining strength and vigor expands into intellectual maturity and becomes fitted to perform the active duties of practical life.

Mr. John J. Lloyd, assisted by Miss Hattie Rosencranz, has the management of this department. The long experience and success of this gentleman as a teacher are a prophesy of a large measure of success in this present position. He has 98 names on the register.

(We wish to interpolate here a few figures: the total registration as shown above is 394 pupils; they were being taught by seven people; as far as the grades are concerned the average is sixty pupils per teacher, while the principle and one assistant taught 98 in high school.

No figures on salaries and other expenses are mentioned. However we have some figures for 1871, two years later, when there were 640 pupils, there being 38 more girls than boys.

The total salaries paid teachers in 1871, when at the rate of 60 per teacher, there may have been as many as ten teachers was $2,821.00. The receipts in money totaled $5,430.00.

The records also show that by special act of the legislature incorporating Columbus as a city, made it possible to have a city high school, independent from the county superintendent of schools, although it was not until January 1876 that the Free City High School of Columbus was fully established.)

Going back to Mr. Bath's article we quote, "In speaking of the schools of Columbus, its influence upon adjoining districts should not be overlooked.

This has been lost by the unwise policy of excluding pupils who live outside of the school district. Schools in the county need teachers, and it is better to educate them at home, than to have to import them from other countries.

Columbus is one of the points where such opportunities ought to be furnished, and a good school here can be made a great benefit to others in adjoining or adjacent districts.

With its beautiful situation, its trade, its intelligence and its enterprise it is fitting that Columbus should be a point where teachers may gather to receive instruction and formulate others."

(It is to be regretted that Mr. Bath did not go into more details, such as the name of or title of the various text books used; as to whether there was singing or other opening exercises either in their own rooms, or an assembly.

It is also noted that no mention was made of penmanship which very likely was taught; possibly farther along in the school year there may be another article about the schools.)"

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 434

Early Days in Columbus

Among the several "pieces" written by Editor Henry D. Bath, who bought the Columbus Transchipt in September, 1868, changed its name and politics to The Columbus Democrat was one about the Columbus Post Office, published, February 4, 1869.

We are reproducing it as written, with such interpolations as may be helpful to orient the various locations mentioned.

The Columbus Post Office

What point is there in town, village or country where the general interest centers more uniformly than at the post office? The arrival of the mail invariably awakens all the emotions that hang on expectancy.

There are volumes of reflection associated with the getting or non-getting of letters, under the various circumstances under which these events occur.

Truthfully had htat pleasant and suggestive writer, the regretted Thoreau, said that the more the inner life dies out of a man, the more persistently he visits the post office.

To trace the mutations identified with the Columbus post office taken us back to the origin of this settlement to the period when the communications between Columbus and Beaver Dam was a mere Indian trail, and the only means of transportation were the back of Indian ponies.

We have talked with several of our oldest residents concerning the earlier times of our village, and each is full of reminiscence and anecdote, and some believe that there was then more real life and enjoyment than at any subsequent time, and in their retrospection, they sigh that the adventure and variety of those days of frontier life has passed forever.

We notice, however, as illustrative of the facility with which even the most familiar facts elude the memory, that scarcely any two of these oldest inhabitants can agree precisely on the date, locality, or other circumstances of any event. (and it is still true as of 1959)

Before the establishment of the postal route from Green Bay to Madison, there existed a line from Asztalan (a very early settlement on the Crawfish, and considered the head of navigation on the Rock and Crawfish river, near what is now Lake Mills." And about 2.5 miles from here, to Portage City.

Letters were dropped here by the carrier who made the distance on horseback, and when any resident went to that little settlement with the ancient name, he brought back letters to such of his neighbors as were fortunate enough to have any, glimpses, as they were, into the outside world.

And we hear stories of about that period when the Columbus mail, such as it was, was brought hither in a handkerchief by a mounted postman enroute for a regular office, and was left at a store, each recipient of a letter paying an extra two cents for the accomodation.

H. A. Whitney, First Postmaster

Late in 1845 a post office was esablished here with a once a week mail delivery. We are told that there was an animated contest as to who should be the first postmaster. The friends of Col. Jeremiah Drake, recently deceased, (who was in charge of the mill) and H. A. Whitney received the appointment (possible because his tavern and store was the stopping place for more people, being near the corner where Blackhawk Tavern now is."

Mr. Whitney, shortly after his appointment, found it necessary to go to the "pineries" (up north to the lumber camps) on business, put an employee, Sylvester Carbin in charge during his absence.

Carbin, subsequently became well known in all this vicinity, and gained in the playful nomencleture of the period, the euphonious sobrequet of "Old Hyson" (we have no idea what the nickname meant).

He died last winter (1867-8) somewhere outside the state, we believe. The first post office was kept in a low flat roofed building which stood nearly opposite from the present site of Schaeffer's brick block (this would locate the post office about where the bakery now is). It subsequently became one of the outbuildings of the original Hotel Whitney. (The building burned subsequently, and was replaced by another Hotel Whitney, the present building which houses the Blackhawk Tavern).

Mr. Fred F. Farnham (who built the fine brick home now owned and occupied by the Henry Altschwagers at 553 West James street) who came here a year or so later, has given us a description of his first visit to the post office.

It was in the building we have mentioned; the room was partitioned by blankets hanging on a line, and behind the blankets Old Hyson lay prone on a bed, shivering with the plague. In one corner stood a barrel of whiskey, a grocery much in vogue in those days (it sold for twenty-five cents a gallon); and in another corner was a 7"x9" glass box, the contents of which constituted the post office, which the inquirer of mail rummaged at his leisure.

Josiah Arnold, Second Post Master

Josiah Arnold, merchant, became the second postmaster in the spring of 1847, and had the office in the store of Bassett and Arnold in a building that stood where the Bassett, Davis and Price now is (as of 1869).

Arnold was familiarly known as "Captain Spraker" by reason of his connection with the famous "Old Guard" an organization more un-matrimonial than military.

(It is the writers impression that Arnold had been a law student. He was a business partner of Daniel E. Bassett for a few years only; as early as the organization of the state he was a candidate for Probate Judge but was defeated. However he was postmaster for a year or two while he was resident here).

James E. Eaton, Third Post Master

Third postmaster here was James E. Eaton, who was a Justice of the Peace. He was appointed by President Millard Fillmore who was a cousin of Mr. Eaton.

The President wrote him asking what sort of appointment he would like to have. He chose the postmastership of Columbus, and was appointed to that office.

He kept the postoffice in his Justice of the Peace office in a building where Mr. John A. Erhart's harness shop now is (as of 1869). Unfortunately we cannot say with certainty, but we believe it was on lower James street).

Daniel E. Newcombe

Mr. Eaton moved to California in 1860, having resigned the office and recommended the appointment of Daniel E. Newcombe. Newcombe was appointed, and moved the office to Griswold's store (where Schroeder's Food Store is, but not the present building) making the 4th postmaster.

1854 — Addison Griswold Was Next

A change was made when Franklin Pierce became president, his appointee being Addison Griswold (a brother of George, William and Eugene Griswold).

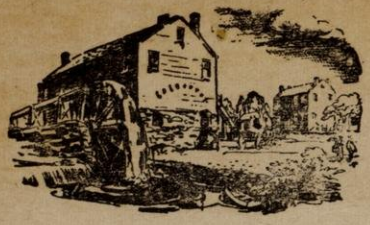
Addison Griswold, the fifth postmaster, was kept quite busy in the store, and remained Mr. Newcombe (who also had a nursery and grew trees, shrubs etc. on four blocks, on Harrison street between Main and Lewis streets).

The office was afterwards moved one door south into a small building called the Cotey Shoe Shop, which stood where Swarthouts (Kalks) drug store now is.

1856 — Amassa C. Cook— 6th Post Master to 1869

To Be Continued

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 435

1856 Amassa C. Cook 6th Postmaster to 1869

When James Buchanan's Administration came into power, he appointed A. C. Cook the sixth postmaster and removed the office to the present site of Winter's Jewelry store, into a building which had formerly been used by Mr. F. F. Farnham when he was register of deeds (Columbus had been the County Seat for a few years; Farnham was a clerk in the store of Arnold and Bassett, he was also a Justice of the Peace, and combined all of this activity in the store, the only building on the north side of James street in the first block down hill, about where Lohr's Buckhorn Tavern now is).

(In the meantime Cook had built a building on James street where Mrs. Topp's Ladies Exchange Store now is). In 1859 Mr. Cook having finished his building the post office was moved thither."

1863 — Frank Huggins — 7th Postmaster

Our second drug store was operated by Frank Huggins in a small building that once stood where John Swarthout, our first druggest later built the present Kalk Drug Store building.

"When Abraham Iincoln became president, he appointed Frank Huggins to be our seventh postmaster.

When he first took possession, he removed the post office from Cook's building to his store, which had formerly been the post office during Addison Griswold's postmastership.

But Mr. Cook fixed up his building as a drug store and Huggins moved his stock of drugs, and the post office back into Cook's building, this being in 1868.

"The annexed statement of the business done by the post office in 1867 and 1868 may serve as a contrast with the years when Old Hysen was wont to carry the mail in his hat on top of his head.

"The number of letters received at the office for delivery during 1867 is estimated at 58900; and the number out at 52,-125; the number of stamps sold in 1867; was 919 one cent; 2116 two cent; 45663 three cent; 156 five cent; 223 ten cent; 136 twelve cent; 367 fifteen cent; 277 twenty-four cent; 79 thirty cent; stamped envelopes 6044, and stamped newspaper wrappers, 418.

In 1868 the sales were 1906, one cent; 1915 two cent; 43,-930 three cent; 23 five cent; 501 ten cent; 567, twelve cent; 285, fifteen cent, 26, twenty four cent; 26, thirty cent; 6,371 stamped envelopes; and 415, newspaper wrappers.

"The number of letters received was estimated at 45,000; and the number of letters mailed out was 51,727.

"We are indebted to H. D. James the prompt and capable assistant of Postmaster Huggins, for some statistics concerning the office at the present time (Feb., 1869) among which is the subjoined, by which can be seen to a great extent what the people of this community are reading.

"These figures may seem unimportant; but they have a significance which the politician, the sectarian, or any man interested in the creation of public opinion or conviction may not overlook. Who can realize the potency of these periodicals, scattered regularily over all this vicinity.

"There are now taken in this post office over 200 different periodicals, not including the exchanges coming to two newspapers officer here.

We give the number of subscriptions taken, of the more important journals, as follows:

Milwaukee Sentinel daily 13
Milwaukee Sentinel tri-weekly 2
Milwaukee Sentinal Weekly 100
Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin semi-weekly 4
Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin weekly 15
Milwaukee News daily 8
Milwaukee News semi-weekly 2
Milwaukee News, weekly 8
Milwaukee Volkfriend weekly 44
Milwaukee Sec Bote Weekly 21
Milwaukee Herald Weekly 14

Chicago Times weekly 9; Madison State Journal Weekly 8; daily 5; Chicago Tribune daily 5; tri-weekly 3; weekly 13; Madison Democrat weekly 2; Atlantic Monthly 2; Harpers Weekly 13; Bazaar 7; Bible Society Record 14; Godey's Lady Book 3; Weekly Weltburger 13; Peterson's Magazine 2; New York Ledger 20; Chicago Post 13; Ladies Friend 21; Boston Pilot 8; Mystic Star 14; LaCrosse Democrat 6; Western Rural 14; Standard 13; Advance, 10; Little Corporal 46; Soldier Record 7; New York World 21; Saturday Evening Post 21; New Covenant 17; New York Independent 24; Northwestern Christian Advocate 18; Ladies Repositary 9; Apologist 22; Rural New Yorker 35.

The article closes here but we pick it up, without details, from the Centennial Issue,. July 1940.

John Swarthout was appointed postmaster in April 1869 and held the position for 17 years; the location being his Drug Store, now Phil Sharrow's Kalk Drug Co.

The names and date of appointment of succeeding post masters are as follows. Harvey M. Brown, January 13th, 1886; John D. Decker, January 9, 1890; John Topp, January 12, 1894; Stephen Manning, January 14, 1898; H. M. Blumenthal, August 5, 1904; W. J. Reidner, July 11, 1913; H. J. Altschwager April 12, 1922; R. J. Lueders, May 16, 1935; M. M. Bartley, March 20, 1940; Waldo (Bud) Larson, May, 1957; Werner Wuetrich, December, 1957; and the present postmaster, Russell R. Moore, September 5, 1958.

The End of This Story

Earlier Times of Columbus

Dates of arrival of some of the Early Settlers

The First Businessmen — Arrival of Lawyer Lewis — Rise of Real Estate etc. This is the fifth paper written and published by Editor and Publisher H. D. Bath of the Columbus Democrat, Volume 1, Number 28, May 27, 1869.

"Some memorandas were sometime since given to us, which mark the dates of the arrival and location of a number of our oldest settlers, and they are believed to be correct. (We of the present should state that these several papers composed by Bath, were, in the main, the source of much of the material used by Historian C. W. Butterfield author and compilor of the "History of Columbia County" published in 1880).

"As we have already stated, Mayor Elbert Dickason, made his claim near the Crawfish River in 1839 or 1840 and there is some dispute as to which of these years it was. In 1841 Jacob Dickason, brother to the Mayor settled near him.

(A Red Granite Boulder, under the oak tree just beyond the railway tracks at the foot of Dickason Blvd. marks the proximate site of Dickason's cabin).

"In 1842 came Noah Dickason, James Shackley, S. W. St. John and a man named Baldwin. In 1843 Henry A. Whitney, Col. Jeremiah Drake (and his son) W. W. Drake, who settled near where is now the village.

"Within a few miles of its site were located T. Clark Smith, W. Stewart, ————Bing, ————Campbell, and W. Wade. (Mr. Smith took up government land upon which the building of Wisconsin Academy now stand. Smith is said to have been the first settler between Columbus and Ft. Winnebago on the Fox River (then called the Neenah) not far from where the city of Portage was started at a later date.

"The year 1844 brought to the village Jacob Smith, (a brother of T. Clark, and a merchant tailor by trade) and the Stroud family, (and to locate within a few miles of the settlement). H. W. Hamilton, John Swarthout, H. Cady, A. Lashier, Edwards and a few others.

To Be Continued

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY

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The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 436

'In 1845 there came to this frontier, for it was still so, James T. Lewis, J. C. Axtel, Daniel E. Bassett, J. E. Arnold, Warren Loomis, W. C. Spencer, Jessee Rowell, Emanuel Thayer, W. M. Clark, and some others all of whom settled in or near the village.

(Columbus was called a village but did not adopt the village form of government until 1864.)

"The same year Almond P. Birdsey, Thomas Swarthout, the Barrows family and Zenas Robbins located on land (within compartively short distances away).

"In 1846 B. T. Hart (a blacksmith) and S. Wright, came to the village and the Adler family and R. Gammage settled near it.

After this date we have no full list of arrivals, though they must have been sparce, and the society of this community rather primitive for sometime thereafter.

"The other day a passenger upon the east bound train, standing upon the platform, looking over the village, and noticing its many evidences of growth and prosperity, asked what its population was. He was told that it bordered upon 3,000. (And what a stretch that was).

"His rejoiner was that he knew it well in 1855 when it did not much exceed one-tenth that number.

(The first, a census of families, was taken in 1846, and was so unsatisfactory, another census was taken in 1847 and the entire population of the county was only 3781. In what was called Columbus Precinct, consisting of Randolph, Courtland, Fountain Prairie, Columbus Hampden, Otsego, Springvale and Scott, eight townships. There were eight enumerators for the entire county, and Columbus Precinct totaled 940.

As of 1875 the population of the town of Columbus was 881 outside the city of Columbus, which had 1908, and this was fourteen years after the episode mentioned above.)

First Businessmen

"We have already mentioned one or two of the subjoined facts, but it is not miss to place upon the records that Rev. C. E. Rosencrans was the first minister to live in this village. That Judge Lewis was the first attorney, and that Dr. J. C. Axtell was the first physician, and that the two (last mentioned) occupied for sometime the same office just beyond where John William's durg store now is. (The Corner Drug as of now).

"That the first tavern and the first store were opened by H. A. Whitney, who was also the first postmaster, after a lively contest between his friends and those of Col. Drake.

"That the second store was opened by J. E. Arnold and D. E. Bassett in 1845. That the first saw mill and grist mill was commenced by Mayor Dickason and was completed by Lewis Ludington.

"That B. F. Hart and S. Wright introduced in this community the ancient art of blacksmithing and working in iron, and that the first plat (of the village) was made for Lewis Ludington in 1844.

"That (the village of) West Columbus was platted for James T. Lewis in 1854, and additions have since been made by him, A. W. Ingalsbee, F. F. Farnham, H. A. Whitney, Josiah Warren and several others, and that the first school, (a wooden structure, part of which is the residence at 426 South Ludington street) was built in 1846. (Columbus never had a log school house, but did hold schools in part of a wagon shop, and in one room of an early residence).

Appearance of Judge Lewis

Several of the old settlers enjoy describing lawyer Lewis as he appeared on his arrival to these diggings.

"It was in July 1845. He had left Orleans County, New York (near the northwest corner, two counties west of Rochester) a short time before to find a good place to practice law in the west.

(They traveled together as far as Detroit, where they parted, never expecting to see each other again, as the doctor decided to go by way of Chicago, while the young lawyer continued his trip by boat.)

"Arriving in Buffalo, (he met up with a stranger who was also going west to practice medicine and arranged to go around the Great Lakes by boat and became acquainted with a young doctor who was also going by boat.

(Lewis continued by boat as far as Southport which is now Kenosha. He wished to go to Green Bay, but the route of the boat did not call for a stop at such an out of the way port. Therefore at Southport he bought an Indian Pony for $30.00 on which he set forth along the lakeshore towards Green Bay).

"Civilization had scarcely more than began to touch the western shore (except around Milwaukee) and as he passed along through the rude and scarcely discernible beginnings of the future cities and villages, it is scarcely probable he imagine that in less than twenty years the population of Wisconsin would approach a million, and that he would be its chief magistrate. during a portion of its history so important as two years of the rebellion.

"At that time Oshkosh had made a slight start, and Neenah and Appleton were only in embrio; Fond du Lac was a small village; Green Bay was an old French trading post ante dating Milwaukee; and that whole portion of the state (it was still a territory) gave little promise of its near hereafter.

"Turning his pony southward after deciding not locate at Green Bay Lewis was told at Fond du Lac that he would find another village about 12 or 13 miles distant. This was the Waupun of the present day (1869) that name meaning in the poetic Indian tongue "Break of Day."

"Having rode (as he supposed) about the distance mentioned, he inquired at a solitary log house by the roadside, how far it was to the village, he was told that he was in the very midst of it.

"Beaver Dam was then a little village, and promi[illegible] perhaps more than it has since attained. It was known by the euphonious designation Grubville, since passed into desultude.

"There were some hints of road between here and there, and along this Lewis made his way, much of his journey having been only a trail.

"He found four houses, only, in Columbus, not counting log cabins. It was upon the terminations of this journey, on the travelworn pony, and with the evidence of the trail and the bush about himself, that the earlier settlers obtained their first impressions of the judge that they retain to this day.

"It is noticeable that Dr. Axtell, (whom Lewis had met on the boat) who had come from Detroit, by way of Chicago, and from that settlement across to Columbus, by way of Madison arrived here the same day that Lewis did.

"The doctor was a man, whom to see once, was to remember always; and he is still mentioned as the very model of manly beauty, and as being possessed of unusual intellectual endowments.

(In earlier installments of the Story of Columbus, we have given considerable more details about these two men who became almost inseparable companions. Dr. Axtell died while serving as a surgeon at the front, in the Civil war, and Lawyer Lewis, Judge, Secy. of state, Lieutenant Governor and Governor of Wisconsin during the closing years of the war.

Rise in Real Estate

"The Judge (who was not yet a Judge) purchased nearly all of his land at government prices, for ten shillings an acre ($1.25) and everybody in this vicinity knows how valuable nearly all of it now is."

"To live a single instance of the rate at which the value of real estate has increased in this village we mention that Judge Lewis purchased in 1846 as a site, for his office a lot "the other side" of the Corner Drug Store," sixty feet front by one hundred and fifty feet deep, for $32.00 and it is now said by competent judges to be worth $2500. (1869) It is known that real estate property has advanced in Columbus very considerably during the past year or more and is still growning more valuable rapidly.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 437

More About Governor Lewis

Offices Held

"In these paragraphs, we are not speaking of the Judge from a partizan stand-point at all, but only as one of our oldest residents.

Whatever his former political associates may think of this consistancy, it cannot be denied that he has achieved what men call success.

(Like most men who came here in the early days, Lewis was known as a democrat: Upon the turmoil on the question of slavery prior to the Civil War, Judge Lewis left the party and was elected governor in 1863 by the biggest majority known up to this time, he headed what was known as the "Union" ticket, a fusion of Whigs, Republicans, and "northern Democrats" and later became a Republican.)

Coming to this country with comparatively little means, he has acquired an ample competence.

"In the matter of office holding he has been especially favored: His official career belongs to the history of the state: but we may appropriately speak of the offices held by him.

"The same year of his taking up his residence here, he was made district attorney of the county, which then comprised (portions of) what is now several counties.

In 1846 he was elected County Judge. (This was in Territorial days.) In 1847 he was a candidate against Col. Jerimiah Drake (also of Columbus) for member of the Constitutional convention, and was defeated.

"In 1848 he ran again for the same office, won and became a member of the convention that formed the state constitution.

"In the first canvass he received but eight votes, and on the second ballot, he received all but eight.

"The state was admitted soon thereafter, and the Judge went into the assembly in 1852; and was elected to the senate in 1853, which position he resigned shortly to become Lieutenant governor, of which office he was the incumbent during 1854 and 1855.

"He served as secretary of state during 1862 and 1863, and became governor, serving in 1864 and 1865.

"He is now (1869) filling the lucrative and abiding situation of a farmer, the duties of which honorable incumbency, he performed very assiduously.

"It candidly seems to us, by the way, that radical office holders (radical is the term almost always used by Editor Bath, when referring to Republicans) as a rule have demonstrated a peculiar fitness for agriculture pursuits and other employment not especially intricate in its nature, and this the wisest course the people can take, is to give them an unmistakable permit to engage in what they seem best adapted to.

The Ex-Governor As A Sportsman

It is not generally known, perhaps, that the governor had achieved some renown as a Nimrod, at least in one instance.

We confess that we never heard his name mentioned in connection with the turf, or the field except on the occasion just alluded to.

Not long after his arrival in this settlement, the Judge was met near the hill on which he now resides, by Thayer and Cady, the former of whom now resides in Jefferson and the latter in Juneau County. They had just wounded a deer, and the animal was over the hill using his best endeavor to escape.

They were on foot, and the Judge was on his Indian pony; they requested him to give pursuit and secure their venison: now it may be presumed that he knew as little about the Cervine quadruped as any man in these parts: but he gave chase.

The difference in the speed of the pony and that of the wounded buck was hardly descernable; but the pony gained slowly, and after a sharp run came alongside.

The Judge was at the moment perfectly guiltless of any weapon of offense or defence, and the buck had ugly antlers, a circumstance before unthought of.

But the Judge unhesitatingly flung the physique which was subsequently to embellish the gubernatial chair of Wisconsin, proudly upon the back of the running deer.

It was a seat more uncertain even than the seat of power: and his future excellency was precipitated several yards into the snow.

He shook himself from his desent, and bethinking himself of his pocket knife, followed on foot the now almost exhausted animal, and after one or two ineffectual attempts, succeeded in dispatching the deer by stabbing him in the neck. And was himself in return, completely covered with blood. This is, we believe, the most sanguinary exploit the governor ever performed: The incident, however, is a true one.

(A more detailed report, and probably a correct version, of this episode which was published in installment No. 108, June 25, 1953 in the Story of Columbus, written by the Judge himself, the document now being on file in the State Historical Society Building in Madison. Since there are now many readers of this column who have come to Columbus since the account was published, we have decided to reprint the Governor's own account which follows.

Reminiscence of the early settlement of Columbus, Wisconsin by James T. Lewis

The early part of the winter of 1845 and 46 found a few settlers at the place now called Columbus, and occasionally a log cabin the country around. The principal portion of the soil however, was in the state of nature, with nothing, save snow and then a hunter, to molest or make afraid the numerous deer that roamed at will over hill and dale.

It was a beautiful sight to see them as they bounded along frequently in droves of a score or more upon the hillside west of the village where now stand some of the finest residences of the town.

Among the early settlers were two, Thayer & Cady—who especially delighted in drawing a bead as they turned it upon the beautiful animals. The first heavy fall of snow found them upon the tracks of a fine buck. They had not proceeded far before crack went the rifle, and the red blood trickeled down upon the snow as northward the noble animal took his way to free himself from his pursuers. The aim of the hunter being somewhat a fault. He had only wounded and partially crippled the deer not however so severely as to impede his progress sufficiently to enable the hunter to overtake and capture their game. They could keep him in sight but could not get sufficiently near to secure a second shot. Then they followed on until they became quite weary of the chase. At last the deer turned towards the village and came bounding along the hillside on its western border. I had just left the village and chanced to be riding on horseback in a direction nearly at right angles to that in which the deer was running. As he came in sight I noticed his movements were slower than is usual with those animals and wondered a little at it, but as I rode along and came up to a point on his trail he had just passed I saw from the blood upon the snow that he was wounded. Stopping for a moment and casting my eye upon the buck track I discovered the two hunters following on at a not very rapid pace. The time was not long however ere they reached the point where I sat viewing the chase. As they came up one of them said to me, "Come now L, we are just about tuckered. You take my gun ride on and overtake that deer and kill him for us." Not doubting for a moment my ability to do so though I had had but little experience in the use of a gun. I took his rifle, put whip to my horse and soon had the satisfaction of knowing that I was gaining upon the deer. As we went through the snow and ere many minutes had passed I found myself along side the deer and keeping pace with him.

To Be Continued

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The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 438

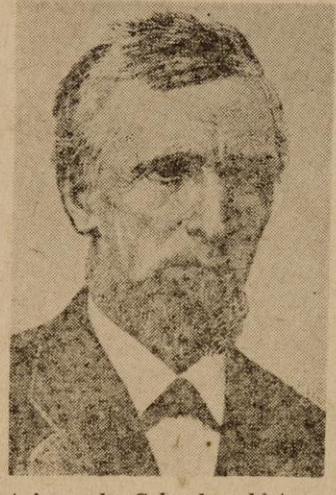
Concluding Narrative of James T. Lewis

The question now arose as to how I was to bring my gun to bear and there end the race. After several efforts I arranged my bridle reins so that my hands were at liberty, cocked the gun and attempted to fire but low and behold there was no discharge. Something about the lock I did not then understand but have since learned was a set prevented the hammer from falling upon the cap. After making several ineffectual efforts to discharge the gun during which time the deer had gained a little upon my horse. I concluded to throw down the gun and try some other means of securing the venison. In throwing down the gun the set was loosened, the hammer came down and the gun was discharged into the snow. My hands being now at liberty I urged my horse to greater speed and soon brought him again along side the deer. Then they ran neck and neck through the snow. But the question now was how to kill the deer. I saw no way unless I could reach him with my knife. This I was unable to do while astride the horse. My plan was soon formed and knowing but little of the nature of the deer I proceeded to put in execution. It was but the work of a moment to transfer myself from the back of the horse to the back of the deer. What were my peculiar sensations at the moment I found myself astride my new courser it would be difficult to describe. One thing I think was evident however the deer was quite as uneasy and as much astonished as I was. Whether my new situation partook most of the serious, dangerous or comic I leave for the hunters who had followed along as fast as they could and who stood at some distance viewing my rash exploit to determine. Some might perhaps desire to know the gait of my new steed. I can only say in reply that I occupied my new position so short a time that it was difficult for me to determine whether the natural gait of the animal was a rack or a trot. I was only conscious of an up and down movement by which I was elevated some distance into the atmosphere to be landed at full length in the snow. The movements of the deer were so much quicker than I had anticipated that I had no time to draw and open my jack knife with which I had fondly hoped to dispatch him while sitting upon his back. No sooner had I reached the ground than drawing my knife I made a second effort to secure my ride and prey. In the effort the deer had made to get rid of his rider he had also thrown himself and before he was fairly upon his feet again I mounted a second time and plunged my knife into his neck. Again he bounded and again I landed in the snow. The loss of blood however soon weakened him so that on the third trial I rode him with perfect safety and had a nice slice of venison for my supper.

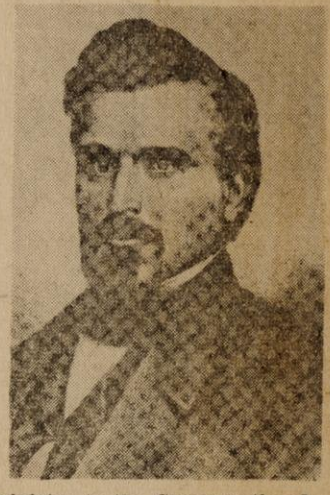
(The End)

This is a good point to re-produce pictures of a number of early settlers, that have been published from time to time in this column.

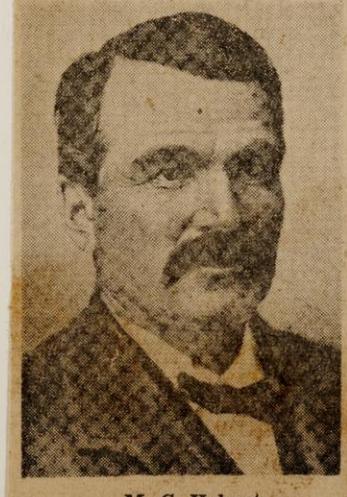








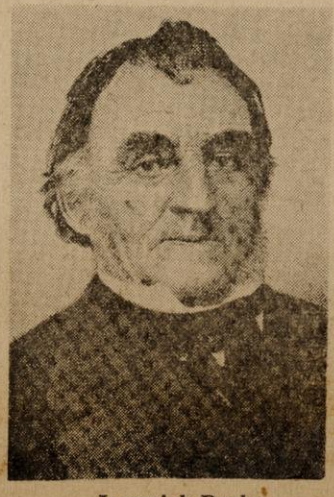
These four men, prominent in early Columbus history, are: left, Dr. James C. Axtel, first physician in Columbus, 1845; center, John Q. Adams, 1844 pioneer, who first lived in Fountain Prairie, then Columbus. He served as an assemblyman, and state senator; right, Rev. Cyrus E. Rosenkranz, a missionary in 1849, and first minister to the Congregational church in 1850. He was president of the Columbus Colegate Institute in 1855. James T. Lewis, the first attorney to locate in Columbus, and destined to become Governor of Wisconsin. Picture shows him as he was in his early days here.



M. C. Hobart



W. H. Proctor



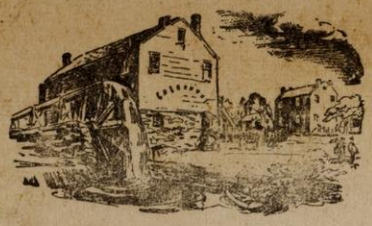
Jeremiah Drake



John Swarthout

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WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 438

There have been, over the years, several Fritz families in the area.

In order to trace their backgrounds, we went to Miss Eleanora Fritz, who during her more active years was known as one of the best registered nurses in the community; we found her to have one of the best memories we have met in a long time.

Christian Fritz

The patriarch, or head of the family in this area was Christian Fritz who, and his wife Regine Schwartz, came from Prussia in the northeastern part of the former German Empire.

The year of their arrival in America was 1856 and their destination was Watertown.

Just what prompted Christian Fritz to come to America and to Watertown is not known. It could have been for any of many good reasons, or a combination of several.

There was great unrest in Prussia; economic, political, freedom to choose a way of life as individuals, as exemplified by Carl Schurz, an exiled Prussian who came to Watertown in 1854.

The Wisconsin Legislature had stationed a commissioner of emigration in New York City in 1852, to steer as many immigrants as possible to Wisconsin, and to oversee the distribution of pamphlets in several different languages, about Wisconsin, cheap land, opportunity, etc.

Schurz expressed himself in these words written to his brother-in-law, at Hamburg, Germany "What I am looking for in America is not only personal freedom, but the chance to gain full legal citizenship. If I cannot be the citizen of a free Germany, then I would be, at least, a citizen of free America."

So many German emigrants came to Wisconsin that Milwaukee and the lake shore counties to the north could not absorb them all, and the overflow came to Watertown in such great numbers that by 1855 Watertown was the second city in size in Wisconsin, with a populiaton of over 10,000.

Whatever the reason, Christian Fritz came directly to Watertown, and acquired land in the settlement in Farmington. It was a heavily wooded area, of hard wood. Maple, oak, and elm mostly, and required a great deal of hard work to clear the land, to make it ready for farming.

There was no market for the wood, and only limited amounts could be used for building purposes, fences, stove wood, etc.. All the rest had to be burned to get rid of it, and at most only a few acres could be cut down each year. Farming was mostly by grub-axes and hoes, around and in between the stumps, for a few years before the stumps rotted enough to remove.

By going down into Rock County as far as Janesville or Beloit, during the growing and harvesting seasons, men could sometimes find work for wages as that area was settled a few years earlier and had sizable feilds.

Good wood ashes had market value when hauled to Potash makers. Taxes had to be paid in gold or silver as paper money was very unstable, therefore some work for cash wages was necessary.

At least three, and possible four of the five children of Christian Fritz came with them; at least one, and probably two, were married in Germany and came to Wisconsin at a later date.

First born child was a daughter, Dorothy; second was a son William; third another daughter Wilhelmina who was married to August Priem, in Germany, remained there and came to America a year or two later; fourth child was a son Ferdinand; while the fifth was August who was about 15 years of age when his parents came to Watertown in 1856 and settled on heavily timbered land in the Town of Farmington, perhaps eight miles south of Watertown.

Dorothy

Dorothy, the oldest child was married to John Spiekerman and they farmed in the Farmington area; and later in the towns of Columbus and York. Very little information can be found; one item is that Mrs. Spiekerman became the grandmother of the late William F. Gernetzky of Columbus.

Christian's Son William Fritz

William, the second son of Christian Fritz, was married in Germany and did not come to America until about 1869. His wife's given name was Augusta but that is all that Nora knows, never having heard her called anything but "Aunt Augusta."

William was a stone mason by trade, having been apprenticed to a master stone mason in Germany and no doubt found plenty of work here, for in that early period, most foundations for houses, barns and business blocks were made of either field stones or quarried limestone.

William had two sons Richard and Herman. From an obituary of Richard Fritz in the Columbus Democrat of June 1, 1921, one learns that Richard was born in Pommerania, Germany, February 12, 1854 and came to America and Columbus when he was a boy fifteen years of age, which would be about 1869, which marks the approximate year that William brought his family to Columbus.

William's Son Richard Fritz

In the previous paragraph we have given the birth date of Richard Fritz. At the age of 23 he was married to Miss Christine Siede, who passed away eight years later, leaving two sons, Hugo and William and two daughters, one of whom, Mrs. Ray Williams of St. Paul, Minnesota is still living (as of December, 1959).

In 1886, Richard was married to Miss Caroline Steinbach from which union there are two sons, Otto, the owner of the Square Deal Hatchery, Columbus and who for many years has lived in Florida during the winter months, and Clayton, of Joliet, Illinois who is an educator in the school system there. Richard died May 27, 1921 in St. Mary's hospital and is buried at Hillside cemetery.

At the time of his death, at the age of 67 years, 3 months and 16 days he was survived by four sons, two daughters, one brother and fourteen grandchildren.

Richard's Second Wife

His widow, Caroline Theresa Steinbach was born October 14, 1864 and died March 26, 1946 at age 82 years.

She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Steinbach, they spent the most of their time on a farm in Hampden, then moved to Columbus in 1909.

At the time of her death, according to an obituary published at the time, the survivors were two sons, Otto and Clayton, four grandchildren, three great grandchildren, two sisters, Mrs. Katie Siede, Columbus and Mrs. Arina Briese of Appleton and one brother, Charles Steinbach of Columbus.

There were also four step children, Hugo Fritz, Colmubus, William Fritz Milwaukee. Mrs. Dona Shea, Los Angeles, California and Mrs. Alma Williams, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Mrs. Fritz was a lifelong member of the Lutheran church

William's Son Herman Fritz

William Fritz's second son, was Herman about whom we have only the names of some of his children as given us, but probably not in order of birth. Eli and Walter, twins of Hampden and Edwin and Minnie, who is Mrs. Ernest Domke of Beaver Dam. It is our understanding that there are some others, descendants of William in the area of Hampden, Rio and Otsego.

We deeply regret that we do not have enough information to write a readable story on these branches of the Christian Fritz family.

Neither do we have the birth dates of those mentioned or of Christian and his wife, Regina, nor of their death.

Christian is buried in the churchyard of a country church not far from Johnson Creek. This was a time before family lots were used; the dead were buried in rows, with simple head stones and in order of their deaths. We understand that Christian Fritz's burial was the first.

His wife, Regina, we understand, is buried in Hillside cemetery Columbus.

(To Be Continued)

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 439

Wilhelmina — Mrs. August Priem

The third child of the Christian Fritz family was their daughter Wilhelmina, Mrs. August Priem, married in Germany and migrating to the United States some years later than her parents.

About all we can state here is that we hope to develop a Priem family story eventually.

Ferdinand Fritz

Fourth child of Christian Fritz was a son Ferdinand, a little older than August; one of the three children who came here from Germany and settled in Farmington, Jefferson County in 1856.

He helped his father to clear the heavy timber from the land he had purchased, and no doubt followed the custom of working for others for cash whenever opportunity offered.

He never lived in the Columbus area, for he married young, and took his wife to Sabula, Iowa to establish a home. Sabula is just across the Mississippi river from Savanah, Illinois.

His marriage was before the family moved from Farmington to the town of Columbus and probably before his younger brother had enlisted in the army.

We have no data about Ferdinand, other than that mentioned above.

Christian Fritz's Youngest Son August

August was born in Prussia, Germany, January 4, 1841, youngest child of Christian Fritz and his wife Regina Swartz, and came to America with his parents when he was fifteen years of age in 1856.

The family settled on heavily timbered land in the township of Farmington, in Jefferson County, not far from Watertown, but nearer to Johnson's Creek.

Here August did a man's work, in helping to clear the land of heavy timber into good farm land. Presumably he had received some schooling in Germany, for it is known that a diary he kept during a part of the time he kept during the Civil War was written in German. Whether he attended district school in Jefferson County is not known.

However it is known that August learned to read English, while in the army, from newspapers received from back home, by many of his comrades.

He Enlists In The Army

He enlisted in Company "E" of the 20th Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, which Company was organized at Watertown with John Weber, Captain; Fred Kusel, First Lieutenant and Charles A. Menges, Second Lieutenant.

The ten companies comprising this regiment, were sent forward in squads to Camp Randall, Madison. The regimental organization was completed and the regiment mustered into the service of the United States, on the 23rd of August, 1862.

Field Officers

The field officers were all promoted from earlier units, with some actual combat service, the Colonel Bertine Pinckney of Rosendale, had formerly been Lieutenant Colonel of the Third Infantry; Lieutenant Colonel Henry Bertram, had been Captain of Company A. Third Infantry; while Major Henry A. Starr, who was one of the best drilled officers in the volunteer service, had been Captain of Company "D" in the first Wis. Volunteer Infantry under Colonel Starkweather; all officers of capacity, as well of experience.

On the 30th of August with very little training the 20th Regiment left Camp Randall for St. Louis, and were marched to Benton Barracks, which they found very filthy and disagreeable.

On September 6 they took railway cars to Rolla, Missouri where they remained ten days, until they received their quota of wagons and mules, all the mules being wild unbroken animals, except for one mule in each team had been broken to harness. The mule-breaking process, and harnessing them into teams, was exciting to say the least and sometimes ludicrous.

Marching Begins

On the 16th of September this regiment, the 20th together with others comprising Herren's Brigade began a march to Springfield, Mo. which they reached the 24th, a distance of 135 miles by which time there was about 150 cases of sickness in the 20th regiment, and about the same proportion of the other regiments.

The first severe march, a conditioner, so to speak, always proved too much for the strength of new troops, especially if they have had only a minimum of training, before putting them into combat. They suffered much on this march for want of good water, all they found sometimes being stagnant poluted ponds and slough water.

A Fine Spring

But at Waynesville they found a wonderful spring of cold water, rising up constantly from a pool twenty feet in diameter. The regimental quartermaster Lientenant John A. Douglass was left among the sick at Lebanon, where he died October 14 universally esteemed by the regiment.

October 11 the regiment began a 60 mile march to Cassville where Colonel Pinckney was placed in command of the brig ade, and Lieutenant Bertam commander of the 20th regiment. Not until there was the regiment furnished good guns of uniform kind.

Discipline

October 17 they marched to attack the rebel camp at Cross Hollows, Arkansas; when near the Missouri southern state line, the Seventh Missouri Calvary refused to cross the boundry into Arkansas, claiming that they could not be compelled to leave Missouri.

Companies B.G.K. and E. of the 20th Wisconsin were ordered forward with fixed bayonets to compel them to go on which they did.

Part of this march was over the Boston Mountains (with which this writer is somewhat familiar) during which they were without food; then after six hours fast, proceeded another whole day without food, taking Cross Hollows the 24th without a battle, the enemy having fled.

On November 4th they marched northward to Wilson's Creek, they encamped near Pea Ridge, the battle ground of a previous fight, in which the 20th had no part; the next day they experienced a terrific hurricane but finally reached their old camp near Cassville.

Many Are Sick

At this time many of the regiment were too sick to go on, over 100 being in a hospital at Springfield in charge of the excellent, attentive and skillful, Dr. Chandler B. Chapman, Surgeon of the 20th. The regiment from its first movements on the border, Missouri-Arkansas area, within two and a half months, marched 400 miles, suffered much from forced marches and exposure, suffered loss of 25 by death.

Many were sick but remained in the army. On December 3rd they again broke camp, to join General Heron's forces to effect a junction with General Blount, who was holding the enemy in check at Cane Hill, Arkansas.

A Forced March

By a forced march over rough and difficult country they arrived near Fayetteville, Arkansas on the 6th having covered 100 miles in three days.

August Fritz had participated in every mile of the campaign we have described, and so far as records show had stood the ordeal as well as any other soldier in his regiment.

His discharge papers gives the name of eight engagements in which he participated, two of which were in Arkansas, Van Buren and Prairie Grove, the other six in Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama.

Miss Nora Fritz says that she often heard her father say that on some of those forced marches, short rations and bad water, that for several days he was so sick, he was permitted to ride on wagons, since there were no ambulances; and hospital service practically non-existent while enroute. Another memo refers to his having typhoid fever.

However she knows that he fought at Prairie Grove which is also certified on his discharge papers.

(To Be Continued)

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The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 440

DIARY OF AUGUST FRITZ

The diary previously mentioned runs from June 21, 1863 to the 23rd of August 1864, and covers several engagements not listed on his discharge papers. Whether there were diaries prior to, or following, we have no knowledge.

All of the material used in describing the campaign, thus far is from a History of Wisconsin's part in the Civil War, published in 1866, written by William D. Love, a book of 1140 pages.

INDIAN TROOPS

To what extent Indians participated on either the Union or Confederate sides in this great conflict, we have very little knowledge; but from the source above mentioned we do know that included in the forces of General Lyon the fact that Indian troops and colored troops were mentioned.

For example, " in an engagement at Honey Creek on the Elk River in July 1862 the forces included First Kansas Colored, the First, Second and Third Indian Regiments; the first battalion of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, one company of the 14th Kansas, a few recruits attached to the Fourth and Fifth Embryo Indian Regiments" and the first battalion of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry Companies B.G.H.I. and M. Commanded by Major Calkins.

These numbered about 3,000 men. The enemy's force was about 7,000.

From another source of information we learn that the powerful Tribe of Cherokee Indians in Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) split wide open on the question of slavery, part of them following the lead of a young chief named Stand Watie, born in Georgia, and transplanted to the Indian territory, when the Tribe was forceably moved out of Georgia some years before.

Watie became the publisher of a newspaper, printed in the Cherokee alphabet, some years before the war, and probably had a strong following; and when the split came he became the natural leader of the pro slavery faction. He became a General of Indian Cavalry, fought against General Lyon's Army, the "Army of the Frontier" in Arkansas, also in the territory, often against fellow tribesmen who fought for the union.

Watie was small of stature, copper colored, a natural born leader, and fought for the Confederacy for more than four years.

He was the last Confederate General to surrender, holding out until June 23, 1865, when he boldly rode up to a detachment of Federal Cavalry who were looking for him, and tendered his sword in token of surrender, near Doaksville in the Territory.

He later became a successful planter in what is now Oklahoma.

THE BATTLE OF PRAIRIE GROVE

The first real battle in which August Fritz participated was that of Prairie Grove, Arkansas, one of the really big engagements, as far as number of troops, and Generals, on both sides are concerned, with the possible exception of Pen Ridge. We quote enough to give you real knowledge of this battle.

A CURTAIN RAISER

The Battle of Cane Hill, was only a curtain raiser, a series of skirmishes, preceding the big battle.

November 27, 1862, found the Wisconsin 20th was in General Herron's forces on the march southward to join the forces of General Blunt at Cane Hill, Arkansas. Six companies of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and the Ninth Wisconsin Infantry were in the area of Cane Hill. General Salomon and a portion of his brigade were taking part in the engagement.

On November 29th the Wisconsin 9th went back to Rhea's Mills, took possession and resumed the milling of flour for making bread for the Union forces, and feed for their animals.

THE BATTLE BEGINS

There was much maneuvering and several skirmishes in the Cane Hill area; during the forenoon of December 7th it was learned that the Rebel General Hindman and his men had effected a flank movement and were on the march toward Rhea's Mill. Union General Blunt moved toward Hindman from the west, while Union General Herron approached from the north with the second and third divisions of the army of the Frontier commenced the battle at ten in the morning, the 20th being in Herron's Army.

The rebels numbered 26,000 with 22 pieces of artillery under Hindman and his four divisions commanders, Rains, Marmaduke, Frost and Parsons.

General Herron had 7,000 men and 24 pieces of cannon and General Blunt, 5,000 with 24 pieces.

The enemy had a strong position, they were on a wooded height, with large open fields in front and on their left.

They were able to obtain perfect knowledge of all our movements and could mass their forces on any point we might attack.

A BATTERY SILENCED

After considerable battling, General Herron directed all his artillery, at once, against the nearest of the enemy's guns, and silenced it in two minutes. He then tried another and another in the same way until eight or nine of the most troublesome were abandoned by their possessors.

When General Blunt's forces reached the field, at two in the afternoon, General Herron was nearly out flanked by the numerous enemy, his batteries nearly ready to fall and his men almost exhausted.

GENERAL BLUNT

General Blunt immediately marched his forces across the open plain, pushing the rebels back inch by inch, till they fled to the woods, where our troops charged them.

On the crest of that wooded hill, for four hours, hung in perilous uncertainty that terrible conflict. But when Heron's men learned that Blunt's army was on the field, they were inspired with new bravery and power.

At nightfall an armistice was agreed upon and in the morning it was found that the enemy had fled.

The Wisconsin troops engaged, in addition to many other units, were one battalion of the Second Cavalry, under Major Miller; five squadrons of the Third Cavalry, and two howitzers, under Major Calkins; and the Twentieth Infantry, under Major Starr, Lieutenant Colonel Bertram having command of the brigade. The ninth Wisconsin for the most part, had charge of the trains.

20th CHARGES

Early in the battle the 20th Wisconsin were ordered to storm the wooded height beyond them. They advanced in line, at "double quick" one hundred rods, until they were brought face to face with the enemy. The regiment then halted, fired two rounds, and commenced to charge up the hill.

The whole slope was covered with underbrush, and they advanced with great difficulty, but kept pressing on, in as good a line as possible, and soon stood before a rebel battery of six guns. Firing one volley, rushing over the rail fence they captured the battery. The brave Major Starr led his regiment in this charge.

CHARGE STOPS

They pressed on beyond the battery to the enemy's front lines. The right wing of the 20th had advanced to within thirty feet, when the enemy opened up a tremendous cross fire. Against such a storm of bullets, men could not stand, and the right wing gave way.

AND RETREATS

A heavy column of rebel infantry was seen advancing on the right. A minute more and the 20th would have been surrounded, for they were facing five regiments of the enemy. No course was left, but to retreat at once.

The 20th retreated to a fence, where they reformed and remained there until the firing had ceased for the day.

ANOTHER CHARGE STOPPED

Meanwhile the 26th Indiana and the 37th Illinois prepared to charge. These two regiments had been in the battle of Pea Ridge, a few weeks earlier, and were considerd to be two of the finest regiments in the "Army of the Frontier". They advanced up the hill but were also repulsed.

In this terrible charge made by the 20th, it was scarcely twenty minutes from the time the first man fell, till they were ordered to withdraw but in that brief time 51 of their number were killed, 150 wounded and 8 missing or nearly half of those engaged in the charge.

(to be continued)

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1960 — INSTALLMENT NO. 441

OFFICERS PRAISE 20th

Colonel Bertram, in his official report of the battle, says of the 20th Wisconsin. "Officers and men behaved and stood like veterans." It was the first battle most of them had been in.

General Herron wrote to Governor Saloman, of Wisconsin, "I congratulate you, and your State, on the glorious conduct of the Twentieth Wisconsin Infantry, in the great battle of Prairie Grove."

The Ninth Infantry, at night, escorted a train to Fayetteville and at 2 o'clock the next morning were ordered upon the battlefield again, having marched 45 miles in 32 hours.

After this battle, the 20th remained in Camp at Prairie Grove, until December 27th when they became a part of 12,000 troops with 36 pieces of artillery on a reconissance to Van Buren, Arkansas, on the Arkansas River, most of this march being along the ridge of the Boston Range of Mountains from Fayetteville south, but no engagements of consequence are reported.

The 20th regiment were ordered back to Missouri and spent the balance of the winter, moving from place to place in the southwestern part of the state.

In the Chicago Tribune of October 12, 1958 appeared the following article, which should be of great interest to any descendent of any soldier who fought on either side at the Battle of Prairie Grove.

BATTLEFIELD A MEMORIAL TO TWO ARMIES

by Marge Lyon

Prairie Grove, Ark.—This was the actual spot where the battle of Prairie Grove was fought on Sunday, December 7, 1862. It was not one of the decisive battles of the Civil War, but 2,500 Americans died or suffered serious wounds.

After the noise of battle died away, farm families came on the battlefield to carry the wounded men of both sides into the little community church, which speedily became a hospital. When that was filled, the wounded were carried into the farm houses to be tended by Ma and the girls!

Twenty years after the battle, the first of a long series of reunions of Confederate veterans was held on the battlefield site. To insure a yearly meeting place for these ex-soldiers, the Daughters of the Confederacy in 1908 purchased a nine-acre tract of land that included the center of the position occupied by the Confederate forces.

Then for many years, the Daughters took a prominent part in the reunions, providing food and planning programs. As the number of veterans dwindled, the reunions became less exciting and the untended tract grew up in weeds and underbrush. The local Lions Club realized the importance of the tract, and began making it into a park. From somewhere came the idea of making the park a memorial to the soldiers of both the north and the south.

On the 94th anniversary of the battle, December 7, 1856, Mrs. L. E. Maupin, president of the U.D.C., officially handed the deed of the park to the Battlefield Memorial Foundation, making the old battle site a memorial to all the soldiers who fought in blue or gray — the first memorial of its kind.

Now the park is the center of much activity and sound planning. A hundred acres have been added to the original nine and historic homes of the area have been donated, moved into the park, and painstakingly restored.

One of these is the old John Morrow home, more than 125 years old, in which the 34 year old Confederate General T. C. Hindman held his final consultation with his staff before the battle. This home is the museum of the park, holding many relics picked up on the battlefield, and an honor roll listing the soldiers of both sides who fought there. The old Latta home and the Borden homestead are under restoration now.

In March, 1957, the Arkansas Legislature approved a $50,000 appropriation for the expansion and development of the battlefield park, and Gov. Faubus appointed a commission of interested men and women to administer it. Dr. Fred Cuistion of Prairie Grove was appointed director. In the next few years the commission expects to establish a typical Ozark pioneer village within the park that future generations may become acquainted with an old blacksmith shop, harness shop, mill, and general store.

The monument of the park is the 55 foot chimney from Rhea's mill, which was operated by the federal troops for 30 days after the battle. The chimney is a masterpiece of pioneer stone masonry. Its 67 rounds of 10 stones each were cut so perfectly the chimney tapers in an unbroken line from base to top.

Rhea's mill was more than a mile from the battleground, but a litile girl named Melissa climed up in that chimney to watch the fighting. Her grandchildren delight in telling the story to their grandchildren as she told it to them. In fact, all Arkansas is taking an interest in the two-way Battlefield Memorial at Prairie Grove.

IN CAMP NEAR ROLLA

On the 31st of March, 1863, the Wisconsin 20th went into camp at Lake Springs, near Rolla, Missouri. During their six months absence from Rolla they had marched 1,100 miles, and lost by death, officers and men, 246. Of those still in the regiment. 131 were absent, in hospitals and elsewhere, because of sickness, leaving 439 present and fit for duty.

SOUTH BY BOAT

June 3rd, they marched to nearby Rolla and took the cars for St. Louis, and the next morning were embarked on the steamer Empress, for Youngs Point, Louisiana, a short distance above Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Landing on the 10th they were marched to a point below the city, crossed the Mississippi River and took position in the trenches on the left of the line of the Union Army's investing forces. Here they lay doing their proportion of picket duty, till the city surrendered July 4th. On the 5th of July, General Herron's division moved inside of the rebel works.

FOLLOWING THE 20th

We have recited, in considerable detail, the movements of one unit, the 20th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Our subject, August Fritz, a private in Company E. who shortly after the close of the war was married and moved from Farmington, Jefferson County, to a farm he purchased in section 34, town of Columbus.

The remainder of his war experience will be brief, and mostly, verbatim from his diary, a porud possession of his granddaughter Wilma, Mrs. Theron Black, of rural Columbus.

The diary was written in German, and translated by Mr. H. O. Ihlenfeldt, several years ago.

In the fall of 1928, W. L. Fritz, a son of August, and the writer with their wives, made a trip throguh the southwestern part of Missouri and Arkansas, during which we visited the batlefield at Prairie Grove, where his, Mr. Fritz's father, had fought.

To Be Continued

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The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1960 INSTALLMENT NO. 442

AUGUST FRITZ DIARY

The diary covers his entries June 21, 1863 to July 23, 1864. The place, "Camp near Vicksburg." June 21, worked in the fort and made a place for a 30 cannon. At this, one from Co. H., named Pete, was wounded; June 22, I baked; June 23, one o'clock in the morning received orders to be ready to move at daybreak to the river, and two days rations in the haversack. Orders were recalled.

June 25, went on picket duty in reserve at 8 o'clock this morning at F.D. Attacked at 10 o'clock this evening by rebels and driven out of rifle pits. June 26, were relieved; June 27, I did laundry; June 28, on picket duty; June 29, relieved at 8 o'clock a.m.; June 30, worked on rifle pits at the right wings. Inspection this evening.



August Fritz

July 1, laundered and worked in the fort; July 2, rested; July 3, received marching orders at 10 o'clock; July 4, this morning at 10 o'clock Vicksburg surrendered. We were on picket duty; July 5, our regiment moved to Vicksburg for guard duty.

GUARD DUTY

July 7, on guard since 9 o'clock; July 8, I went into the city; July 9, on picket duty; July 10, orders to march; July 11, at 8 o'clock boarded a steamboat and were to go to Fort Hudson; July 12, Sunday, other orders to proceed up Yazo River to Yazoo city.

July 13, on our way. Landed 1¼ miles from city and followed the rebels during the night; July 14, returned to Yazoo city; July 15, nothing; July 16, at work; July 17, picket duty; July 18, relieved us; July 19, marched to the outskirts of the city; July 20, our company went on picket and rode into the country to get sleep.

July 21, at 7 a.m. we boarded a boat and at 9 a. m. started off for Vicksburg. July 22, made camp at Vicksburg. July 23, orders to board the boat again; July 24, in the evening rode down stream; July 25, arrived at Natchez; July 26, in camp, near Fort Hudson.

There are no further entries until September 7, headed New Orleans. September 7, in the evening at 11 o'clock we stood under fire from cannon in Louisiana.

TEXAS

No further entries until "on the 23rd of October we rode from New Orleans to Brazas Sound, Texas, where we landed on November 4. On November 8 we came to Brownsville, Texas."

There are no entries between November 8, 1863 and July 28, 1864, the intervening period, about 9 months, not accounted for, for which reason a few paragraphs will be added after conclusion of the diary.

A LAPSE OF NINE MONTHS

July 28, 1864, "In the dawn of this morning we broke camp and cautiously marched forward to Union Ranch. We took all important items along. In the evening we boarded the steamer "Nathan Hale" and rode all night. On the morning of the 29th we landed at White's Ranch and feasted on goat meat, which tasted very good. By 3 o'clock we were ready again to march, and after a foolish marching back and forth, we reached our campsite. That night we slept under the blue heaven on the sand.

A VIOLENT STORM

We remained in camp on the 30th. On the 31st the mail came. That evening we boarded the river steamer "Matamoras" and rode through the breakers into the gulf to where the steamship "Swaunee" lay, on board of which things were quite difficult because the Gulf was very restless.

F. Paul fell into the water between the ships. I luckily escaped falling. During the night of the 28th Miller fell from the boat "James Hale" and was drowned.

August 1, General Herron's staff boarded the ship today with all the headquarters equipment. At 2 o'clock we sailed. We were on the gulf the 2nd and 3rd. The weather was pleasant, and the water quiet. At evening of the 4th we reached the Mississippi bar. The pilot boat reached us at the right time.

At dusk a thunderstorm arose and a severe east wind struck us, which nearly capsized our ship. Never did I have such fear as I did this evening. We owe much honor to the pilot who brought us safely through the darkness.

NEW ORLEANS

On the 5th we rode up the river and at 6 o'clock that evening we landed at Carrollton. That night we slept in the rain without the protection of the tents.

On the 6th we drank coffee and marched into camp near Carrollton where we bought potatoes and onions, thinking we would remain there awhile.

LEAVE FOR MOBILE

August 7th at 3:30 a.m. was roll call and orders to march. At 7 o'clock we boarded the same boat and rode downstream. We had occasional rains. At 8 o'clock we crossed the bar. Towards evening we reached the Mobile Fleet. The Commanders of the ships told us to anchor and informed us that the Rebel Fleet was in our hands.

On the 9th rain threatened and we signalled the pilot back, but no pilot appeared.

LOST AT SEA

The 94th Illinois was already in the harbor. Around 7 o'clock we tried to find the channel but were unable to do so. A gunboat then came and gave us directions and we tried to enter between Fort Gaines and Fort Morgan, and grounded our ship.

On top of this the Johnny Rebs sent a volley over our ship, so we turned around again and anchored not far from Fort Gaines. There they were already landing troops with small gunboats.

The Rebels were burning something at Fort Morgan. We remained on board one half day on the 10th. In the afternoon all supplies except those of general headquarters and the commissary were landed.

At noon on August 11 gunboat no. 42 landed us at Morgan's Point (Mobil Point) and we made camp 2½ miles from the Fort.

SIEGE OF MOBILE

August 12, today we went to work. Pickets were placed and rifle pits were constructed; August 13, nothing new; August 14, this evening a monitor shot the Rebel flag off the Fort. August 15, this evening the Johnnies threw shells into our camp for the first time and many a one sat in a hole for the night.

August 16, nothing new except that everyone is making holes for himself for the night. August 17, everything quiet; August 18, everything quiet and we went ahead with customary work. August 19, quiet; August 20, it rained hard; August 21, they shelled severely during the night.

FORT MORGAN FALLS

August 22, this morning at 6 o'clock the dance began. (The Johnnies had fired their last shot at 4 a.m.). We shelled them with our land batteries, and from our navy. In the evening the fort began to burn. August 23, at 7 o'clock everything was quiet and at 2 o'clock they surrendered. Our regiment (the Wisconsin 20th) and the 94th Illinois had the honor to complete the surrender.

After this we entered the camp (Fort?) at three places and retired to Navy Cove where there was much work constructing telepgraph lines and railroads. Those who had money ate hearty.

There are no entries between August 23, 1864 and March 17, 1865, indicating a period of lessor activity perhaps.

(to be continued)

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY

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The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1960 INSTALLMENT NO. 443

SPANISH FORT FALLS

March 17, 1865, We left Navy Cove and went to Mobile. March 27, at 2 p.m. we made our first attack on the Spanish Fort, ten miles from Mobile. Spanish Fort surrendered on April 9th and 42 guns came into our hands.

April 27, eight of our men took prisoners to New Orleans; April 29, to New Orleans; May 25, Expedition to Mobile; May 28, on guard duty.

BACK TO GALVESTON

June 25, We left Mobile and shipped to Galveston, where we landed June 28 at noon. July 17, We left Galveston at 4 p.m. and reached New Orleans July 19 at 4 p.m.

HEADED FOR HOME

July 20th, 3:30 p.m. we left New Orleans and at 3 p.m. of July 21st we reached Fort Hudson, July 22 at 11 o'clock, we reached Natchez; July 23, Sunday at 7:30 a.m. left for Vicksburg leaving there at 1 p.m. and on Wednesday, July 26 at 7 a.m. we reached Memphis. This being the final entry in the diary of August Fritz.

HONORABLY DISCHARGED

His discharge papers show that he received honorable discharge at Galveston, Texas, on July 14, 1865, in accordance with General Order No. 64. His papers also show in addition to engagements we have previously mentioned, Prairie Grove, and Van Buren, Ark., that he is credited with Vicksburg, Miss.; Atchafalaya, La.; Franklin Creek, Miss.; Yazoo City, Miss.; Fort Morgan, Ala.; and Spanish Fort, Ala.

MORE RESEARCH

Considerable research in Love's History of Wisconsin in the Civil War throws some light on the sizable army sent to Brownsville, Texas, and the occupation of the lower Rio Grande river.

There was much unrest in Mexico with rival Mexico Chieftans fighting each other in and around Matamoras, with frequent threatening movements to cross the river and come into Texas. One of the duties of the 20th was to protect the United States Consul, Mr. Pierce, at Matamoras and to assist in the protection and removal of property of U. S. citizens of Mexico.

Another was to maintain a strict embargo on supplies destined for the Confederates, brought from England, which had been hard to prevent without holding large U. S. forces there. The 20th Iowa and the 20th Wisconsin were crowded onto the steamer Thomas A. Scott, one of 27 ships constituting the fleet, including troop carriers; dropping off troops at every gulf port on the Texas coast.

LANDED WITH DIFFICULTY

The Scott discharged its load of two regiments with great difficulty near the mouth of the Rio Grande, at a point now called Port Isabelle, and proceeded up river to Brownsville. Other ships unloaded other troops including the 94th Illinois and others.

The rebel General Bee, with 300 men fled at the approach of the Federals, burning a large amount of cotton, and the soldiers' barracks.

ARMY OF OCCUPATION

Here the army of occupation performed such duties necessary to prevent the shipment of cotton, and the smuggling of English goods destined to be delivered to the southern forces.

English clothing, blankets, horse shoes and many other articles from England were found at Matamoras, where English merchants were doing a flourishing business, passing such goods across the Rio Grande as opportunity offered.

THEY CROSS THE RIVER

Under orders of General Herron, Col. Bertam of the 20th Wisconsin, accompanied by the 94th Illinois, crossed the Rio Grande to Matamoras to guard the U. S. Consul and protect the property of American citizens from damage in the engagement that seemed iminent between the two rival Mexican officers and their small armies.

In a short time an exciting battle was under way in the dark streets of the town. The Federals advanced with the Stars and Stripes flying, with the bands playing "Yankee Doodle" and "Rally Round the Flag, Boys."

The Union or Federal troops took no part in the fight, maintaining street neutrality; each of the rival Mexican belligerents sought assistance without success.

The 20th Wisconsin was detailed to guard the residence of the U. S. Consul during the fight, The Consul and three army wagon loads of gold and silver were escorted across the river to Brownsville for safety. Our troops returned to American soil on the 24th.

BROWNSVILLE GETS CLEANED

During their stay of eight months the brigade enjoyed excellent health, having cleaned the filthy streets of Brownsville and built an ice house (the question naturally arises, where did they get ice). Only five deaths occurred in the 20th Wisconsin during the period.

CHURCH SERVICES

An army church was formed in the brigade and daily non-denominational services were held for four months in an Episcopal church. Two hundred fifty of the brigade representing sixteen denominations united with the church of which eighty were from the 20th Wisconsin, twenty of whom were new converts.

The church was filled with soldiers every night, and Chaplain Walters, of the 20th Wisconsin wrote that better behaved audiences never met. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered from time to time. All sectarian feelings were buried, and the union was thoroughly Christian. The religious element in the 20th predominated from this time to the close of the war.

Hymn books, testaments and newspapers were the common literature of the soldiers. The officers paid respect to these services and cooperated with the Chaplain in his labors for the good of the men.

ARMY MOVES TO MOBILE

In July, 1864, military movements at other points made it expedient to withdraw from the Rio Grande country, and transfer to the upper Gulf country to join Farragut's expedition against the forts defending Mobile, Alabama.

July 28th most of the brigade left Brownsville, taking their sick, wounded, all munitions of war, all supplies, etc. and 2,000 refugees and on August 1st the commanding general, with the 20th Wisconsin as his escort boarded ship for New Orleans, camping at Carrolton for a few days, leaving August 7th for Navy Cove, Mississippi, four miles from Fort Morgan, where they took position, taking part in the reduction of that stronghold.

Upon the surrender on the 23rd of August, the 20th Wisconsin, and the 94th Illinois completed the surrender, being put in charge of 600 men as prisoners of war.

HOSTILITIES CEASE

Omitting mention of several skirmishes in the area, in which the 20th participated by companies we come to the time, May 5, 1865, when word was received of the cessation of hostilities east of the Mississippi river.

MUSTERED OUT

On June 15, the 20th Wisconsin embarked on shipboard to be taken back to Galveston, Texas, to be mustered out. We surmise that rail transportation in the southern states was out of the question, and that in so far as possible returning troops would be moved by water, which in the case of the troops in the Mobile area had to go back to New Orleans to go north.

HOMEWARD BOUND

However we have never understood why the long voyage back to Galveston was necessary, unless better and larger camp facilities were available there.

August Fritz's diary ends with a final entry July 25 of having reached Memphis; but whether the rest of the trip was by rail only, we have no knowledge; however we quote from Loves History as follows: "They reached Madison July 20th (which indicates movement by rail) where they received their pay and were disbanded.

To Be Continued

REGIMENTAL FIGURES

They returned with 475 enlisted men, having left 84 recent recruits at Galveston, to be absorbed into the Wisconsin 35th.

The 20th loss during the war was 500, a large proportion having been discharged for disability. They traveled by rail, water and on foot, seven thousand miles.

For their good conduct and courage, while under command, General Granger, in a letter to Gov. James T. Lewis, at the time they were mustered out, praised the regiment in the strongest terms.

The muster-out rolls, as given by the Adjutant General shows original strength 990, (three years previously) gain by recruits in 1863, 12; 1864, 120; 1865, 6; substitute, 1; total, 1129.

Loss: by death 227; consisting of 57 killed, 36 died of wo unds and 134 died of disease; desertion, 41; transferred, 115; discharged because of disability 222; mustered out 524, men and officers. Note loss by disease more than double those kille l in battles.

FOLLOWING AUGUST FRITZ HOME

We have followed August Fritz through his entire army experience, from his enlistment at Watertown, in Company E. 20th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in August, 1862, to his honorable discharge from the Union Army reaching Madison on July 30, 1865, ending approximately three solid years of service.

Presumably he went almost immediately to the home of his parents and no doubt like all returning soldiers from any war, it may have taken some time to re-adjust from army to civilian life.

HE MARRIES

We find that on March 15, 1866, he was married to Miss Mary Holsten, oldest daughter of neighbor William Holsten, who had come from Hanover, Germany, in 1846, Mary having been born there November 21, 1845. Three sisters and one brother were born after the family had come to America.

August must have saved much of his pay as an army private, and the chances are that he as a volunteer, received a government allotment or land grant.

At any rate he bought land in section 34, town of Columbus, to which he took his bride Mary, and to them were born three sons and two daughters, about all of whom brief sketches will follow.

August Fritz prospered, and continued to acquire additional land, and by the time his sons were ready and able to start farming for themselves he had a total of 364 acres; ultimately he was able to assist each to acquire quarter sections of good land.



Mr. and Mrs. August Fritz

HELP ORGANIZE CREAMERY

He was one of the organizers of Springbrook Creamery on what is now called Weiner Road, about half way between the Fritz farm and the Holsten farm. August Fritz was president; Max Rupnow, secretary; Albert Federly, treasurer; while some of the other stockholders or partners were Henry Holsten, a brother-in-law; Dave Laskey, (present Premo farm); Frank Voight and Frank Lueders. Miss Nora Fritz recalls that the carpenters who built the creamery, boarded at the Fritz farm. Before Edwin Fritz (August' first son) was married he was the buttermaker at the creamery, having taken training in a creamery at Jefferson, Wisconsin. Ed was married in 1896, when he was thirty years of age, which would date the creamery as having been in business some time prior thereto.

We have learned from Albert Holsten that his uncle, the late Lawrence Holsten, also, had been a buttermaker at the Springbrook Creamery, having attended a short course at the College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin, to learn the trade.

ACTIVE IN G.A.R.

August was active in the Frank A. Haskell, G.A.R. Post 146, later changing its name to Harvey M. Brown Post. He and his wife united with Zion Lutheran church of which they continued as members as long as they lived, and all of their children were brought up confirmed and were members of the same.

He continued to live on the farm until 1907 when he bought the residence at 337 Broadway (now Dickason) until his death in 1919 on October 8th. His widow Mary and daughter Nora sold the home and for a year or so lived with Ed Fritz, while a new home was built at the corner of Broadway and Prairie streets, into which Nora and her mother moved in 1921.

Mrs. August Fritz lived until December 9, 1926, and in order to help Eleanora take care of her, her daughter ,Anna and family, the George Langes, moved in with Eleanora, which became their home. Mrs. Lange passed away January 2, 1959. Her husband died August 30, 1956.



We show here a picture of the five children of Mr. and and Mrs. August Fritz taken in 1896. First row, seated, from left to right, Anna, Mrs. George Lange; Eli, youngest son; William L, fourth born.

Standing, Edwin, oldest son; and Eleanora Fritz, third born.

FIRST BORN

The first born child was Edwin W. Fritz, born December 4, 1866, on the farm in Section 34, town of Columbus, now owned by Fred Ott.

He grew up to be a good farmer, which was the ambition of all farm born boys, for in that period farming was the best possible way of life, a very high percent of our population being rural.

He received the customary education offered by the district school during the winter months.

When he was 30 years of age, on June 4, 1896, he was married to Miss Mary Boelte, daughter of Christoph and Sophie Boelte of the town of Columbus.

To them was born a daughter, Erma, who died in 1933. His wife, Mary, died in 1919, and Edwin passed away Thursday, May 22, 1947, in St. Mary's hospital.

Funeral services were held in Zion Lutheran church, Rev. William Nommensen officiating.

Ed, the oldest son of August, with help from his father, bought the former John Hasey farm, being the N. W. quarter of Section 35, town of Columbus, now generally known as the Fred Evert fam, which Ed farmed until he moved to Columbus in 1918.

In his young manhood, before he was married, he had learned buttermaking, and became the buttermaker at Springbrook Creamery, a neighborhood venture of which his father was one of the organizers, and president.

To Be Continued

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

April 14, 1960 Installment No. 445

SECOND BORN

Second child of August Fritz and his wife Mary Holsten, was a daughter Anna, born on the home place in section 34 town of Columbus, on June 1, 1868.

She was married to George J. Lange on February 6, 1894.

They became the parents of three daughters and one son. Irena, who became Mrs. Herbert J. Koch of Columbus and mother of David, Stewart and Gene, died in January 1934. Twin daughters, Irma and Alcy both of whom are registered nurses by profession are unmarried, and live in California.

Their son is George F. Lange, an attorney at law in Madison.

George F. is married to Marion Whittemore and they have two daughters, Nancy who is Mrs. Thomas Ripp, who lives in San Francisco, and Susan who is Mrs. Monte Plamer and lives in Madison.

The son is George F. jr. who is 13 as this is written in December, 1959.

Mr. and Mrs. George J. Lange acquired and lived in the Lange home farm in the town of Columbus until they moved to Columbus in 1906. The farm was in section 21 near the town of Columbus "Town Hall." Mr. Lange bought and sold other farms, both for himself and acting as agents for others, almost up to the time of his death.

Mrs. Lange died January 2, 1959, her husband preceded her, having died August 30, 1956.

THIRD BORN

The third child born to August and Mary Fritz was a daughter Eleanora born August 19, 1872.

She grew up on the farm, received the same type of elementary education at the nearby district school as most farm children, relatively few of whom were sent to town to high school, unless there was a strong inclination to become a school teacher.

She, like the other children of the family, was brought up in the Lutheran faith, and is still active in the Zion Lutheran Church.

She became a good housekeeper and was always a cheerful person, and seemed to have a natural gift of caring for the sick.

When her parents moved to town in 1907 she decided to become a trained nurse, and set about finding out what the requirements were. A high school education was not a requirement at that time, and most schools of nursing offered a two year course.

She decided upon Hanover Hospital, Milwaukee which she entered. She proved to be so efficient that she soon was sent out to outpatient training, that is to take care of patients in their own home.

During her two year course she spent a total of 41 weeks caring for "outpatients." She graduated in December 1908 and came to Columbus to practice her profession, which she followed until comparatively recent years.

Possibly she was an inspiration to her twin nieces, Irma and Alcy Lange, both of whom are registered nurses in California and to both of Eli's daughters who were both trained nurses.

Miss Eleanora is hale and hearty at 87 years of age, and lives alone. She has been most helpful in providing much of the data for the Fritz story for which the writer is truly thankful.



We take pleasure in showing an excellent picture of Miss Eleanora Fritz, taken about 1910.

FOURTH BORN CHILD

The fourth born child of August and Mary Fritz was William L. Fritz, on March 8, 1874 on the farm his father August acquired when he first came to this area from Jefferson county.

Will grew up, attended district school, became a good farmer. He was of heavier build than his brothers and sisters. Like the rest of the family he was confirmed in and became a member of Zion Lutheran Church which membership continued until shortly after his marriage.

HE IS MARRIED

He was married December 9, 1897 to Miss Hattie Richmond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Richmond, in the Richmond home, the same house where their daughter Wilma, Mrs. Theron Black, now lives.

The young couple began housekeeping and farming on a portion of the S.R. Webster farm, which they had rented, and in addition did some farming, on occasion, for Mr. Webster, who at the time was a member of the Assembly at Madison and had to spend much of his time in the state house. It was thought the Webster boys at that time were too young to assume the responsibility of handling the farm alone.

Will's father, August had planned to give each of his three sons a farm, when they married and started farming for themselves; but he had helped Edwin, his oldest son, only recently before Will's marriage, and had to defer help for a few years, but he helped Will with a nice start on cattle, and Hattie had saved her wages as a school teacher and was able to supply the money for a good team of horses.

CHURCH AFFILIATION

The Richmond family had been members of the Presbyterian Church (now 239 South Dickinson) and when it disbanded and ceased to function in 1893 some of the pieces of furniture were sold; thus it was that Hattie Richmond became the owner of one of the pulpit chairs. The Richmond family, later began attending the Congregational Church which they later joined.

Will and Hattie attended the Lutheran Church a few times, but as the services were in the German language, the young couple decided that they would become members of Olivet.

to be continued

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

April 21, 1960 Installment No. 446

PURCHASES A FARM

After farming on the Webster land for a few years, Will with some help from his father purchased the "Fuller Farm" which according to three successive Columbia County Plat books from 1873 to 1916 shows as 160 acres in section 27, town of Columbus, except the one of 1916 shows that 40 acres had been sold to Emil Miller.

From daughter Wilma, who has supplied us with considerable information we learn the original August Fritz homestead was 160 acres, to which was added from time to time, nearby farms until August had 364 acres of which 160 acres was the John Hasey farm.

LAND VALUES

Practically all of the land in this part of Wisconsin, when opened by the Federal Government in 1839, was priced at $1.25 per acre and sold in units of 40 acres. Much of it was sold to "so called" land speculators, who had the money to buy, and the patience to wait.

Also land grants were given to those who had been in the Revolutionary War; the War of 1812; the Indian Wars; the Mexican War of 1847 and the Civil War.

These grants for land were negotiable, and could be bought, sold or traded. Many a sizable fortune of that period was made through the rise of value of land and on improved farm land.

We have no way of determining through abstracts of title for example, just what properties sold for, but whatever the price, there always seemed to be ready buyers for land and improved farms were offered for sale.

When Will Fritz brought the Fuller farm, with his father's help, he moved into the house almost directly across from which was the district school, where his wife Hattie had taught school. In fact Will had attended at least one term of school that his future wife Hattie Richmond was teaching.

STONE QUARRY

The Fullers had long before opened a stone quarry on the farm, from which the stone for many basements and barns and houses was taken. Will decided to cash in on the quarry.

He promptly named his farm "Quarry Hill Stock Farm." This writer recalls that Bill Fritz hauled hundreds of loads of stone chips to raise the Columbus Canning Companies yard and grounds up out of the swamp it was when the original wooden factory was built in 1900.

He sold forty acres to Emil Miller, who farmed his 40 and also continued to work for Bill Fritz and from Emil it was that Wilma gives the following list of some of the homes, the foundations and basements of which were made from stone quarried on the Quarry Hill Stock Farm, and there were many more, not remembered.

The chapel at the Catholic church was built from this stone which had a pronounced bluish tinge; the basement walls of Mrs. Boettcher's, Mrs. Yule's (the Engelke house) the Ed Priem, Udey house; the farm house of Emil Miller, now belonging to Sparky Voelker; the Badger Motor Co., foundation (now a part of the Stokely Van Camp Badger warehouse.)

HIS HERD

Bill Fritz developed a good herd of purebred Holstein cattle, taking an active interest in developing better dairying in the area and was a consistant grower of canning crops.

In 1911 Mr. Fritz became Assistant Farm Manager of the Columbus Canning Company under A.H. Whitney Vice President and Farm Manager of the several farms owned and operated by the company. He hired a man to operate Quarry Hill Farm and moved his family to town, renting the house at 230 N. Ludington street; a few years later he bought the residence at the corner of Prairie and Main streets, now owned by Mrs. Eva Gruhn.

In addition to managing all farming operations on land owned or leased by the company, Bill Fritz was in charge of the feeding of thousands of lambs, each winter, in the large feeding yards, and buildings on the former Badger Motor Car plant where the present Stokely Viner station across the river now is.

Also there were good Holstein herds on each of the company farms, for the care of which he was responsible.

BUYS BANK STOCK

On July 11, 1918, Mr. Fritz purchased some of F & M Bank stock from George W. Everett, the cashier, who had resigned his position and was leaving town. Mr. Fritz was elected a director to take Mr. Everett's place on the board. At that time there were only four directors.

MOVES TO LAKE MILLS

Late in 1919 he resigned his position with Columbus Canning Company and moved his family to Lake Mills, Wisconsin to join with his brother-in-law, Frank S. Roberts, of Cambria and others in organizing the Lake Mills Canning Company of which he became Vice President and Farm Manager.

AND BACK TO COLUMBUS

About four years later he sold his interest to Lake Mills to his associates, and after some traveling, including a "look see" trip to California, he decided to move back to Columbus.

During his sojourn in Lake Mills he had continued to hold his bank stock and his directorship on the Bank's Board of Directors.

BECOMES VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. J.R. Wheeler had become more deeply interested in the Bankers Joint Stock Land Bank, Milwaukee and was absent from Columbus much of the time; because of this divided interest, he made some of his bank stock available to Mr. Fritz, and proposed to the board that Mr. Fritz be elected Vice President, to devote his entire time to managing the bank's affairs.

The minutes agree with an announcement in the paper in the paper May 2, 1923 that J.R. Wheeler had been elected Vice President of Bankers Joint Stock Land Bank, and was moving to Milwaukee and that Mr. W.L. Fritz would become Vice President and Manager of the Farmers and Merchants Union Bank, effective May 1, 1923.

THEN PRESIDENT

At the annual meeting of the Bank, January 13, 1925 Mr. Fritz was elected President, which position he retained until his death in January, 1944. He continued to devote his full time to the bank for a year or so, but when Mr. Phil Hudson became cashier and had been here long enough to take full responsibility, Mr. Fritz, while still president, went off the banks pay roll and resumed his former position as Farm Manager of Columbus Canning Co.

BUYS COOPER HOUSE

Upon his return to Columbus Mr. Fritz bought the Frank Cooper home, 442 S. Lewis street, where the family lived for many years, in fact up until comparatively recent years.

At the time of his christening he had four given names, and he used to say, jokingly, that he kept the two other names in reserve so he could use them if he "lost the other two" he was for all intents and purposes. William Lawrence Fritz.

His wife Hattie was christened with one name only, never having been given a middle name.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Will Fritz was always active in civic, church and social affairs. He was alderman in Columbus and also in Lake Mills. He was chosen as president when the Rotary Club was organized here in May, 1924; and after Mr. Whitney's death he became a director in Columbus Foods Corporation (formerly Columbus Canning Co.) and became treasurer, holding both positions as well as the presidency of the bank at the time of his death. January 22, 1944.

CHURCH

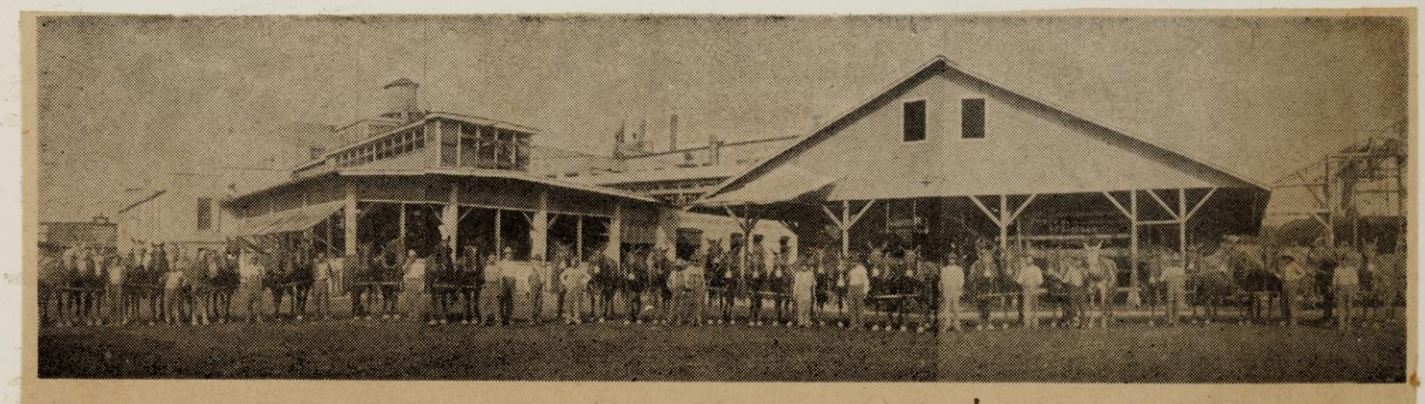
In his church affiliation he was especially active having been trustee, a number of times; also served as a deacon, and sang in the choir for a number of years.

Both he and his wife Hattie, had long records of teaching in Sunday School, both in Columbus and Lake Mills. Even earlier, when they were renting part of Sam Webster's farm they attended Sunday School every Sunday afternoon at Danville School House.

FARM DEPARTMENT

"Here is picture of six teams of horses and eleven teams of mules. There were additional teams on each of several farms. At that time almost no one had a tractor. Now almost no one has a team of horses."

(To Be Continued)



WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

April 28, 1960 Installment No. 447

A COMMUNITY SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Danville community was the home of several different nationalities; Irish Catholics, German Methodists; New England Congregationalists and Presbyterians and others.

On Sunday mornings each attended mass or the church of their choice.

In the afernoon, the community Sunday School, strictly nondeominal, gathered at Danville school, as neighbors and friends. Hattie Fritz taught a class of 8 or 9 year old children, Mrs. S.R. Webster taught younger children.

Wilma, quotes Oscar Bradt, who attended, saying that Will Wright's father was the first superintendent so far as he can recall, and the next was Sam Webster. They had regular, community or nondenominational Sunday school printed material for teaching. It was not at all unusual for parents to attend with their children. Presumably there was a class for adults possibly taught by the Superintendent.

ANOTHER SUNDAY SCHOOL

We learn from Miss Eleanora Fritz that Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Richmond carried on a non denominational Sunday School in the district school house every Sunday afternoon, where many families of the community were regular attendants.

This is indicative of church activity, in several country churches and school houses.

A FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

The area was a very friendly, warm hearted community and when the Fritzes lost their first born child, Raymond, at the age of two and one half years, they learned anew what kindness and sympathy was. Mrs. Fritz often told her daughters of the long procession that accompanied them to the graveside. Wilma has a clipping from a newspaper telling of Raymond's death, which stated that 103 carriages followed in the procession.

TEACHING AT 16

Hattie Fritz began teaching school when she was 16 years of age. She attended Whitewater Normal, and also different Teacher's Institutes at Portage. She taught at different schools, including the Whittier school out near the Mulligan Cheese Factory; and the school that until comparatively recent years, that stood across the road from the Fuller farm, now Highway 73, for years and no doubt other schools. We understand teachers received $30. per month.

Many older boys, many older and bigger than she was, attended the winter term, as the fall and spring terms came at too busy a time for farm boys to attend.

Will Fritz attended at least one winter term under Hattie Richmond; he was much bigger, even though he was ten months younger than the teacher.

The writer does not know whether or not Hattie taught school after her marriage, but assumes not. One memo states that she taught more than 35 years in Sunday School, but whether that included the Community Sunday School at Danville or not, we do not know.

INTEREST IN YOUNG PEOPLE

Mr. Fritz always had a deep interest in the young people of the church and the community. During his year as president of the Rotary Club, the very first service undertaken by the club, at his suggestion, was a campaign to raise the money for some sort of uniform for the school band. The campaign was reasonably successful for as the writer recalls it, there was enough to supply a red cape and blue cap for each youngster.

The Canning Company was always willing to furnish a truck or two, or in winter a few bob sleds and drivers for transportation to and from school or church affairs away from home. Bill Fritz took the band and their instruments to their very first Band Tournament, in one or more trucks this being before school buses were in use.

He was always ready to take groups of Pilgrim Fellowship young people to meetings of similar groups at other churches in the area.
eral. Surely this was a tribute to the years he had given to teaching and encouraging young people.

TAUGHT A CLASS OF BOYS



He taught a class of boys at Lake Mills Sunday school and after returning to Columbus to live, taught the Knights of Olivet a group of high school boys that had been organized and developed, originally by Ruth Sutton (Mrs. DeForest Doland).

People wondered at the way so many young people came to his funeral at Olivet church in January, 1944, but they were some of his Pilgrim Fellowship, and Knights of Olivet people, who were permitted to be absent from school in order to attend the fun-

THEIR CHILDREN

The following is the list of children born to Mr. and Mrs. Fritz (with year of birth omitted at the reguest of one of them) and of their grandchildren.

1. Raymond Richard Fritz, died at two and one half years.

RUTH

2. Ruth Eleanore Fritz, who in addition to a high school education also attended Madison Business College. She became the office secretary of Lake Mills Canning Company and later was a private secretary in Milwaukee.

She is the wife of Dr. E.A. Waldeck, a specialist in eye, ear, nose and throat practicing in Milwaukee. He is a graduate of Marquette University, Milwaukee. and also studied in Vienna, Austria.

They live in Fox Point and are the parents of two sons, Edward William, about 21 and Charles Richard about 17.

WILMA

3. Wilma Elizabeth Fritz, in addition to being a high school graduate, also attended Milwaukee Downer college and the University of Wisconsin.

She is married to Theron Wodke Black of Lake Mills who when coming to Columbus, was in the Feed business for a few years, before taking up farming. They now live on the Richmond homestead (see installments 43-43A-44 in story of Columbus).

They are parents of three children, as follows; Elizabeth Richmond Black, William Harland Black and Robert Bradford Black, still in school.

Elizabeth Black is married to Chester Wagner Larsen and lives in St. Louis, Mo. where Mr. Larsen is General Manager of an Electric Plant. They have two children, Christopher William and Bowen Wagner.

William Black is a First Lieutenant and is a 1956 graduate of Annapolis Naval Academy. He is married to Miss Mary Huseth of Columbus and they are stationed at Lubbock, Texas where he is a jet pilot instructor in the Air Force.

They have two daughters, Deborah Jeanne and Diana Kay.

DOROTHY

4. Dorothy Mable Fritz, unmarried, is a graduate of Milwaukee Downer College and then had a year at New York School of Social Work on a scholarship.

She received her Masters degree from Columbia University, New York City and has done work toward her doctorate at the University of Penn. and now heads "Youth Service Inc." in Philadelphia.

A year ago she attended the "International Conference of Social Work" at Tokyo, Japan.

WINNIFRED

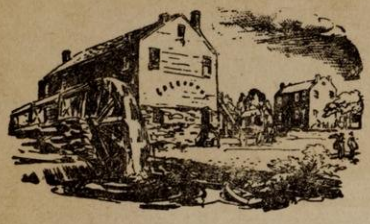
5. Winnifred Emeline Fritz, was the third daughter to attend Milwaukee Downer College after which, she attended the University of Wisconsin, graduating in Home Economics. She was a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta.

She is married to Lloyd B. Rothe of Stoughton. They have two children, Richard John Rothe and Julia Richmond Rothe.

Winnifred's husband is a research chemist with Kelco, Co. at the New York city branch. They live in Tenafly, New Jersey.



WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

May 5, 1960 Installment No. 448

Correction

We regret that an error was made in using the word "Electric" instead of Electronic" in the last week's installment of the Fritz story.

LAWRENCE

6. Lawrence William Fritz, after graduating from Columbus high school, attended and graduated from the University of Wisconsin, where he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

When Columbus Foods Corporation established a branch plant at McAllen in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, in 1934, Lawrence Fritz, who had had considerable canning experience in the home plant, was one of the young men chosen to go to Texas.

After a few years there with Columbus Foods, Lawrence helped organize a locally owned canning firm, St. Clair Foods, in which he is a partner. The parent plant at McAllen and a branch at near-by San Juan.

He is a past president of McAllen Rotary Club and of the South Texas Canners Assiciation.

He is married to Miss Nina Nell Glasscock of McAllen. They have three children, Virginia Nell, who was recently married to Ronald Worden of Pharr, Texas, Nancy Richmond and Caroline Jean.

Two other children, of Will and Hattie Fritz, died in infancy, Esther Marie and Ralph Edwin, one of them died at birth.

CHURCH ACTIVITY

Mrs. Hattie Fritz continued her activities in all church affairs for many years after her husband's death in 1944, but she had been an invalid for some years, prior to her death, on August 26th 1959.

FIFTH BORN OF AUGUST FRITZ

Fifth child born to August and Mary Fritz, was a son Eli, born January 16, 1881, on the same farm as the other children, who attended the same district school, and was confirmed and joined the same Zion Lutheran Church.

Like most farm boys of that period, he became a good farmer, that being the occupation of the big majority of our population at that period.

Eli was married to Miss Eliza Hermann, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hermann, in November 1906, and began house keeping and farming on the old home farm at the time his parents and sister moved to town.

To them were born two daughters and a son, as follows; Adelaide in 1907 became a nurse, and now is assistant directress of nursing school in Cook County Hospital, Chicago, Illinois.

Loren, in 1910, who is now a banker at Cedarburg, Wisconsin; He was married to Miss Anita Leitzke of Oskkosh, once a Columbus teacher. They have three chidren, David, 19; Caryl, 16; and Priscilla, 13; as this is written late in 1959.

The third child of Eli and Eliza is Marionne, born in 1912, who also became a nurse and is now married to Dr. Erdman, and lives in Manitowoc: They have three children, Thomas, 22; Robert, 20; and Judith, 14.

The first Mrs. Fritz, mother of the children, died in March 1928. In 1935 Mr. Fritz was married to Miss Ruth Schultz of Lake Mills, Wisconsin. Their home at the time of his death was at 555 Park Ave., Columbus.

Mrs. Fritz, before her marriage was a qualified registered nurse. For some years now, she is directress of Nursing Education at College Hospital, Galesburg, Illinois.

Mr. Fritz has owned and operated different farms, even after moving to town; among them but perhaps not all of them were the following: The "Federly" farm; The Fritz homestead; "Avalon Farm" at the edge of town, on the Madison Road.

Mr. Fritz died May 18th, 1952.

CONCLUSION

This is the story, of a sturdy pioneer German family, typical of many other such families of this area, and of the state.

We take pleasure in showing here a group picture, taken in 1914 by C.P. Ziegler of August and Mary Fritz, with their children and children's children two years before they celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage.

From left to right, six children are Lawrence Fritz, Winnifred Fritz, Loren Fritz, Dorothy Fritz, Adelaide Fritz, Marionne Fritz. Second row, seated, William L. Fritz, August Fritz, Edwin Fritz, Mary, Mrs. Edwin Fritz, Eli Fritz.

Third row, standing Wilma Fritz, Ruth Fritz, Erma Fritz, Hattie, Mrs. William L. Fritz, Irma L. Lange, Aley V. Lange, Eliza, Mrs. Eli J. Fritz, Irene Lange, Eleanora Fritz, George F. Lange.

While the parents, August and Mary Fritz had moved to town in 1907, for the purpose of this picture they desired the old home place to be the background for the group, so all returned to the old house for the purpose of the picture.

The End Of The Fritz Story

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

May 12, 1960 Installment No. 448

Early Agricultural Societies and Fairs

In the Columbia County History, published in 1880, from which this column has frequently quoted, we have from time to time, marked as suitable for "The Story of Columbus" certain subjects, among which, the above mentioned should be interesting.

1851

The first movement to organize an Agricultural Society took place during the fall meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Columbia County, held in Portage, in November, 1851, when the suggestion of an organization of an agricultural society was first acted upon, the suggestion being made by Jessie Van Ness, of West Point.

The members of the board received the proposal with favor, and a preliminary meeting (presumably and open meeting for the public) to be held in the schoolhouse No. 7 in the town of Winnebago.

PORTAGE DID NOT EXIST

Here is a good place to interpolate that whoever it may have been that penned the article on page 458 of the History of Columbia County, was speaking of a period earlier than he wrote, for as of 1851 there was no town, or village bearing the name of Portage There was a small scattering of cabins and other facilities such as a store house for furs and pelts at what was usually called Winnebago portage, meaning a place where canoes, rafts, etc. had to be carried or drawn across a mile or so of swampy ground lying between the Wisconsin and the Fox rivers.

FIRST ELECTION

Columbia County was "set off" by the Territorial Legislature in Feb. 1846, it having theretofore been a part of Portage County (in which there was at least one other "portage." In April of 1846 the first election of Columbia County was held, but was declared unofficial and in Sept. of that year an "official" election was held, which gave Wyocena the county seat for a period of one year. The 1847 Legislature passed an act, naming Columbus as county seat for a period of 5 years.

However in the election of April 1851, the popular vote gave Winnebago Portage being more centrally located, gave Fort Winnebago as County Seat temporarily.

By act of the Legislature, approved by Gov. Barstow, designated that the County Seat become officially known as Portage City.

From this it is apparent that "held in Portage" is not a correct statement as of 1851.

The meeting previously referred to, no date given, named a committee on Constitution, and another to nominate officers on the 19th of November, 1851, another meeting was held, at which an address was made by Joseph Kerr of Randolph; a constitution consisting of five short articles was read and approved. The qualifications for membership consisted of subscribing to the articles (which were not given) and paying 25 cents dues.

OFFICERS

Forty six men signed and paid their quarter. We recognize as citizens from this corner of the county, only the following John Quincy Adams, Fountain Prairie; Perry Lee, Hampden; Josiah Arnold, Columbus; T. Clark Smith, Columbus.

T. Clark Smith, elected second vice president and John Q. Adams and T. Clark Smith were named to the Executive Committee.

FIRST FAIR AT WYOCENA IN 1852

The first fair was held in November, 1852, on the commons at Wyocena. The receipts were $15.75 and the disbursements $11.80. The society claimed the gathering to be a success.

January 4, 1853, a meeting was held, place not stated. at which various amendments were made to the by-laws and officers; the only name from this part of the county being Adams still on the executive committee.

Next fair was also at Wyocena, Sept. 28, 1853. There were judges in 14 classes. Nineteen entries under department of horses, and twelve under cattle; poultry one; farm implements two and a plow and a verticle gate. The receipts were $20. and disbursements $18.81.

Newly elected officers included James T. Lewis of Columbus, vice president, and James C. Carr of Fountain Prairie, executive committee. Decision was to hold the next fair in Columbus Sept. 20, 1854.

1854, *FIRST COLUMBUS FAIR*

The place was "in the forks of the road on the westerly declivity of what is known as Lewis and Cook's hill" (That would be the triangle between W. James, Maple Ave. and Hibbard street)

It was on these grounds that Almon P. Birdsey had built a tavern (Food and Lodging for man or beast) called the Mountain House, and it was in this little tavern that the "hall of fine arts" was located; and in this display there were a few fruits, fine needlework, etc.

There were 99 entries in all, and the receipts for fees of members were $32.00. Premiums paid $18.00 and 31 volumes of the "Transactions of the State Agricultural Society" (perhaps donated by the state to encourage county societies).

Among the newly elected officers, those from this corner of the county were James C. Carr, Fountain Prairie, president; John A. Bowen of Columbus on the Excutive Committee.

1855

The next fair in Sept. 1855 was held in Portage (there was a small community there by that time) which won the prize because of a donation "a handsome donation."

Dr. John W. Earll of Columbus delivered the address. Receipts from the exhibitors was $52.50 out of which together with the donation, the premiums paid amounting to $120.

Among the new officers, all were from elsewhere, except J.Q. Adams, was on the executive committees.

1856

The 1856 fair was at Wyocena second and third of Oct. (which marks the first two day affair. Receipts were $117.19 an disbursements $126.15. The address was made by Judge J.J. Guppey (formerly of Columbus, but then of Portage).

Nothing was said about numbers of exhibitors etc. and the newly elected efficials include one "from this corner" being James C. Carr of Fountain Prairie, vice president.

1857

The fair of 1857 was at Wyocena Sept. 22 and 23rd, the address was given by James T. Lewis of Columbus who within a few years would become governor of Wisconsin.

There were 183 entries, the receipts were $224. and the premiums came to only $84. AW. Ingalsbee of Columbus was put on the Executive Committee, all other officers from the west and northern townships.

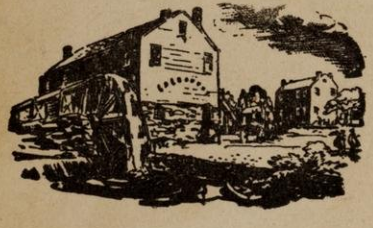
As far as extensive reading shows that there were no regular structures, probably using improvised quarters, or perhaps being completely out of doors, except for the fine arts.

1858

The 1858 fair was at Portage Sept. 23-24 and we are now getting into higher financing for the receipts including Portage City's subscription of $175 and a state appropriation of $100. there was a total of $401. but alas, the disbursements were $476.25.

The only familiar name among the newly elected officials is that of James T. Lewis on the executive committee and James C. Carr, a vice president.

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The Story of . . .

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By F. A. STARE

May 19, 1960 Installment No. 449

Continuation of Early Societies and Fairs

1859

Portage held the Fair again in 1859 on Sept. 20-21. There were 201 entries and premiums paid totaling $303.50 with funds on hand of $67.00 which means solvency.

New officials included Judge Guppy, once of Columbus and James C. Carr was still a vice president.

1860

In 1860 the fair was held at Cambria, the citizens of which paying $165.00 for the luxury on Sept. 18, 19 and 20, a three day exhibit. The receipts were $402., the expenditures $309, and still solvent. No mention made as to how many entries and nothing said about an address or by whom if there was one.

Among the newly elected officials we note J. Q. Adams, a vice president; and as members of executive committee A. W. Ingalsbee, Columbus and Harrison S. Haskell, Portage, formerly of Columbus.

1861

The fair was held in Portage in 1861, another 3 day show Sept. 18, 19 and 20. The receipts including unspecified amounts of "appropriation and subscriptions, totaled $475.21 and expenses of $426. of which the premiums came to $363. Number of entries not stated.

The newly elected officials show as Pres. John Q. Adams of Fountain Prairie, H. S. Haskell once a fellow townsman, a vice president and on the executive committee a new Columbus name of G. W. Campbell. A new amendment provided that the old officers open the fair, and the new officers assume their duties on the second day.

1862

Portage again held the fair in 1862, on Sept. 24, 25, 26, but not a word was printed about finances, entries or who may have given an address. The only area names found among the new officials was Jay Bradley of Otsego who is on the Executive committee, as well as our old friend J. Q. Adams.

1863

Lodi had the pleasure of entertaining the Columbia County Agriculture Society on Sept. 22, 23 and 24, 1863. Nothing said about the entries, but the finances look good. Total receipts including two years state appropriation, total $769, with disbursements of $607. Among the names of newly elected officials from this area are on the executive committee are T. Clark Smith, town of Columbus and Clad Roys of Hampden.

1864

Sept. 21, 22, 23 the fair was held at Columbus. Receipts $619, disbursements $480; number of entries not given. Familiar names among foficials John Q. Adasm, J. W. Robinson, E. Fairbanks, A. W. Ingalsbee.

1865

Sept. 19, 20, 21 held at Portage. Receipts $697., disbursements $632. Familiar names Adams, Haskell, Ingalsbee.

1866

Sept. 19, 20, 21 at Portage. Receipts $812, disbursements $992, which includes $112 expended in building Floral Hall. Pres. J. Q. Adams, vice president H. S. Haskell, Ex Com. James T. Lewis, J. R. Jones. Nothing in the way of details.

1867

Sept. 18, 19, 20 at Columbus, receipts $877., disbursements $926. Haskell president, vice president J. T. Lewis, J. Q. Adams and J. R. Jones on Ex. Committee.

It is understood of course that all names of persons from other parts of the county are omitted, mentioning only those from our area.

1868

Sept. 23, 24, 25 held at Portage. Receipts $977, disbursements $1,125 which includes $200 for a tent and $175 for Floral hall. Haskell and Lewis vice presidents, treasurer John Q. Adams.

1869

The fair was held at Columbus Sept. 22, 23, 24. Receipts $960, disbursements of $780. 700 entries were made, which was far in excess of any previous year. Haskell and Lewis were vice presidents, Adams was treasurer, an executive committee were A. G. Cook, E. Fairbanks and J. R. Jones.

A pattern seems to have developed of alternating the exhibit at Portage and Columbus. Portage held the Floral hall and we presume the tent followed back and forth.

Nothing has been revealed as to whether there was any sort of enclosure at either place, so admissions could be charged, or whether the receipts were from exhibitors only. Also nothing has been mentioned about subscriptions or appropriations for the past several reports.

CONTINUING

After reviewing the fairs from 1870 to 1879 the last one in Columbia County history we will go back to local newspapers to pick up local color, and the split resulting in fairs being held in Columbus every year as well as those in Portage.

1870

The fair returned to Portage Sept. 21, 22, 23, the receipts were $909, and disbursements $867. Officials from our area were A. G. Cook, Columbus president; J. Q. Adams, treasurer; F. F. Farnum, J. R. Jones, Calvin Baker, John Foster, E. Fairbanks, J. W. Robinson, each from a different township from this part of the county were all on the board of directors along with sixteen others from the other townships west and north. Nothing reported as to number of entries.

1871

Sept. 19, 20, 21, Columbus had the fair, receipts were $1267, and disbursements $1248. Entries numbers 700. A. G. Cook president; Adams, treasurer, directors from this area about the same as previous year.

1872

The fair was at Portage Sept. 18, 19, 20. Receipts $761., disbursements $954 no mention of entries. Among the officers, local names are E. Fairbanks, president, J. Q. Adams, treasurer and on the board J. R. Jones, Henry Morse, J. Foster, Samuel Hasey.

1873

The fair came back to Columbus on Sept. 17, 18, 19 which proved to be for the last time, for apparently Columbus had decided to have its own fair, in permanent quarters, althougr the break was not immediate. The receipts were $1,115., and disbursements $1,032. Number of entries not given, but judging by the disbursements, most of which was paying the premiums, the number was awarded beyond 700 exhibits.

E. Fairbanks was present, J. Q. Adams, treasurer and among the directors were the following form this corner of the county, J. R. Jones, Henry Morse, John Foster and Samuel Hasey.

1874

The fair was held in Portage on Sept. 29, 30 and Oct. 1. The receipts were $1,012 and expenditures $925. No information as to number of entries. Officials from our area, J. Q. Adams, treasurer; among those on the Board of Directors which had replaced the executive committee some years previously were O. R. Luey, James T. Lewis, John Foster and E. Fairbanks.

1875

The fair was again in Portage on Sept. 28, 92 and 30. Receipts were $1.087 and disbursements $1,045. Nothing about the exhibits. John Q. Adams, treasurer was on the only official from our area. Directors from these parts were Calvin Baker, E. E. Chapin, Ed Roys, John Foster.

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WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

May 26, 1960 Installment No. 450

Continuation of Early Societies and Fairs

1876

Portage had the fair on Sept. 26, 27, 28 and the receipts were $1,133, with expenditures of $1314. Nothing said about a subscription or an appropriation or about the exhibits so the society must have gone into debt. John Q. Arams was still treasurer, John Foster was a vice president, and members of the board from hereabouts were J. W. Leffingwell, J. J. Sutton, H. C. Field, Ed Roys and N. P. Irons.

Fred C. Curtis from Lowville township and who had been very active in the agriculture society and in dairying, delivered an address on butter making and the care of cows.

In 1877 the fair was again in Portage on Sept. 18-19-20. Receipts were $2,441, and disbursements were $2,867 including $1500 paid on the Floral hall. "The society's financial standing at the end of this fair figured up as follows. New Floral Hall built by Lewis Green; A Carnagie, architect, $1,500, fixtures, library etc. $450, total $1,950 less indebtedness of $409. and the society considered itself worth $1540."

Portage had the start of one building towards a permanent fair grounds. Among the officers J. Q. Adams was still the favorite treasurer, and on the board from this area we find the names of M. J. Fisk, Mic Adams and Sam Hasey.

In 1878 the fair was held in Portage Sept. 24-25-26 with receipts of $1,368, and expenditures of $1,938. Among the new officials appears the faithful treasurer John Q. Adams, and board members H. J. Fisk, A. W. Ingalsbee, Calvin Baker, John Foster and Clad Roys from our area.

1879

The fair of 1879 was held in Portage Sept. 16-17-18. Total receipts were $1,499, and expenditures $1,498. John Adams was treasurer and board members from this area same as previous years.

G. Yule, succeeded J. Q. Adams as treasurer, but Mr. Adams became a member of the board, other members from our area were J. Foster and C. Roys.

At a board of directors meeting Feb. 24, 1880 the dates were set for the next fair at Portage Sept. 13-14-15. It was also decided to issue complimentary tickets to clergyman and editors. Treasurers bond was fixed at $1000. The indebtedness at the time was $598.50.

In reviewing the society's articles in the by-laws Article XII in the rules and regulations provided that "no games of chance or pools on horse racing will be allowed on the grounds during the fair, and the sale of malt and spitituous liquors was strictly prohibited; and it was remarked that its provisions have been implicitly adhered to.

A REASON

We have been searching for a reason that the last several years of the society's fairs had been held in Portage. Obviously shuttling back and forth precluded the possibility of having permanent grounds, enclosures, buildings, race tracks, etc. Research in Jones' Columbia County history published in 1914 page 13, vol. 1 gives us the desired information which we quote. "In that year (1874) the city of Portage purchased forty acres of land in the First Ward, made a park out of it and gave the Columbia County Agricultural Society, or its successors, an indefinite lease on the grounds.

Each year from 1872 up to 1901 at that place an annual fair was held under the auspices of that society.

A NEW SOCIETY

In 1901 the old society had become weakened by changing conditions, and a new organization, the Columbia County Fair Association, a stock company, was organized as successor company, with sufficient finances back of it proceeded to breath new life into the annual exhibits of the county."

This explains the building of the Floral Hall and other facilities, and indicates the admission required payment and that receipts for some years had been partly from admittance fees.

A SUMMARY

From the first attempt at a fair on the commons at Wyocena in 1852 that village had it a few more times in the very early years; Lodi once in 1863 and Cambria once in 1860, all other fairs having been held 5 in Columbus and 16 in Portage.

It was perfectly logical that having fairs here and there would eventually develop into local or regional fairs, if for no other reason than distance to travel, condition of the roads, lack of suitable sites and buildings.

It was a long hard trip from, dawn till darkness to move cattle and horses on their own feet, and possibly just as long to move hogs or sheep by wagon from the Columbus area to Portage and longer still from the other side of the Wisconsin river to Columbus.

LODI FAIRS

Lodi citizens as early as the one fair held there in 1863 recognized the need for an agricultural society, not on a county basis, but more on a union community basis. The editor of the Lodi Herald, on Oct. 7, 1863 in commenting on the fair held there a week or two earlier wrote "The fair was a success financially and otherwise, the attendance was good, although but a few attended outside of the towns (townships) immediately surrounding."

This fact suggested to James O. Eaton of Lodi, the idea of an organization of a Union Fair composed of citizens of neighboring towns and wrote a letter to the editor which was published as follows:

"Permit me through your columns to call the attention of the farmers and others interested in agricultural matters in the towns of DeKorra, West Point, Lodi and Arlington in Columbia County and Roxbury, Dane and Vienna in Dane County, the propriety of organizing a Union Agricultural Society.

"At the fair recently held in this place, the receipts were nearly $600 and probably not over $25., of the amount were received from persons living beyond the limits of these towns, while a number of premiums went beyond the limits of those towns in Columbia County, and those towns in Dane County, which contributed largely to the receipts of the fair, received no part in the disbursement of the premiums.

That those towns in this county are, as regards county fairs, isolated from the balance of the county, was fully demonstrated by non-attendance of the fair at this place, of persons living in other portions of the county.

Nature intended that these towns in Dane County should affiliate with those in Columbia County, and it is self evident that the people do not intend to deviate from the course pointed out by nature.

Lodi as a central point would give but a short distance to travel for gathering together of livestock and from the fact that all of these towns are first class agricultural towns (townships) but little effort would be necessary to get up and sustain from year to year, one of the most successful fairs in the state."

The idea took root, but it was not until 1866 that the Lodi Union Agricultural society was formed and held its first fair in Oct. 1866.

We have heard that the Lodi Fairs have continued through all the years up to the present time, but we have done no research beyond what appears in the Columbia County history, which indicated activity up to the year of publication, 1880.

LOCAL FAIRS DEVELOP

While Columbus and this area continued to support the annual meetings of the society, even after its fair was permanently established at Portage in 1874, the active members from the several townships in the south eastern portion of Columbia County, could see the handwriting on the wall, it was not until Saturday, August 7, 1875 that an organization meeting was held above Lueders and Krause Produce building (now the Columbus Milk and Ice Cream Building 127 E. James street) on the propriety of organizing an agricultural society, composed of people living in this vicinity (meaning portions of Columbia, Dodge and Dane counties).

Mr. A. G. Cook, attorney and farmer was chairman of the meeting and Mr. H. D. Bath, editor of the Columbus Democrat, secretary. As it was proposed to make the fair a permanent institution, it was proper to adopt articles of association and to save time Mr. G. W. Hazelton a local lawyer (and later a congressman) at the suggestion of several of those interested had prepared some resolutions which could be used if desired.

The gist of Mr. Haelton's impromptu preliminary remarks were to the effect that it was the desire of the people living contiguous to Columbus to organize a local fair society; fairs had lately become largely local expositions. An account of the small premiums necessarily offered, it was impossible to draw exhibits or entries from any great distance.

TO BE CONTINUED

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The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

June 2, 1960 Installment No. 451

CONTINUATION OF FAIRS

No antagonism was meditated against the Columbia County Fair. It was designed merely to make this a local organization for the benefit of the people of our surrounding area and to accomodate a section remote from fairs as they are now located. Mr. Hazelton then read the resolutions "for bringing together annually, at the City of Columbus, all persons, in a periodical exposition of, live stock, farm products, specimens of mechanical skill of the fine arts etc; to elect officers, president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, and an executive committee of five members, and to be elected annually each year thereafter."

NAMES MAKE NEWS

In order to bring names into this article the following were elected, Pres. Clarendon Roys of Hampden; Vice president James Webster, Elba (grandfather of Mrs. A. H. Proctor) Secretary, Charles L. Dering, attorney Columbus; Treasurer, Mic Adams, Columbus. The Executive committee elected were John Foster, Fountain Prairie; E. Fairbanks, Hampden; George Weeks, York, J. J. Sutton, Columbus, C. K. Stewart, Elba.

A cooperation committee from several surrounding townships to take hold of the fair and assist in helping make the success they all hoped for, was appointed, consisting of W. A. Pulver, Otsego; Henry Fields, Fountain Prairie; Levi Nelson, Hampden; William W. Drake, Columbus; Harvey Baxter, Bristol; Eli Sherman, York, S. Austin, Portland; H. J. Roberts, Elba, William Williams, Calamus.

Mr. Hazelton suggested adding A. C. Cook as chairman, who accepted, and stated that in his opinion that a permanent fair could be organized, and that it would not be difficult, in time, to raise the money to erect suitable buildings, and perhaps purchase the necessary grounds.

Secy Dering suggested a committee of three be appointed by the chairman, to solicit funds necessary for immediate use; the committee appointed consisted of Adams McConnell, M. B. Misner and Dr. D. C. Davies. They set out to raise $200. and got $215. without much effort.

FIRST COLUMBUS LOCALFAIR, 1875

The first fair was held the 6, 7 and 8th of October, 1875 and was a complete success, financially and otherwise. Total receipts were $1587.50; Premiums paid out $894., general expenses $395.66, secretary's office $31., balance $266.84.

Looking for some local color we turn to the newspaper of August 14, 1875 and find one of the important reasons for a local fair, which was not mentioned in the Columbia County History from which we got most of our information, but one that we suspected, namely a race track, this being the center of fast horsemen.

A DAILY PAPER?

In the Democrat of August 21, 1875 nearly four columns were devoted to the premium list for the forthcoming local fairs, and on August 28 the paper announced it would publish a daily paper during the fair.

In the issue of Sept. 4, further reference was made to a daily paper during the fair, advising that advertising copy for the special dailies must be in a few days in advance and that the issue would be 2500 copies each day, distributed by scattering them over the fair ground and through the streets and at all public places; the same notice was printed again on the 11th and on the 18th.

Apparently the "hoped for" advertising so confidentaly expected, failed to materialize for no further reference to the daily issue appeared; we are sure if there had been a daily paper the editor could not have refrained from mentioning it.

The only mention of the fair, itself was about four columns in the issue of Oct. 16 giving a list of awards for displays and not a word about horse races.

DOUBLE EXPOSITION

It should be born in mind that for five or six years 1875 to 1880 Columbus area exhibitors had two fairs to provide for, the Columbia County Fair, usually late in September and the "Union" fair in Columbus early in October. We will give very brief reports, taken almost ver batem from the Columbia County History page 463, of the Union Fair at Columbus, as follows.

1876

The second annual local fair was held Oct. 10-11-12-13 in 1876. Total receipts $1917.99. Paid for premiums $1319.80. Expenses $543.79, secretary's $54.40. The exhibition was a success, but financially it was not satisfactory. The officers of the society were the same as the previous year.

1877

In 1877 another successful local fair was held; the total receipts were $1730.55; premiums paid $1166.82; fair expenses $510.85; secretary's office $52.68. The fair was held the 3-4-5-6 of Oct., 1877.

The officers then were John Foster, Fountain Prairie, president, Chas. L. Dering, secretary, Nick Adams, treasurer.

1878

In 1878 the fair was held Sept. 18-19-20-21 with total receipts amounting to $562.17, from which premiums of $200 were paid, expenses $288.66; secretary's office $50.

Owing to a bad storm which destroyed the main building during the second day of the fair, it was a comparative failure. That year James Webster was president, no change in secretary or treasurer.

1879

In 1879 the officers were James Webster president; Mic Adams, secretary, Linus Birdsey, treasurer. The fair was held Sept. 24-25-26 with total receipts $1199.11; premiums paid $740.50, fair expenses $321.24, secretary's office $45 leaving a balance of $42.37. It was a success in every particular, greatly encouraging to its officers and friends.

EXHIBITION GROUND

The exhibition grounds of the society are owned by Mr. A. W. Ingalsbee, and are situated one half mile north east of the city and are well adapted for the purpose (between the Beaver Dam Road and the Crawfish river, just across the Dodge County line where Temkin's yards now are).

The society is not a joint stock company and was formed simply by those interested organizing and electing officers. Its resources consist only of the proceeds of the exhibitions, after expenses are paid, together with an annual appropriation of $100 from the state.

The 1879 fair is the last one reported, as the Columbia County History was published in the following year.

(To Be Continued)

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COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

June 9, 1960 Installment No. 452

HORSE RACING

Not only were the dates for the first fair set up as shown above but purses for several horse races were determined at that organization meeting. We quote from the newspaper mentioned "for the second day of the exhibition, trotting horses that had never beat 3:30; best three out of five heats, purse $55, divided, $30 to best, $15 to second best and $10 to third horse.

Also trotting match for faster horses that had never beaten 3 minutes, purse $60, divided $35 to first, $15 to second and $10 to third horse.

For the third day, trotting, match open to all horses except Badger Girl. $100 purse, divided $60 to first, $30 to sceond and $10 to third. Also a running race for a purse of $85, divided $50 to the first, $25 to the second and $10 to the third.

A purse of $10 will be given to the horse or team which will be driven at a trot one mile in the time nearest to four minutes.

Whether horse racing had been the custom at previous fairs, we do not know.

In installments No. 135 and 6, "Story of Columbus" we wrote about numerous horse raisers, both draft and racing and listed numbers of race tracks in the area.

HOW LONG DID FAIRS CONTINUE?

Research through other publications does not disclose how long the Columbus Union Fairs continued to be held, but a few people still can recall having attended fairs on that site. This reporter first came to Columbus in 1902 and cannot recall that fairs were held here then or since.

William Pietzner who was born in 1871 can recall, as a small boy living in "Mexico" almost adjoining the fair grounds that he attended the fair accompanied by his older sister. He thought the fairs must have discontinued about the early eighties and does not remember any horse racing there.

Careful research of the newspapers of that period show a complete list of entries at the 5th annual exhibition, in the issue of Sept. 27, 1879. Similar research one year later, 1880, in the issue of Sept. 25 we find the following:

COLUMBUS FAIR

The sixth annual fair of the Columbus Union Agricultural Society is a thing of the past. As we were unable to be present except a short time, and our reporter has failed to come in in time, our report will be necessarily short, and will deal only in generalities. The weather during the three days was all that could be desired.

The exhibition of stock and farm products was only medium, and the poultry department was almost a blank. The show in the hall was hardly up to previous years, although there were some articles worthy of mention.

The ballon acsensions were all that was advertised and were entirely satisfactory to the managers and to the patrons of the fair. The annual address by E. E. Chapin was rather satirical, but touched upon points that should receive attention hereafter.

It has been said that "Chape" raised such a wind that the ballon ascension was delayed several hours in consequence, but we do not credit the rumor.

The races failed to fill, but Thursday a special race was made between Roy's "Lyrist" and Barrow's "Lucky" which was won by the former in two straight heats.

The receipts were hardly up to the expectation of the managers, but the society will have enough to pay all premiums in full and settle all bills.

The fair of 1880 has not been a brilliant success, although the fault has not been with the officers but has been rather the result of an overdose of fairs this season throughout the country. In the issue of Oct. 2, 1880 a list of premiums appeared. (This brief report is a good example of damning with faint praise).

MORE RESEARCH

Several hours of research through the issues of the Columbus Democrat for the next fifteen months, fails to turn up a single item pertaining to the Columbus Union Fair. Additional time cannot be given for further research on the fair. As far as we are concerned, we are quite satisfied that 1880 marked the end of that particular society. What disposition was made of whatever buildings or facilities the fair may have had has not been found.

Could it be that with the organizing of a new Columbia County Agricultural Fair Society in 1901, that our local Union Society decided it was a good time to quit, transferring their local allegiance to the nearby Beaver Dam fair?

BACKWARD FOR LOCAL COLOR

A write up, in considerable detail, of the Columbia County fair held here in 1869 appears in the Columbus Democrat of Sept. 29 of that year. This was not the last fair held in Columbus under the auspices of the Columbia County Agricultural Society, subsequent fairs here being held in 1871 and 1873.

It is known that the first recorded fair held in

Columbus was on and near the triangle between W. James, Maple Ave. and Hibbard street, and that subsequently when more room was required, on a portion of A. G. Cook's property over the hill where the Borden plant now is; this information would doubtless be found by systematic reading of local papers; but lack of time prevents and the actual year fairs were discontinued on Cook's land is relatively un-important, as is also the time the fairs were held on Ingalesbee's land.

This article is not intended to be a full and complete report of each and every fair held here. It is sufficient to say that for a number of years fairs possibly complete with race tracks for horse racing, were held on the land just beyond the Dodge County from that portion called Mexico.

AS THE EDITOR SAW IT

From Columbus Democrat of Sept. 24, 1869 Columbia County Agricultural Society, Eighteenth Annual Exhibition.

"It is facetiously mentioned that the first annual exhibition of the Columbia County Agricultural Society in Columbus was held 15 years ago on the hill near Birdsey's hotel, the Mountain house and that the floral hall was the grainery of that hostelry. The articles on exhibition are particularized as two enormous cucumbers, a Grand Detour plow, a race horse and a roulette table."

(We rather suspect that this was a big exaggeration in reverse).

GREAT IMPROVEMENT

In marked contract with this showing of agricultural products and stock is the present exhibition. At present writing we have not the figures on which to base our estimate; but it is believed that more than double the entries have been made this year than were ever made before.

It is certain that Columbia County never made a showing in neat cattle approximately to that of the present fair, either in number or in blood.

One reason for this is that our county never before possessed so many good cattle. Within two or three years much pains has been taken in the improvement of stock, and the good results are already obvious. There is no good reason why our county should not be as good stock raising county as any in the state, and continued and well directed endeavor wlil soon realize this end.

BETTER HORSES AND SHEEP

The number of horses (entered) this year has also been unusually large, and we think an improvement in blood may be noted in them. A marked advance in the kind of sheep is also mentioned. (At that period almost every farmer had at least a small flock of sheep).

Indeed it is apparent that more interest has been manifested this year than ever before existed in the doings of the agricultural society. Men who have seen many, say it is the best county fair they ever attended Specimens were brought from all parts of the county much more generally than had been anticipated, though we could have desired that the extreme western portions of the county, notwithstanding the distance, should have been better represented.

THE EDITOR SAW

We noticed amongst the stock exhibited, a Devon cow and heifer calf, and a pure white shorthorned Durham Bull, shown by Mr. George Robinson, Columbus. The bull when in condition weighs 2200 pounds. Robinson had on the grounds a Chester White sow and boar, which was admired by many farmers. This breed he brought from Michigan at considerable expense. He is among those farmers who are making laudable efforts to improve their stock.

Mr. G. St. John showed a good seven year old cow under the head of crosses and grades. Mr. A. G. Cook, showed a large sized three year old Devon heifer.

It is known that F. F. Farnham has some fine stock, and his showing attracted attention. He had a pure white Durham bull, three years old past, and two very fine yearling heifers.

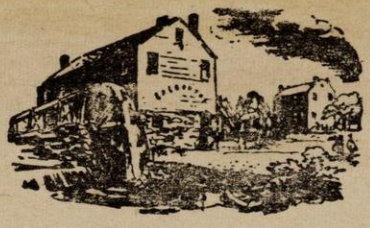
In our opinion Mr. E. Fairbanks had a fine an animal as any on the grounds in the shape of a dark red Durham bull 17 months old.

To Be Continued



Horse racing on what is now Avalon Farm taken over 65 years ago. See installment 136 .

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

June 16, 1960 Installment No. 453

John King of Columbus showed a very large and shapely crossed yearling heifer; A. W. Ingalsbee showed two very large and noticeable red cows, seven and eight years old.

The display of horses was also deserving of special mention. Not a few fine animals which were not entered, were driven about the grounds; he made no particular notice of the owners of any horse, or the pedigree of any animal.

We have not yet had access to the list of awards, and only know that A. W. Ingalsbee received the first premium on his grey as a roadster and T. Roys the second.

FARMING EQUIPMENT

The department of agricultural and mechanical implements was quite well represented; we noticed the Columbus Clipper, a strong well made plow with a horizontal device made by H. W. Jones, also a durable and highly ornamental double wagon, built of the best grained timber.

J. E. Churchill entered Easterly's broadcast reaper and mower and it was the verdict of farmers that it was a most useful machine.

Messrs Hall and Caswell entered a patent revolving sulky rake, sleigh shoes and stubble plow and there were various articles of their make on the grounds.

A thing that will commend itself to every housekeeper is the patent flour chest of Folsom and Trumbull. This piece of utility will have a great sale.

John Prien entered a substantial and handsome wagon; a subsoil plow; a cultivator of peculiar make and a Scotch harrow, all of which are serviceable implements.

Snowden and Kent entered their patent sulky harrow which they believe will revolutionize that farming operation; it seemed to be an invention of much importance and we shall have more to say of it hereafter.

VEGETABLES WAS

Probably the array of vegetables of much interest to the genuine farmer as any other portion of the display. We believe that no better specimens were ever shown at any fair, though there may have been more of them at some of the eastern county fairs or some state fairs. If size determines quality nothing could exceed this exhibition, for most of the exhibits were mammoth specimens. Heaped in their rich profusion and variety they were suggestive of a land that overflows with plenty.

AND FRUITS

The magnitude of the exhibit of apples surely controverts the theory that fruit cannot be raised in Wisconsin.

F. C. Curtiss (Lowville) showed fifty varieties of apples and this year produced 400 bushels. John Q. Adams (Fountain Prairie present Poser farm) and C. C. Britt, exhibited some good varieties.

The latter had a late sweet which measured 16 inches around either way. L. H. Doyles (might be from Doylestown) in addition to his exhibit of fruit had some excellent specimens of nursery trees.

UNDER THE TENT

In entering the spacious tent of the society, so many objects attract attention and elicit admiration that it is difficult to particularize. However observing editors may become, none of them is quite an Argus, and it is impossible that they should see and comment upon everything worthy of notice.

The ladies certainly contributed their due proportion to the success of the present fair. The work of their skillful fingers and femine ingenuity and patience was everywhere visable.

A HAIR WREATH

We observed a beautiful hair wreath handsomely framed into which were artistically woven locks of hair of all the Hasey family, ranging in color from the black locks of youth to the silver that crowns honored age; there were between thirty and forty kinds.

H. M. Brown made a very tasty and varied display of hooks and silverware in two large show cases.

Mrs. Lewis Sawyer had on exhibition a worsted basket bouquet worked in representation of roses, pansies, lilies etc.; laso a collection of natural flowers comprising of 21 varieties of pansies and 20 of verbenas arranged in the form of a cross.

TASTY BOUQUETS

We saw also three tasty bouquets arranged by Miss Anna Dering. Mrs. Comstock lent her aid in beautifying the place by selecting three natural bouquets, the first of dahlias, pansies, phlox, verbenas, fever few, tassel flower, white camomile and pinks; the other two were equally pleasing to the eye.

We observed a skillfully worked worsted wreath by Mrs. W. H. Butterfield and a basket bouquet of worsted, by Mrs. Dayton. Mrs. E. P. Waldo contributed a natural bouquet of dahlias, violets and sweet peas.

Mrs. G. W. Hazelton presented a floral arrangements composed of 15 varieties of verbenas, heliothrope, phlox, sweet peas, mignonette, pansies, roses and fuchias.

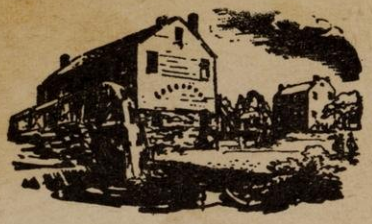
Mrs. Swarthout brought a considerable collection of fine plants but perhaps the most varied was that of Mrs. B. M. Benedict who arranged 41 kinds of flowers.

Mrs. Newcomb presented several round bouquets and we noticed a growing maple in bloom, running over a frame work, which was brought by Mrs. A. Couse and so many other floral gifts for the occasion that they defy detail.

We understand that Miss Anna Dering received first premium for her bouquet and Mrs. Comstock the second.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

June 23, 1960 Installment No. 454

AGRICULTURAL FAIR CONTINUED

PEACOCK ALLEY

A cape made from the feathers of a peacock, by Miss Ellen Cunningham, attracted much attention as did a feather wreath made by the daughter of John D. Logeman. Mrs. Secor, of Fall River, who has been confined to her bed for a year and a half, had on exhibition a worked tidy for a sofa pillow and an autumn leaf ottoman which were regarded as fine specimens of needle work; some fancy work by Miss Jennie Webster was much praised.

1805 — 1812

We also noticed a white bed spread, which was embroidered by Mrs. Chesbrough, in 1812 and a sheet which was spun by the same venerable lady in 1805; also some very fine white stockings, knit by Mrs. Polly Stratton, who is 70 years old.

Mrs. F. C. Curtis and Miss Emma Curtis of Lowville exhibited two handsome chair tidies.

There was also a large collection of quilts and coverlids any one of which looked as if they might contribute to a good night's rest.

Messrs Plumb and Loomis, the Portage photographers, made an unqualified showing in the department of their art.

Miss Mattie Walsh, who is scarecely in her teens. had several drawings on exhibition which indicate the possession of unusual gifts in that direction; Little Sophia Wepf had also several creditable etchings.

WHOM

But whc can carry a pen through that maze of spreads and shawls and tidys and flowers and wreaths and bead baskets that tangled thicket of needle work that ambuscade of feminine art. Let none be surprised that the pretty productions of thoughtful fingers is unnoticed.

BUTTER — CHEESE — HONEY

The products of the dairy were exhibited in unusual abundance this year. How the committee ever managed to make a decision between all those jars of golden butter, and symetrical cheeses, passes our understanding.

A large quanity of honey was present for the decision of the judges. George Tripp had a box of 47 pounds; John Foster showed some fine honey as did Levi Nelson and E. C. Stitt, but it was admitted by these exhibitors themselves that they never saw two finer boxes of honey than that put up by Theo Roys.

HOMESPUN CLOTH

Mrs. John Foster showed that the feminity of the present generation is not entirely given over to the lighter and no less utilitous employments, by exhibiting some strong home made shirtings and flannels, and some firm rag rug carpetings, on which we believe she took a premium.

AND BREAD

Mrs. Thos Jones, Mrs. G. S. Livermore, Miss Alice Randall and others presented some appetizing specimens of their art in bread making. We understood that Mrs. Butterfield received the premium on brown bread.

The 18th annual exhibition has closed and we pronounce it the greatest success the society has attained, notwithstanding that the rainstorm badly interfered with the last day's exhibition.

LONG LIST OF PREMIUMS

In the same issue, four columns of space was devoted to a complete list of the premiums. We will not enumerate them but will name the classes under which the exhibits were entered:

Class 1 — Horses — Roadsters 12 entries, mostly from near by but one from Lodi and one from Ripon.
Horses for all purposes 19 entries, all from near by, one from Lodi.
Jacks and mules 5 entries, one being from Portage.

Class 2 — Cattle. Durhams, 4 entries. Devous 1 by P. B. Richmond, York (grandfather of Brad Richmond).
Grades, crosses and natives, 3 entries.

Class 3 — Sheep. Merinos, two entries. Southdowns, Leicesters and Cotswolds 6 entries, of which two were from Caledonia.

Class 4 — Swine. 6 entries.

Class 5 — Poultry. 2 entries.

Class 6 — Fruits, mostly apples, a few pears and grapes about 25 entries, two from Lowville, one each from Lodi and Wyocena, remainder from near by.

Class 7 — Grain, seed and flour Ten entries one being from Caledonia.

Class 8 — Vegetables, 26 entries, mostly local.

Class 9 — Dairy, 5 entries, four butter, one cheese.

Class 10 — Domestic manufacturers, 21 entries, consisting mostly of woolen cloth, fulled cloth, rag carpets, blankets, quilts, shawls and wearing apparel.

Class 11 — Needle, shell, hair and wax work. 24 entries, all from near by.

Class 12 — FarmImplements, and manufacturers. 40 entries, mostly by local and nearby people.

Class 13 — Fine arts etc. 13 entries, 2 from Portage.

Class 14 — Flowers, 14 entries, 3 from Portage.

Class 15 — Miscellaneous, 16 entries, 3 from Portage.
Most of the ietms in the last three classes were mentioned in Editor Bath's report.

Equestrain Display included four young ladies, Miss Luella Scott, Leeds, first place $6.; Miss Hattie Carr, Columbus, second place $5.; Miss Clara Woodford, Lowville, third place $4.; Miss Fanny Robinson, Columbus, fourth place $3.

The End of Early Agricultural Societies and Fairs

DODGE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

For the last half century or more, citizens of this area have favored the Beaver Dam Fair, perhaps largely bceause of its nearness, while the Columbia County Fair at Portage was a long day's journey to drive, although there were railway trains, which for the footless, who were only sightseers.

We have no information as to how long ago the fairs at Beaver Dam became a regular thiig, but from a Dodge County History published in 1880 we have extracted a few facts concerning early fairs in Dodge County.

The Dodge County Agricultural Society was organized in January, 1853; a constitution was adopted and over 100 citizens were enrolled upon payment of an annual fee of $1.00 each.

The first fair was held at Juneau, probably the same year of its organization, although the record reads "on Thursday of last year."

The second fair was also held in Juneau Sept. 27-28, 1854 Juneau having raised $112.50 for the purpose, Beaver Dam had bid $100.00 and Horicon $75.00, the fair went to the highest bidder.

The third year Beaver Dam carried the prize, having raised $177 for the privilege; the fair was held in Bicknells Grove, directly north of the village on Sept. 20-21, 1855.

Notwithstanding the fact that extraordinary efforts were put forth to make this fair "far excell all previous exhibitions of this kind in the county, it does seem that the fair was not a success, owing to the very stormy weather.

The display of cattle was "quite limited" and in the sheep line there was no great effort, and but one pig was entered under the class of swine, but he was a fine one.

The fancy work department abounded with samples of needle work etc.

The fourth annual fair was held in Horicon on October 1-2, 1856. Of the fair itself there is no record, but on December 31st a meeting was called at Horicon to re-organize under an act of Legislature, and a new constitution adopted (printed in full on pages 367-8 Dodge County History).

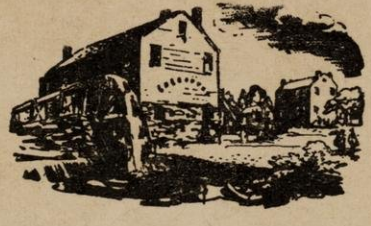
In 1857 it was decided that the permanent home of the fair was to be in Juneau, the county seat; the fifth annual fair was held Oct. 14-15-16, 1857 marking the first three day fair.

As of that year there were five vice presidents, each from a different township. James Webster of Elba was one.

There are no more accounts of the fair after 1857 in the History referred to.

THE END OF THIS STAY

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

June 30, 1960 Installment No. 455

"MORE THAN 100 YEARS AGO"

While visiting relatives in California some months ago, Mrs. A. H. Proctor of Columbus spent sometime at Banning in the home of her brother, Ralph C. Webster, who moved to California some years ago.

While there Ralph showed her some very interesting school reports dated Sept. 1st, 1852, one being by the clerk of School District No. 4, in the town of Elba, Mr. E. J. Williams.

The other a report by Mr. D. W. Rosenkrans, District Clerk of District No. 8 in the towns of Portland and Elba, also dated Sept. 1st, 1852.

Mrs. Proctor was so much interested in these reports, so different from conditions prevalent now, that we decided to put them into this "Story of Columbus" if we could obtain them for temporary use, to be returned to Mr. Webster, of course.

It is our impression that these documents had been found by Mr. Jaeger of Danville Mill not too long ago, who sent them on to Mr. Webster, thinking he might like to have them.

Not having Ralph's complete address, we asked Rev. L. C. Partch, a winter resident of California to please contact him.

The documents soon came and proved to be very interesting from several points of view.

The excellence of the penmanship, although somewhat faded, but not badly; they had evidently been in large envelopes, or in packs with other documents and were well preserved.

We have no funds at our disposal for photostatic reproduction, which might possibly have reproduced somewhat better; but through the courtesy of Mr. Clarke Arnold, and Miss Hazel Roberts of Callahan and Arnold, we were able to get readable copies reproduced, but not good enough for photographic reproduction.

Two sets of copies and the originals have been returned to Mr. Webster, Mrs. Proctor now has one set, another set will be at the library for sometime and presumably will be on display to those interested in seeing the same.

Another set will be offered to the State Historical Society Library.

Without further comment we print the contents verbatam and only regret that we cannot do so in facsimile;

"Annual Report of Clerk of School District No. 4 in the Town of Elba, Dates Sept. 1, 1852.

No. 1 Number of male children residing in said District on the 31st day of August, last, over the age of 4 and under the age of 20 years, 23.

No. 2 Number of female children residing in said District on the 31st day of August, last, over the age of 4 and under the age of 20 years. 11 (total 24)

No. 3 Number of children that have attended the school during the year under the age of 4 years 1.

No. 4 Number of children that have attended the school during the year over the age of 20 years 2.

No. 5 Whole number that have attended the school during the year 23.

No. 6 Number of months a school has been taught during the year by a qualified teacher 6½ By Climena D. Hastings 3. By R. Harriet Rosenkraus 3½.

No. 7 Wages paid to Climena D. Hastings per month $8.00. Wages paid to R. Harriet Rosenkraus per month $6.00.

No. 8 Average number of months scholars over the age of 4 and under 20 years have attended school during the year, 2.95.

No. 9 Number of days lost by tardiness as entered in the school register, 3½.

No. 10 Number of days last by occasional absences as entered in school register 1127½.

No. 11 Amount of money received from town superintendent within the year $52.56.

The above sum has been applied to the payment of teachers wages.

No. 12 Amount raised by district within the year and overpaid on tax list $35.36. Which amount has been applied as follows. To pay teachers wages $6.50; paid on orders $10.96. Returned to town clerk $17.90.

No. 13 Books used in school as follows: Sanders Readers, Smith and Kirkmans Grammars, Adams Arithmetic, Olney and Smiths Georgraphy, Sanders Spelling Book.

No. 14 Number of times school has been visited as follows: By town superintendent 3. By one or more officeers of District Board 2. School house built of logs, without entry or closets, and valued at $20.

No. 15 No out door conveniences for the different sexes. School house site less than one acre and not enclosed.

School house not furnished with Black Board and outline maps.

E. J. Williams, Dist. Clerk

"To the town superintendent of the town of Elba: The Clerk of District No. 8 in Portland and Elba, submits the following annual report.

1. The number of male children between the ages of 4 and 20 years residing in said district in the town of Elba is 17.

2. The number of female children between the ages of 4 and 20 years is 10.

3 The whole number residing in Elba that have attended school during this year is 28.

4. Number of months a school has been taught by qualified teachers, viz by D. W. Rosenkrans, 4 and by Laura E. Walker 3.

5. Wages paid Rosenkrans, per month $12.00. Wages paid Mifo Walker per month $6.00.

6. Average number of months scholars between 4 and 20 years of age have attended school, 3.

7. Number of days lost by tardiness as entered on school register, 0.

8. Number of days lost by occasional absences as entered on school register, 109.

9. Amount of money received from superintendent of Elba, $24.56 which was applied for teachers wages.

10. Amount of tax levied on the district, $37.50 of which $22.67 was collected and applied for teachers wages.

11. Books used in school, Sanders Readers and Spellers. Olney and Mitchells Geographies: Smith's and Kerckhams Grammars, Adams and Colburns Arithmetic.

12. School has been visited by town superintendent of Elba twice, by parents, twice and by district clerk twice.

13. Log school house valued at $50. without entry or closets or outline maps or any outdoor conveniences, not enclosed. School house site ¼ of an acre.

School house furnished with slab seats and a blackboard. Dated at Elba September 1, 1852. D. W. Rosenkraus, District Clerk.

The school districts may have had different numbers at the time of these reports. But if the numbering then was the same as shown in Dodge County Atlas of 1910 - District 4 is East of Astico a couple of miles, and District 8 is about two miles south of Danville.

The Danville school is where the Webster children went to school in all probability.

James Webster grandfather of Mrs. Proctor settled in the town of Elba in the fall of 1845, and if his children were of school age, they would have attended the Danville School No. 5.

Since both of the school reports indicate log school houses, which was probably the case with the big majority, in a timbered country, as ours was, it could easily be that when better school houses were possible, a new site could have been chosen.

About 65 years ago 1894-1895 this writer, with only one year of high school was teaching school in Hamilton county Iowa for which he received $25. per month. This was the going wage in rural schools in the area.

No school district had income enough to hire a teacher for more than one three months term. There was such an acute shortage of teachers that county Superintendents alloceted beginning teachers for a three months fall term at one school; three months winter school at another and at still another school for a three month spring term.

In his winter term he had 43 pupils running from 4 years to 20. He decided that there must be some kind of work that paid better, and set out to find it; he did at $30. and board.

George Holtz recalls the names of some of his own school books, as being the same as those listed; of course his school days came many years later, but in the area adjacent to District 8.

Should any reader know of any existing documents from "away back when" we will be glad to examine and include in this column if of general interest.

In our research for suitable material to use in the Story of Columbus, we frequently run across items too long for "90 years ago," but not long enough for a historical sketch.

Sometime ago we ran across a printed program for a Fourth of July Ball in the year 1860. We reproduce the wording in ordinary reading size type, although the program front was in display type, which read as follows:

"Program for the Great Social Event
of the Year — July 4, 1860"
"The Young People of 1860 — Fourth of July Ball."
"The company of yourself and lady is
respectfully solicited at the Whitney House
in Columbus, on Wednesday evening, July 4, 1860."
FLOOR MANAGERS
Silas Axtell Willard Scott, jr.
Music by Clyman Band
Tickets $2.50 H. A. Whitney, Prop.

On the back or reverse side of the "Program" appears a list of names under the heading of managers. It apparently was the custom, in order, no doubt to spread the news in various nearby parts of the area, and to draw customers to public dances, to list a lot of names, and possibly supply them with tickets for sale. The names and addresses follow:

MANAGERS

Silas Axtell, Columbus; Willard Scott jr., Columbus; G. E. Sheppard, Columbus; A. J. McCoy, Beaver Dam; Herb Atkins, Miwaukee, Watertown and Baraboo Valley Rail Roal Company; J. Tremain, Milwaukee, Watertown and Baraboo Valley Rail Road Co.; A. F. Cady, Watertown; Thomas Smith, Watertown; D. E. Bassett, Danville; Samuel Hasey, Danville; W. G. Munson, Waterloo; C. Waddell, York; Alfred Hasey, York; O. G. Chilson, Leeds; Ira Ford, Hampden; Ed Roys, Hampden; R. Teeter, Lowville; E. Greene, Lowville; N. Nickerson, Cambria; R. L. Mason, Cambria; Dennis Birdsey, Fountain Prairie; John Chase, Fountain Prairie; Fred Smith, Otsego.

We identify several names of people in the nearby areas, about whom this column has written. Henry A. Whitney, Hardware Merchant, land owner and sometimes the operator or landlord of Hotel Whitney, which is now the Black Hawk Tavern Building.

Silas Axtell, general store, brother of Dr. Axtell, first physician to locate here.

Daniel E. Basset, first storekeeper here, and later opened a store, laid out a village, and called it Danville; later moved back to Columbus, even moving his residence (cut in two sections) and located it on the corner where the Post Office now is. The residence was moved down and across Fuller street and is now the home of Clinton Clark, 167 West Fuller street.

Willard Scott jr. came to Columbus from Naperville, Illinois as one of the personnel when the Bank of Columbus opened in 1856 and was an uncle of Mrs. Dollie Brown Webster.

G. W. Sheppard, grandfather of W. E. Sheppard, 320 W. Prairie street was town treasurer, later city treasurer, merchant, bank clerk and for years thereafter was connected with the John R. Wheeler Union Bank.

Samuel and Alfred Hasey were brothers, and there were also other brothers, sons of an early pioneer John Hasey who came here from Vermont settling in the town of Elba in which Danville was located.

Ira Ford of Hampden, only recently was written up in this column.

Careful search in the Columbus Journal (the paper of that period) for a few weeks before July 1860 and a few weeks after fails to disclose a single word about the "Great Social Event of the Year." Although there were several items about the celebration July 4, 1860 at the Union School and in Fuller's Woods.

It may have been that the "programs" had been printed elsewhere and that the editor was not sympathetic.

Fuller's Woods, which still earlier was known as Whiting's Woods and sometimes referred to only as the Grove, covered quite an area north of the Lodi Road now County Trunk K.

The wooded area also covered the site of the new Lutheran school and the area now occupied by a dozen or more modern residences on the north side of the extension of Fuller street.

Dr. David L. Floore practiced Dentistry in Columbus for several years. He was also quite an "out of doors man" but as well as we recall it he was more interested in fishing than in hunting. He has been dead for several years. His children, two sons and two daughters all live in other states. Mrs. Floore is presently a patient in St. Mary's hospital.

The following is a brief note from another former citizen of Columbus, Mr. Willard B. Bellack, sent to the writer several years ago for possible use in this column. The note and the verse are self-explanatory.

Frances Floore found among some old papers a poem which her father wrote in July, 1902. Knowing that "Dave" and I had fished together all over Wisconsin for twenty years or more, she was kind enough to give me a copy and I am passing it on to all of you who may have battled the Tiger of our Wisconsin waters.

"The first day out and we slowly go
Around the bars where the lillies grow
Then close to the shore of the lake we glide
Lis'ning to tales by Charles our guide;
Of "How it was," in the days gone bye
When the giant 'lunge in the lakes would lie
In wait for the spoon, those were grand old days;
But with half shut eyes and through the haze
Of the dreamy past I seem to hear
This same old tale; as year by year
'Tis told as now while we troll along,
By this same old guide with the same old song.

He's hooked at last and the battles on,
"Towed like a log but careful Son
A bit of slack and off he'll go,"
With a single flirt to the depths below.
Up to the air with a dash, then plunge!
As down he goes, for the muskellunge
Is a knight of old, and whoever cares
To win his spurs, should be one who dares
Meet foeman worthy of his steel,
The gamest fish for rod and reel.
Crowned king of waters, great and small
The noblest fighter of them all.

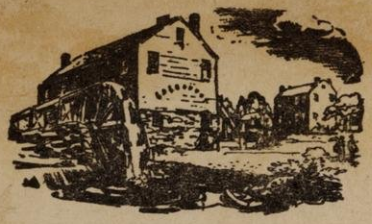
With many a dash and many a whirl
On the "meekest" reel in all the world,
With tugs and pulls and fearful runs
Then almost into the boat he comes:
Now off again, and for woe or weal
With music from the singing reel
As he jerks and pulls: Oh! the sport is fine!
With a gallant "musky" on your line.

The fight goes on but the end is near
As he's brought to boat you hide a fear
But when safely gaffed then the joy you feel
Of a well fought battle with rod and reel."

Does that make you want to get out the fishing tackle and plan a trip? If not you aren't a true disciple.

674

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



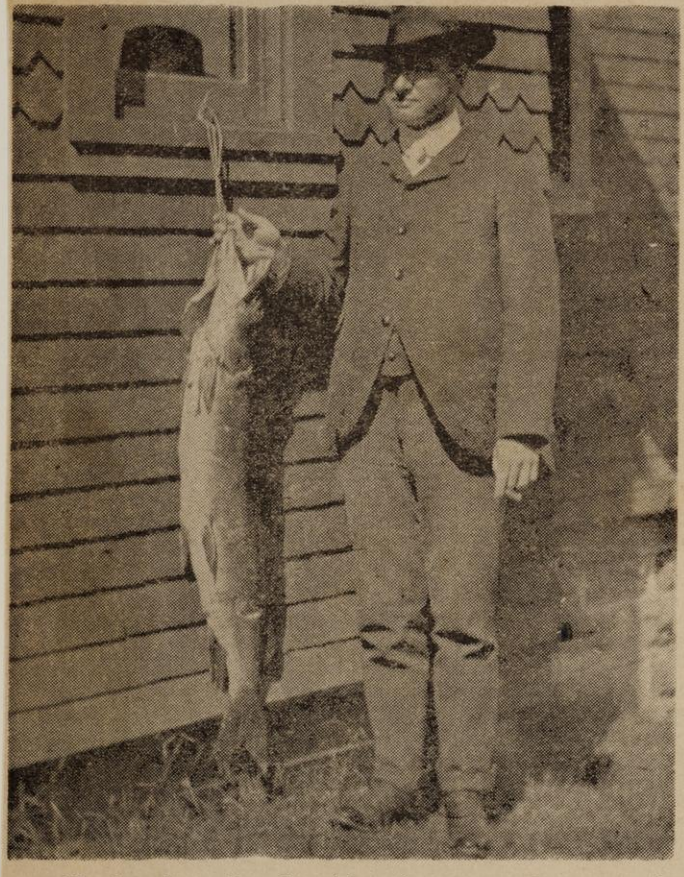
The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

July 21, 1960 Installment No.

Dr. D. L. Floore, the ardent fisherman, shown with one of his catches. Last week we published a poem written by Dr. Floore.



Having introduced a bit of verse, written nearly sixty years ago, we now submit one written several years ago, but actual date unknown.

It was written by the late Mrs. Sarah M. Roberts, mother of Roscoe Roberts of New York City (American Can Co.) and of the late Mrs. Donald LeClaire of this city.

THE BEST LAND

If I knew a better land
O'er this glorious world of ours,
Where a man gets bigger money,
And is working shorter hours;

If the Briton or the Frenchman
Had an easier life than mine,
I'd pack my goods this minute,
And I'd sail across the brine.

But I notice when an alien
Wants a land of hope and cheer,
And a future for his children,
He comes out and settles here.

Here's the glorious land of freedom,
Here's the milk and honey goal,
For the peasant out of Russia,
For the long subjected Pole.

It is here the sons of Italy,
And men of Austria turn
For the comfort of their bodies,
And the wages they can earn.

So with all that man complains of,
And with all that goes a'miss,
There's no happier, better nation
On the world's broad face than this.

So I'm thinking when I listen
To the wails of discontent,
And some foreign disbeliever
Spreads his evil sentiment,

That the bread of hate and envy,
That is casting sin and shame
On this glorious land of freedom,
Should go back from whence he came.

And I hold it is the duty,
Rich and poor, of every man,
Who enjoys this country's bounty
To be All-American.

By Mrs. Sarah M. Roberts
Columbus, Wisconsin

A. P. BIRDSEY

Among the earliest of the pioneers who came here in the first few years after Major Elbert Dickason built the first cabin on the high bank of the Crawfish river, where the marker is, across the railroad tracks near the end of Dickason Boulevard, was Almond P. Birdsey.

Early in this column, over eight years ago we published what little we were able to find about him but it was only a few brief references.

FROM AN OBITUARY

An obituary recently found in the Columbus Democrat of August 12, 1869 gives the best account we have seen, but as to his descendants all it says in a concluding sentence is "A wife and three sons survive him."

He seems to have been a "rolling stone" and had an "itching foot" probably not indicative of the big majority of the early settlers, for by far the most of the pioneers about whom we have previously written, put down deep roots that were well grounded.

Here is the article almost ver batem, with an occasional explanatory note to tie it to the present time. present time.

"Almon P. Birdsey, who was buried in this village on the 9th of August, 1869, inst. was among the pioneers of Columbus, and more than a mere passing mention is due him.

FROM CONNECTICUT

He was born at Middlefield, Middlesex County, Connecticut, May 7, 1813, where he remained until 1837, and where he married his wife, whose native place was only five miles from his own.

There is a trifle of romance associated with his marriage and it is a fact not generalyy known even among the more intimate friends of the deceased, that he was twice married. His first wife was named Janette Bell, and he was jonied in wedlock to her Dec. 31, 1831, when he was but 18 years of age.

Within a year she became the mother of a child and after the birth of her child, the mother died; her offspring surviving her only three months. On Dec. 1, 1832 Mr. Birdsey was married to his present widow, Aurilla. He had known her since she was twelve years old, and he was scarcely 20 years old when he married the second time and his wife was not yet 18.

His oldest boy Walter was born before his father's 21st birthday. Mr. Birdsey made a great occasion of his arrival of his majority and fired a cannon and had a general jubilee over the event.

TO THE WILDERNESS OF NEW YORK

In 1837 he removed to Ledon, Lewis County, New York (almost a premeval frontier five counties west in New York and only a short distance from the thousand islands section of Lake Ontario) where he cleared a farm with his own hands.

Two years later, 1839, he removed to Boonsville, a town five miles away where he assumed the management of a hotel, (or tavern) known as the Wiggins house where he remained until May 1840 (less than a year).

THEN TO WISCONSIN TERRITORY

Mr. Birdsey came to Wisconsin in the spring of 1840 and went first to Prairieville (now Waukesha) having previously made a rapid tour of observation through the state (it was only a territory then) and arrived at the conclusion that Wisconsin was the place that would bestsuit him.

When he landed in Milwaukee, no docks had yet been built in the Metropolis of the "state" and his landing was accomplished by a transfer from a large lake boat to a small boat (no doubt a skiff or row boat). In this operation he very nearly lost his life through drowning.

BRINGING A WAGON LOAD OF MERCHANDISE

He brought to Wisconsin a lumber wagon, a very handsome carriage and a quantity of boots and shoes and clocks, which were all the effects he had secured at Boonsville, having about that time lost nearly all his money by the failure of a bank at Martinsburg, New York"

(There is a gap in the story as will be seen).

"As a reminiscence of the earlier times it may be mentioned that "these effects" were transported from Mineral Point to Watertown by ox teams." The use of the plural would indicate that there was more than one ox team. The assumption is clear that he had "peddled" his clocks, shoes and boots as a traveling salesman or peddler from Milwaukee, or perhaps from Prairieville, at least as far as mineral Point, on the north eastern edge of the lead mining region, then hte most popular portion of the territory, and that he had some goods left, in fact more than one ox team could draw).

BACK TRACK TO WATERTOWN

"Continuing to Quote" That city, (Watertown) was then but a little town, and at that time Judge Larrabee owned a small tavern on the site of the once well known Planters house. Mr. Birdsey leased a portion of this until he could find a more suitable location (perhaps for a store).

As illustrating the primitive style of living that obtained at that period, it is related that the commonest utensils of the household were freely loaned from neighbor to neighbor, one article sufficing for several families, and as a matter of accurate remembrance, that baking utensils were loaned again and again between families, and that such accomodation was necessary.

So lived in the first years of its history, the men (and women) who laid the foundation of the future prosperity of the state (to be).

AND THEN JEFFERSON

In July 1840 Mr. Birdsey removed (from Watertown) to the town of Jefferson and purchased 40 acres of land two and a half miles from the village, on which some one had erected a small log house and where only about three acres had been broken.

Mr. Birdsey and his wife worked steadily and energentically in clearing more land and putting it under plow; and as rapidly as any money was accumulate invested it in more acres. (The price of government land that only recently been opened to the public was $1.25 per acre and the unit of sale was 40 acres; this $50 would buy 40 acres.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

July 28, 1960 Installment No. 458

(A. P. BIRDSEY STORY CONTINUED)

ACQUIRED EIGHT FORTIES

He then built what every one for miles around knew as He ubilt what every one for miles around knew as "the old yellow tavern;" and most old residents of that area remember the entertainments that were given there; to the life and enjoyment of which the landlord contributed greatly.

HE DISCOVERS COLUMBUS

In the spring of 1844 Mr. Birdsey sold his land and moved to Columbus and settled on the farm which is now 1869, occupied by Mr. Joe Johnson (unable to locate as of now 1960).

About that time he went "south" and purchased 50 head of cows, which were all sold before the spring of 1845. This was his first speculation in Columbus.

MOVES AGAIN

In 1845 he sold this farm and moved to this village, buying the hotel from Mr. Thomas, which had formerly been managed by Mr. H. A. Whitney. This was the building a portion of which was later moved across the street (James) to where Whitcomb's hardware store now (is as of 1869). It was subsequently burned down.

THE COLUMBUS EXCHANGE

At that time (does not give date) Mr. Birdsey erected the old square hotel known as the Columbus Exchange (on the site of the present Black Hawk Tavern, but not the present building) and which was afterward sold to Mr. Ingalesbee.

Mr. Birdsey purchased what is known as the Corner Store, together with its stock (merchandise) but soon sold it (this was probably not the Corner Drug Store, probably the Griswold corner.

ANOTHER TAVERN

He then bought the farm, a portion of which is now owned by A. G. Cook (Cook's Hill) and there erected the tavern known as the Mountain House. (As near as the writer has been able to learn this tavern was on the triangle lying between West James, Maple Avenue and Hibbard street, or as then called the Otsego Road and the Section Line Road, or between Highways 16 and 60. Another way to describe it is the triangle on which Mobile Oil Station, and the Charles Wilson home 122 Maple Ave. are located.)

(Birdsey probably operated the Mountain House, and the farm, but the article from which we have been quoting is silent as to how long).

THE BIRDSEY HOUSE

(Resuming) Immediately after this he built the Birdsey house which stood on the present site of the residence of Mr. George Butterfield. (That was the corner of W. James and North Lewis street on a part of Jim Kelsh's lawn).

This tavern he conducted for two years and then exchanged it for a large farm in Fountain Prairie, where he erected a large residence and made many improvements. We have not been able to identify what farm it is.

In the fall of 1860 he returned to the hotel (which one?) and was its landlord until the spring of 1861 when he returned to the farm and lived upon it until 1865, when he removed to Iowa on a farm near McGregor where he was engaged in farming until his death Friday, August 6, 1869.

His body was brought to Columbus on the ensuing Monday and was buried with Masonic honors.

His life was a varied one; impetuous and erratic in his nature, he was full of generous impulses and a history of his life would include a record of many good deeds and not a few noble actions. A wife and three sons survive him.

This is the end of the article from which we have been quoting; but we are giving below other items concerning Mr. Birdsey.

BIRDSEY'S ADDITION

The records show that Birdsey's addition of 9 blocks was recorded in January, 1854, running north from James street to Newcomb street and east and west between Lewis and Spring street; and in June 1855 Birdsey's second addition was extended north from Newcomb street to Middleton street and East from Lewis street to Broadway (now Dickason Blvd) and all of "Mexico west of Broadway, or in other words the land on both sides of Crawfish river from Newcomb to Middleton. There was also included three blocks west of Lewis street between Church street and the cemetery.

This second addition consisted of blocks 10 to 27, three of which 10 and 11 and 27 being west of Lewis street.

It might be well to mention that this was several years before the location of the railroad was changed from the original entry to the present one in 1864.

DIRECTOR OF BANK

Research through the newspapers of 1856, shows that when The Bank of Columbus, the first one in Columbus, was organized here, in October 1856, Mr. A. P. Birdsey was one of the directors, the others being, W. L. Lewis, G. W. Sheppard, A. G. Cook, Peter Wertz, Benj. Campbell, and C. C. Barnes. This Bank was forced to close in June 1861 because of the rapid decline in value of bonds of southern states, as the Civil War became inevitable, and was one of a large number of banks that was never able to reopen.

DONATED LOTS FOR TWO CHURCHES

Mr. Birdsey gave a deed to Zion Lutheran Church for Lot 1 Block 13, on December 2nd 1856 upon which the congregation built its first church in Columbus, and he also donated the lot for St. Jerome's Catholic Church.

It will be interesting to know that the Lutheran society had accepted a gift of a lot, donated by James T. Lewis, on Washington street, and had actually begun construction of the foundations, when a majority of the congregation decided that the Washington street site was too far out, and that it would be better to build closer in. Mr. Birdsey solved the problem by donating a lot as above mentioned; his offer was gladly accepted, and the Lewis donation was sold.

It is known that there were three Birdsey sons and there may have been one or possible more daughters. (Research, may turn up the facts).

MASONIC ALBUM

The Masonic Lodge Album of photographs, and a list of members, recorded many years ago, shows the names of A. P. Birdsey, L. Birdsey and Frank L. Birdsey, with photographs of the last two, but none of the former.

Although extensive research has been done, through the back files of local newspapers, and the History of Columbia County, the only reference to A. G. Birdsey's children is the one referring to his oldest son Walter, who was born before his father was twenty-one, and the reference to "his wife and three sons survive him, but their names are not mentioned."

DENNIS BIRDSEY

The Hillside Cemetery records show that in July 1876 there was buried on the Birdsey lot, Mrs. Dennis Birdsey. A search of the newspaper of 1876, brings to light the following item, "July 29, 1876 Death of Mrs. Dennis Birdsey. Died at Beaver Dam, Monday, July 24th of consumption." and the further fact that "she was born in Columbus where she lived for sometime. Services were held in Columbus in the M.E. church by Rev. H. Sewell, the pastor. She was born in Dutchess County, N.Y. April 28, 1841 and was married March 14, 1860. Her husband, two girls and two boys survive her; the youngest little more than an infant."

It will be noted that her maiden name, and that of her parents are not mentioned; but the statement that she formerly lived here, must mean that at the time of her death, the family resided in Beaver Dam where she died; the fact that she was brought to Columbus for burial implies that Dennis, her husband had no cemetery lot in Beaver Dam.

No one now living here that we have been able to find thus far knows anything about a Walter or a Dennis Birdsey but in a newspaper of Nov. 1856 we find Dennis Birdsey was listed as a member of the first brass band in Columbus. See installment No. 283, Dec. 13, 1956.

However we have no doubt that Dennis was one of A. P. Birdsey's three sons, but whether the second or the third has not been established.

LINUS BIRDSEY

The old newspaper files, while leaving much to be desired, do occasionally bring considerable information; the reason no doubt, that surviving members of some families do keep family records, from which the newspaper editor can write an obituary based on facts; however this in only occasionally, the big majority tell very little about the activities of the deceased.

We quote extracts from, but leave out irrevalent information unless it reveals interest of an historical nature.

FROM HIS OBITUARY

From the obituary of Linus Birdsey in the Columbus Democrats of July 19, 1889, we take these facts. He was a son of Almond P. and Aurella Birdsey, born in Ledon, Lewis County, New York, May 1, 1837, and died of heart trouble, after several weeks of illness on July 18, 1889.

He came to Wisconsin (territory) with his parents in 1840 when he was three years of age, and stopped for a brief period at Prairieville, now known as Waukesha, then pushed farther west, as shown in the story of A. P. Birdsey, with brief stops at other places, going at least as far as the lead mining country at Mineral Point and back to Jefferson County and settled on land not far from the town of Jefferson.

Four years later, 1844, the family sold out and came to Columbia County, settling at Columbus, as related earlier in the Birdsey story. Linus was a boy of seven years when the family came here and a pioneer boy of seven could do considerable work on land being converted into farm land.

Linus proved himself to be an energetic active lad and as he grew up he recognized as a valuable citizen. He was a grown man of 27 when his father and mother pulled up stakes and went to McGregor, Iowa in 1864, but Linus did not make move for by then he was a married man, having been married to Miss Mary Swarthout, of Fountain Prairie, at Fox Lake, Wisconsin about 1860. He would have been about 23 years of age, and may have had a farm of his own, or more likely had already started as buyer and seller of live stock, strongly leaning towards horses, which soon became his chief occupation, as will be noted later in this narrative.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

August 4, 1960 Installment No. 459

THE BIRDSEY STORY CONTINUED

HIS CHILDREN

To this couple were born four daughters and one son, but we do not have the dates of their birth. They were Jennie; Vesta (Mrs. W. G. Coles); Rose, Mrs. Frank Eckert; Mary or Molly, Mrs. Frank Goodspeed; and Frank L. all of whom were living at the time of their mother's death.

In later life, after considerable experience in buying and selling livestock, Linus Birdsey became prominently identified with stock raising, and by his efforts, persuading farmers to breed better stock he assisted greatly in elevating the grade of live stock in southern Wisconsin.

A HORSE DEALER

He was especially interested in heavy work horses, and made several importations of Norman Stallion horses from the northern part of France. On one of these buying trips, probably the first one, he wrote a very interesting letter to his friend, Mr. John J. Sutton of this place which we will re-produce shortly.

Among his other activities, he probably bought and sold hay, which usually tied in with the buying and selling of live stock, but at that time very few farmers had a hay baler. The Democrat of Dec. 17, 1881 contained an item, as follow "Messrs L. Birdsey and W. H. Butterfield, have leased a piece of land, near the stock yards, of the railroad company and have erected a building on the same for the purpose of putting in a haypress for the accomodation of the people in this vicinity."

A large amount of hay is raised in this locality which has usually sold for home consumption, and at much lower prices than if it were pressed into bales, and shipped to the city. The enterprise of the above named gentlemen in starting this new business, will no doubt be appreciated by the farming community, and they should receive a liberal patronage."



The location mentioned would be almost back of the Birdsey home on Mill street.

For some twelve years just preceding his death Mr. Birdsey had been city assessor which position he resigned because of failing health.

It is not known whether or not he was a member of any church, but it is known that his mother was a devout Baptist.

HE WAS A MASON

He was a member of Columbus Masonic Lodge No. 75 and was well known and respected at home and throughout the state.

PICTURE OF LINUS BIRDSEY

The picture of Linus Birdsey shown here is a reproduction of one taken in Madison, undated found in the Masonic Lodge Album.

MRS. AURILLA BIRDSEY

While reading back volumns of old issues of the local papers, hour after hour, in an effort to get additional information, we were rewarded by coming across an obituary of Mrs. Almon P. Birdsey, which fortunately gave considerable information that clears up many questions.

From this we learn that her oldest son W. J. Birdsey lived in Iowa. Without doubt this was Walter, previously mentioned and that Dennis Birdsey was residing in Berlin.

In answer to a question, Bill Hughes who was born and raised in Berlin, says he knows there were Birdseys living there during his school days. This indicates that Dennis had not remained in Beaver Dam where his wife died.

It answered the question of daughters of A. P. Birdsey. We now know there were four, three of whom may have died in infancy as their names are not mentioned; only one lived to womanhood, Rosetta who died in her 27th year.

During the latter part of her life her sight was failing until her last year when she became totally blind; just how long she may have lived in the home of her son Linus is not of record.

Her obituary which follows is not in its entirety, but only the essential portions.

OBITUARY

May 1, 1885. Aurella Birdsey, widow of Mr. A. P. Birdsey, was born in Meriden, Conn. Feb. 17, 1816 and died of old age April 28, 1885 aged 69 years, 2 months and 11 days.

She was married to Mr. Birdsey Dec. 31, 1832

and was the mother of seven children, 3 sons, Mr. W. J. Birdsey, the oldest, resided in Iowa; Mr. Linus Birdsey, with whom she resided here and Mr. Dennis Birdsey, residing in Berlin in this state.

Of the four daughters, one only lived to womanhood, Rosetta, who died in her 27th year.

Mrs. Birdsey came to Wisconsin in 1840 and to Columbus in 1845 (an error of one year and has resided most of the time since then, in this city (wrong by four years, see correct dates in A.P.B. story).

Naturally of a strong constitution she lives an active, laborious life, with her husband, conducting taverns (different ones at different places) for over a quarter of a century, in the early history of Wisconsin, when teaming, being the only mode of travel, made such business very necessary.

When only 15 years of age she united with the Baptist church and was an earnest and liberal supporter of the cause of Christ, a lover of the Bible and a great reader of it all through her life, until her sight began to fail about seven years ago (1878).

She found the comfort of it when, as during the last year of total blindness, she was able, from memory, to repeat large portions of its sacred truths.

The funeral services, held at the residence of Mr. Linus Birdsey, her son, were conducted by Rev. S. Smith, pastor of the M. E. church, and was largely attended by the old settlers of this vicinity by whom Mrs. Birdsey was widely known and respected.

MRS. LINUS BIRDSEY

From the obituary of Mrs. Birdsey published in the Columbus Democrat of July 10, 1908 we extract the following.

Miss Mary Swarthout, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Swarthout, of Fountain Prairie, was born at Dundee, New York, January 14, 1840. She came with her parents to this area, when she was but three years old, in 1843.

A CHILD OF PIONEER PARENTS

She was the first white child to come to Fountain Prairie. The family first settled on what is now 1908 the Enos Grout place, later moving to the John Brown place.

These were temporary locations where they lived while Mr. Swarthout was clearing land and building a home on land he took up, buying directly from the Federal Government, it being occupied by John Swarthout (as of 1908).

Thus as a child she became a part of the dream of the new west and was one of the pioneers, suffering the privations common to children, and their parents in their new life on the frontier.

Though the inconveniences were many, the rewards were also great and she was ever fond of telling of the experiences of those days, how it was necessary, when the family wished to cross the river, for her father to ferry them over, in a wagon box; how they traded with the Indians; of the visits and husking bees, quilting bees, etc. when every neighbor for miles, was a friend.

Of those days she retained relics up to the time of her death, in the shape of beadwork for which she traded the Indians, her rag dolls.

A HOUSEKEEPER AT TWELVE

Her mother died when she was twelve years of age, and for the next two years, she kept house for her father, and took care of her two year old sister, Josephine, now Mrs. W. M. Conger, who attended the funeral.

When Mary Swarthout was fourteen years of age her father took a second wife, which permitted Mary to go back east to obtain better schooling. She completed her education at Dundee, New York in the next four or five years, then returning to her father's home in Fountain Prairie.

MARRIED AT TWENTY

When twenty years of age, she was married to Linus Birdsey, a son of Almond P. Birdsey, the ceremony having been performed at Fox Lake. (This would have been about 1860). the young couple took up their residence in Columbus, which was her home, until her death.

Her husband having been raised in a rural way of life, was a farmer and livestock dealer, leaving strongly to horses. In order to raise the level of horses he became an importer of French, or Norman horses, and was well known as such throughout southern Wisconsin.

He died July 18, 1889 since which time his widow continued to reside in the old home at the corner of Mill and Birdsey streets where she has made a home for her children and kept the family together.

The couple became the parents of four daughters and one son. They were Jennie; Vesta, Mrs. W. G. Coles, Rosa, Mrs. Frank Eckert, Mary, Mrs. Frank Goodspeed and Frank L. their only son.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

August 11, 1960 Installment No. 460

THE BIRDSEY STORY CONTINUED

NO RECORD OF EARLIER HOME

While we can find no record as to where the family lived when first married, we have been able to locate the home referred to just above, "at the corner" of Mill and Birdsey.

As a matter of fact it was not at the corner, but was on lot 4, block four, with a vacant lot 3 and 5 on each side of the house. The house still stands and is at 516 West Mill street.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Jerome Tobin whose home is on the corner of Mill and Birdsey, who permitted us to examine his abstract of title, the mystery is solved; and while examining we also were able to determine that it was the home of Mr. Warren Loomis, but not the first home of Mr. Loomis who came here in 1845.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT LOOMIS

Changing the subject temporarily to Warren Loomis, he came here only a year later than A. P. Birdsey, and was a housemover and builder, but probably also a farmer. (See installment 345) The abstract shows that A. P. Birdsey sold two lots 4 and 5, block four Birdsey's addition to Franklin Loomis, no doubt a son of Warren, for $65. Feb. 17, 1854; Franklin Loomis died and on Oct. 30, 1857 Chas. S. Root as guardian of the minor heir of Franklin Loomis, sold the lots to Addison Griswold for $300.

A few months later March 1, 1858 Addison Griswold gave a Warantee deed for lots 4 and 5 to Warren Loomis, for $300.

The next entry on the abstract Oct. 17, 1870 shows that Warren Loomis and wife gave a warantee deed covering lots 3, 4 and 5 of block 4 to Linus Birdsey, for $1300.

Here is proof that at some date subsequent to March, 1858, and in all probability in that same year Mr. Warren Loomis built the house, which if true makes it 102 years of age.

BACK TO MRS. MARY BIRDSEY

From the same abstract of title, we learn that when her husband died in 1889, Mrs. Loomis was left only the homestead which had no mortgage, and "some horses" the number not mentioned, and there were some accounts receivable as well as some feed bills to pay.

There were three married daughters at the time of Mrs. Birdsey's death, with one unmarried daughter, Jennie, who was for years a clerk at Topp's Store; and her son, Frank L. Birdsey, who had a grocery store at 128 West James street.

She had done a fine job of keeping the family together and after her death, with her son Frank as administrator, when all the bills were paid there was nearly two thousand dollars left, which according to the provisions of her will, was divided equally between the five children.

The home was purchased by Lawrence Callahan, in May, 1909 the land consisted of lots 3,4, and 5. Mr. Callahan built his home on lot 5, which is now the property of Mr. Tobin, 506 West Mill street.

Mr. Callahan lived in the Birdsey house, while building his own on the corner lot. He also raised the Birdsey house, somewhat and put a new foundation under it. He later sold the house to its present owner, Mrs. Fahrenkopf.

A LETTER FROM LONDON, ENGLAND

A letter written by Linus Birdsey who was on a horse buying trip in London, March 5, 1876. J. Sutton, Dear Sir: I arrived at the above named place on yesterday, feeling quite well, after being at sea thirteen days. Was sick for one day-sick you bet.

England as far as I have seen of the country, is very good; but it requires considerable labor to farm here. I saw them plowing with three, and at some places with six good horses, all in tandem and in the furrow (hitched, one ahead of the other)

On the drag, (harrow) they used two, or three horses in tandem and on the roller, three abreast.

FOUR WHEEL WAGONS SCARCE

It is 200 miles to Liverpool and in coming from there I did not see more than three or four, four wheel wagons. They all use carts. These wagons have shafts, and three horses hitched to them. On the carts, only two horses. The wagon tires are five and six inches in width.

(He probably did not know it, but the writer was told in several different European countries, that there was a wheel tax which was twice as high for a four wheel wagon, than a two wheel cart. The carts had bodies holding as much as a wagon, and were usually pulled by two horses in tandem.)

The cattle are thin in flesh, and no better than ours. There is considerable more breeding. The sheep are a good deal better. Did not see any hogs.

THE RAILWAY CARS

The railroads are good, the coaches are 35 feet long, have side doors and separate apartments, five in number with the middle one for baggage. Each compartment will accomodate eight passengers. Had one of these compartments all to myself. Porters do not check baggage. There is no way of heating the cars, and no news boys and the car doors are all locked from the outside.

HORSES NOT CHEAP

As for horses, a good cart horse is worth $600. in gold in Liverpool. Saw one Norman horse and more that were going to Ireland. The owner said they were worth $4,500 in gold. How is that for cheap horses?

The Liverpool dockage is the largest and finest in the world—17 miles of granite—stone masonry. Its shipping is the largest in Europe.

LONDON

As for London, I have only been on the main business streets. The business houses do not compare with Chicago or New York; but the display of goods are much more rich and costly than in the east, where you came from (which was not far from New York).

Tomorrow I shall visit the tower, and other places of interest. On Tuesday I shall go to Paris, which is twelve hours ride from here.

Have talked with porters here who say the class of horses I want will cost $1200 each but will soon find out for myself.

A SURPRISE BREAKFAST

Will close by telling you my experience for breakfast this morning, at a high-toned hotel. The bill of fare was plain breakfast, two shillings ond six pence, which is 56 cents in our money.

Thinking of course that my partners at home ordered plain breakfast I did, and got it too.

It consisted of a strong cup of coffee; and sugar and some stale bread. This was the extent of my breakfast in London. But I had a good dinner, regardless of expense. The hotels are all conducted on the European plan. (Rooms only, all meals, drinks etc. extra).

Lady bar tenders, ladies in billiards rooms and offices and men and boys in the dining rooms.

Will probably start for home about the 1st or the 10th of April. Will look after the hog trade. Should like to hear from you, but suppose I shall not before I reach New York. I am sure, most respectfully yours, L. Birdsey.

HOME AGAIN

From the Democrat April 29, 1876

Extracts from an article written, no doubt, by the Editor H. D. Bath.

On Thursday the 27th was known that L. Birdsey was to reach the city by the noon freight, on his return from Europe, with seven Norman horses, the property of Roy's brother, William Butterfield and himself, for the purchase of which he went especially to Normandy, in northern France.

Nearly 200 men accordingly assembled at the depot to meet him and to see the debarkation of the animals.

Line (Linus) looked tired, worn out and dusty but was the target of ten thousand questions, which he tried to answer to the satisfaction of everybody.

He left Columbus February 14 and took the steam-

LIVERPOOL

er Queene at New York on the 17th, reaching Liverpool after a stormy passage which made him acquainted with the griefs of sea-sickness.

He passed two days in the "city of docks" and business, and called upon the American Consul, ex-governor Fairchild and Charles Atwood. The former is looking in excellent health, but is very busy and declares that it requires ten times more labor to run that office than it does to direct the administration of the state of Wisconsin.

In answer to Fairchild's question as to whether he (Birdsey) found him (Fairchild) "taking on any style," Birdsey declared that he met him the same as ever, comporting himself as plain American Citizen should.

TO BE CONTINUED

THE BIRDSEY STORY CONTINUED

LONDON

Birdsey was in London four days, and saw Queen Victoria at the opening of the new wing of the West End Hospital. On that occasion the streets were decorated for four miles, and gay with flags, among them were many American banners.

Don Carlos of Spain, who is reported to have landed quietly at Baltimore, England, was arriving at Charing Cross, while Birdsey was in that station, and was hooted by some and cheered by a thousand to fifteen hundred people.

Mr. Birdsey passed one day at the Chrystle Palace and one at the Tower of London.

DOVER AND PARIS

He went then to Dover; crossed the English channel to Calais, and thence to Paris, where he remained a week, arriving March 8th.

He declares the tomb of Napoleon to be the most magnificent structure he saw in Paris. In that city he found (looked up) a brother of Mr. Joseph Schaeffer of Columbus (Early Merchant) a genuine Frenchman. He and his interpetor and Mr. Birdsey, put three bottles of wine under their belts, after the custom of that country.

BOUGHT HORSES IN NORMANDY

Birdsey purchased the stallions in Normandy, and they were delivered in Caen, an old town on the railroad from Paris to LeHavre. They were shipped to Dieppe (a channel port) thence across the English channel to New Haven; thence to London, and thence to New York on the steamer "Greece", Captain Andrews, as good an officer and man as commands a vessel.

The return passage was 15 days and was pleasant except during 48 hours. The stallions were 17 days on shipboard. The manner of embarking them is to hoist them bodily by belt, and block and tackle from the dock to the boat.

The horses were shipped from New York last Saturday evening and came through without change of cars Birdsey being constantly with them.

NOBLE ANIMALS

They are noble animals and emerged from their long confinement in good condition and full of mettle. One is a five year old, three are four years old and three are three years old.

In color they vary from light gray to almost a roan. and the weight of the heaviest is close upon 1700 pounds. There are absolutely no bay horses of this Norman blood, and only about one in five hundred is black.

The present is the wettest season France has known for fifty years and will be remarkable for its floods. Birdsey was on French soil twenty three days and it rained on twenty one of them. He mentioned that about 20,000 Americans now reside in Paris, exclusive of visitors.

FRANK L. BIRDSEY

Frank L. Birdsey, only son of Linus and Mary Swarthout Birdsey, was born in Columbus in March, 1869, about six months before his grandfather Almon P. Birdsey died.

His father had purchased the Mill street house in 1870 and it remained the home of the Birdsey family until about a year after the death of Mrs. Linus Birdsey, being sold to settle her estate in May, 1909. This would mean that Frank was not raised on a farm, and received his education in the schools of Columbus, and probably received a high school education.

We know nothing about his earlier work, but we do know that after finishing school he entered into the grocery business, working in the store of his brother-in-law, Frank Goodspeed, and that later, because of ill health Mr. Goodspeed withdrew from the business, which was acquired by Frank Birdsey.



Frank operated the grocery store in the building at 128 W. James street for a number of years, and at times may have had different partners. Three of his sisters were married and lived elsewhere but the oldest sister, Miss Jeanie, unmarried is believed to have remained in the home until after her mother's death.

He was active in the Masonic Lodge Columbus No. 75 of which he was a past master. It is known that he was also a member of the Knights of Pythias, which flourished here for many years, as his picture is clearly shown in a large group taken at the K. of P. Annual Banquet.

After the death of his mother in 1908 and the settlement of her estate May 1, 1909 he was married July 24, 1909 to Miss Lydia Goodspeed of Columbus, the ceremony being performed at Olivet Parsonage by Rev. Robert Hopkins, who was currently the pastor of Olivet Congregational church.

Shortly thereafter he sold his grocery store and moved to Chicago, where he joined with business friends, in the business of manufacturing and distributing Ice and Ice Cream, which proved to be a lucrative and satisfying business.

He died very suddenly in December 1923, and after a funeral service in Chicago on a Sunday afternoon, a special chartered Railway car brought the body and a large group of business associates, friends and the few relatives to Columbus, where a second service of Masonic rites was held in Whitney Memorial Chapel, at Hillside Cemetery with Rev. L. C. Partch officiating.

The Chicago District Ice Association of which Mr. Birdsey was an active member, attended the funeral in Chicago en mass, and eighteen of his associates in the Ice Association and several from the Chicago Ice Cream Association accompanied the body to Columbus in a chartered car, as previously mentioned.

The members of the Washington Park Lions Club attended the Chicago funeral services in a body, on Sunday afternoon at the Daylight church, 47th street and St. Lawrence Ave. Mr. Birdsey was one of the most active members of the club, and was the first member to die since the club was organized.

His widow continued to reside in Chicago and held their interest in the profitable business which had been built up largely through her husbands efforts and constant attention to the details connected therewith.

Some years later, she was married to a retired and successful businessman Mr. John Irwin and in later years she became a widow for the second time.

In her late years she broke up her home in Chicago and returned to her former home, Columbus. She passed away and was buried at Hillside cemetery, beside her first husband, in 1955.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

August 25, 1960 Installment No. 462

THE BIRDSEY STORY CONTINUED

JENNIE BIRDSEY

There remains to write only the brief stories of the four daughters. The first born was Miss Jennie, on December 2nd, 1861. Like all the rest of the children she received her education in the schools of Columbus.

Her life was, no doubt, about the same pattern as that of other young women growing up in a village; either clerk in a store, or prepare for teaching, or live at home and help with the house work, assuming that her lot was not to be marriage and motherhood.

It is known that at least one of the Birdsey's daughters was a clerk at Topp's Store. Some say it was Jennie and others say it was Rose and it could have been both. Others say she worked as a milliner in the shop of Mrs. O. M. Dering.

At any rate Jennie probably clerked, and lived at home, and when her mother passed away and the home was broken up, that may have been the reason that she went to Portland, Oregon.

Her obituary published late in October, 1923, says "she left Columbus in 1910, going to Portland, Oregon, to make her home with her sister, Vesta, Mrs. W. G. Coles (wife of a Columbus attorney to whom she was married Nov. 24, 1887). Her husband died in 1897, their only son being about 3 years of age.

The obituary says, further, that later she went to Aberdeen, South Dakota to live with her sister, Rose, Mrs. Frank Eckert.

From it we also learn that at Columbus she had been (as was also her sister Rose) a member of the Eastern Star, and of the Daughters of the American Resolution.

It was while living with her sister, Mrs. Eckert that Jennie met with a fatal automobile accident at Watertown, South Dakota.

Her remains were brought to Columbus, and on Friday, October 26, 1923 the funeral services were held at 2 p.m. in the Whitney Memorial Chapel, at Hillside.

MISS VESTA BIRDSEY

Miss Vesta Birdsey was the second daughter born to Linus and Mary Birdsey, on January 20, 1863 and was united in marriage to W. G. Colkes, a promising young attorney of Columbus, November 24, 1887.

Miss Vesta, like all girls in small towns, after finishing the local schools; if the place had a high school as did Columbus, they enjoyed a better opportunity than the girls in communities without a high school.

We have found nothing in the material available for research, indicating higher than high school education, which is not at all unusual for that period. No doubt all four of the Birdsey sisters did whatever work was available in and out of the home.

Mr. W. G. Coles was a native of England where he was born on Dec. 26, 1857. At the age of 16 he came to America as did also a brother a little later, and for a while both worked in a carriage shop. With what money he was able to save he went to Ohio (the article does not say where from) and worked his way through a college at Hudson, Ohio.

After graduation he went to Cleveland where he was permitted to read law with the firm of Foster and Carpenter and was admitted to the bar, and even to practice law in the supreme court of Ohio.

Mr. Coles came to Columbus in 1881 equipped for the battle of life with a good education, strong hands, bright hopes and full of ambition. How or why he came to Columbus is not known to the writer.

To keep busy and earn something waiting for clients he became a teacher of music, and of languages, and before long he was a member of the teaching staff of Columbus high schools, which was in need of help in those subjects of which he was well qualified. He was a successful teacher and was soon elected superintendent of our city schools and in the meantime had worked up a growing law practice. He held the school job for six years, then resigned to give full time to his law practice. In 1894 he was elected Mayor and in the fall of the year he was elected District Attorney and was re-elected for successive terms, holding both offices at the time of his death.

Mr. Coles was regarded among the most able members of the bar in Columbia County. He was capable of rising to the occasion. All present on the occasion, recently, to listen to the renouned Dr. Booker T. Washingtn, at the Auditorium, will never forget the eloquent, the finished introduction given the speaker by Mr. Coles, as chief magistrate of the city called upon to preside, made doubly impressive by the conviction that came to so many that evening, that it would be the last public appearance of Mr. Coles, a prediction too sadly quickly verified.

He had not been well for quite some time, suffering from Bright's disease, from which he died in 1899.

Almost the entire membership of the bar, and many of the county officials and municipal officers, attended the funeral, also two brothers, Robert of Ithaca, Michigan and Herbert of Boston.

BLAINE BIRDSEY COLES

The only child Blaine Coles, only three or four at the time of his father's death was born Nov. 4, 1894 grew up in Columbus and finished high school in Columbus. In 1912 Mrs. Coles and her son moved to Portland, Oregon, where he graduated from the University of Oregon with an LLB degree in 1915, practicing law, until he was made Trust Officer of Security Savings and Trust Company of Portland, as well as chief council of the same and later became a vice president.

Many honors in the banking field came to Blaine Coles and was chosen president of the Trust Division of American Bankers Association. In 1934 he became vice president of the First National Bank of Portland.

He received national recognition for his work for the Episcopal church and became chancellor of the National Council of the Church, an unusual honor for a layman.

Astronomy was Mr. Cole's favorite hobby. He was a member of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, and once shared in the discovery of a new star.

Mr. Coles was married in 1917 to Miss Geraldine Hall, who survived as his widow. No children are mentioned in his obituary from the Portland Orgonian of June 12, 1937.

Many citizens still living in Columbus will remember Blaine Coles as he grew up and lived here as a boy until 1912; a worthy son of worthy parents and a credit to our community.

His mother died at Orange, California, while there on a visit, and was brought to Columbus for burial, all of the three sisters and her brother Frank and his son Blaine and wife being present.

Unfortunately, the clipping is not dated as to year, the date being April 7.

ROSE BIRDSEY

Third daughter born in the Birdsey family was Rose, born in 1865, and died in 1946 at the age of 81.

From hear-say we understand that she once was a clerk in the John Topp store; from others we learn that both she and her sister Jennie were milliners who worked in the store of Mrs. O. M. Dering; and George Holtz is sure that Rose once worked in the F & M Bank.

She was a charter member of Columbus Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star; a past worthy matron of the Fall River Chapter, which we are told, had an Eastern Star before Columbus did. She was also a member of the D.A.R.

In 1908 at the age of forty three, she was married to Frank Eckert of Aberdeen, South Dakota where they resided until the death of her husband, December 8, 1925, after which she lived as housekeeper in the home of her sister, Mrs. Mollie Birdsey Goodspeed who died in 1930, until 1944 when she returned to Columbus to live in the home of Mrs. Emily Schulze, until her death two years later.

Mr. Eckert, her husband, was a son of S. J. Eckert whose first wife was Miss Rosetta Birdsey, a sister of Almond P. Birdsey, and therefore great aunt and uncle of Rose Birdsey, thus it was that she was married to a cousin perhaps twice removed. It is believed also that she was named after her great aunt.

The Eckerts, two or three families of them were pioneers coming here about 1855, from Ulster County, New York.

Frank Eckert was an only son of S. J. Eckert who was associated with H. A. Whitney, both in Hotel Whitney and in the Hardware business in Columbus, and in 1862 opened and conducted a partnership branch store in McGregor, Iowa where he died in 1908. Both the S. J. and Frank Eckert are buried in Hillside cemetery.

MOLLIE BIRDSEY

Miss Mollie Birdsey the fourth born, in the family of Linus and Mary Birdsey, was born in Columbus Jan. 20, 1867 and died April 8, 1930 at her home 704 Hackett Ave. Milwaukee.

She received her education in the Columbus schools graduating from high school in 1886; and was married to Mr. Frank Goodspeed of Columbus, August 21, 1888.

From her obituary in the Columbus Republican of April 10, 1930 we note that "she was of a loving, sunny disposition, and a favorite with both young and old. She was always active in every project which benefited our town, doing her part in the most efficient manner.

It was with deep regret that Columbus bade her good bye when the family moved to Milwaukee, her new home.

Surviving were the husband Frank Goodspeed, one daughter Beatrice, Mrs. Rowe; three grandchildren, James F., Arthur A. and Mary Lou; one sister, Mrs. Frank Eckert of Aberdeen, South Dakota; a nephew Blaine Coles, of Portland, Oregon and a host of loving friends.

Short services were held in Milwaukee, and final services at Hillside cemetery, Columbus, conducted by Rev. LeRoy C. Partch.

PICTURE OF FOUR



We take pleasure in showing the photograph of the four Birdsey sisters, taken by photographer C. E. Lewis, Columbus.

Beginning at the top and going clockwise they are Vesta, Mrs. Coles; Jennie; Rose, Mrs. Eckert; and Mollie, Mrs. Goodspeed. Unfortunately the picture bears no date, which is more often the case, and the same thing goes for newspaper clippings.

We have since this story has been written, come



across a charge book of the original A. P. Birdsey, about which we hope to develop a story at a later date.

This four generation picture of the Swarthout and Birdsey families shows the uncle John Swarthout, his niece, Mrs. Linus Birdsey holding her grandson Blaine Coles and Blaine's mother, Vesta Birdsey Coles.

THE END OF THE BIRDSEY STORY

TRIP TO BERLIN

In the August 30th 1869 issue of the Columbus Democrat published by Henry D. Bath, we find a somewhat unusual article of a column and a half, entitled "Trip to Berlin."

While the article does not state who the writer was, from portions of the contents, we believe the author to have been the Reverend Levi Bath, Baptist minister of Columbus and also county superintendent of schools in Columbia County, some of whose articles have been published in this column some months ago.

In this day of rapid transit, on land and sea; beneath the surface and in the air, at speeds so great they are beyond comprehension, it may be that the trip mentioned above, which was no doubt made in a light vehicle drawn by possibly one horse, or certainly not more than two horses, may be of interest to at least some of our readers.

And there are many living today, who have made similar trips in a buggy or a light spring wagon; this writer can recall making a long trip, Webster City, Iowa to Clear Lake, Iowa between sunrise and sunset about 1897, drawn by one horse, with tight reins. most of the way, his father and himself taking turns trying to hold back to check the speed. The purpose was to try to sell the horse, a broken down race horse, much too fast and rugged for a family horse, always raring to go.

TRIP TO BERLIN

Here is the article, which we hope some of our readers will enjoy.

Summer with all its gorgeous magnificance has come. Robes of herbage and flowers mantle the earth, and the "wheat harvest" is the evangle of sure abundance.

All nature teems with life, breathes with animation. Thus we mused as we rode over prairies and through "openings" where the opulance of nature was boundless, and the fruitfulness of paradise seemed to be reproduced on a grander scale.

A pleasant ride of sixteen miles brought us to the residence of Mr. John F. McCollum.

The sun had already set and we turned in for the night. The morning found us seated on the roof of the veranda, taking observations. This homestead is one of the model farms of Dodge County, situated about four miles north of Beaver Dam. The location is all that could be desired, and the soil is of the best quality, and literally burdened with an abundant harvest.

Broad acres of wheat and oats, ripe for the sickle, waved in the sunshine. In addition to the grain crop, sixteen acres of white beans have been planted on this farm, giving promise of an abundant yield.

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. McCollum is of modern style, built of brick, large and convenient in all its arrangements. It stands at some distance from the main road and is reached by lane, shaded on both sides by poplar trees.

In our weary wanderings on this mundance sphere, we have occasionally found ourselves passing up this lane, and have always found the latch string out.

The kindness of the proprietor and lady makes a visit to this delightful retreat a thing to be remembered. Early dawn and dewey eve are linked together by healthful occupation, and the sleep of the laboring man is sweet.

Farm life seemed robbed of its toils and the fondest dreams of the statesman, merchant and professional man, when they anticipate release from the tumults of public life, can scarcely go beyond the reality of such a home.

The best and noblest of men have been tillers of the soil. Independence, earned by the hard hand of toil and the years of decay passing serenely in rural retirement.

The morning was becoming lowry and the clouds threatening. Our route lay through a vast stretch of country; thirty six miles intervened between the point of starting and Berlin, the place of our destination. The whole country seemed an unbroken wilderness of fruitfulness and beauty.

About one o'clock we found ourselves at Ripon and stopped for dinner at the American House.

East of Ripon, the road passes through a delightful country, made beautiful and ornate by the hand of cultivations, wheat fields and pastures, and meadow lands stretch away as far as the eye can see. The harvest had fully commenced and the sound of the reaper was heard on every farm. The whole face of the earth seemed robed in golden wealth.

The sun stood low in the western skies when we stopped at the residence of Mr. Gilbert Stuart, where we passed the night talking over reminiscence of the old times.

The farm is known as the "Walcott" farm, and was lately purchased by Mr. Stuart for twelve thousand five hundred dollars. Three hundred and sixty acres, beautiful for situation, and of unsurpassed fertility, constitutes this farm.

The shadows lay broad on the earth, and parting day faded into sundown. Labor was suspended, the reaper stood still in the field, and the cattle were yarded for the night.

In the morning we took over the farm and made note of the condition of the crops. Oats grew in another field, somewhat less in size. Cattle were grazing on excellent pastures.

Cheese making is one of the items of profitable investment on this farm. The milk of 17 cows is carried to the factory every morning, where it is made into cheese.

The wheat stood heavy on the ground, but only an average yield was expected. It was estimated that the oats would average from 75 to 80 bushels to the acre.

The garden was liberally supplied with grapes and pears. A thrifty orchard is on this farm, but the fruit is limited in quantity, as this is not a bearing year for apples.

Mr. Stuart came into this county at an early day, and by industry and economy has amassed a handsome fortune. Comfort and abundance seem to abound on this farm.

Labor is made pleasant, toil seems a recreation. Mr. Stuart and lady are richly entitled to the competence and success which they have earned.

In the morning we took a ride to the cheese factory. This is situated in the village of Rosendale, about ten miles from Ripon. The building is large and throughout it presented a neat and tidy appearance.

Twelve cheese ranging from 50 to 60 pounds are turned out daily. Four "hands" (hired people); two men and two women. The "boss," dressed in bloomers, seemed to be mistress of the situation.

We counted six hundred cheeses in the store room, and we are able to speak of the excellent quality of the staple from the fact that Mr. Stuart made us a present of one half of a big cheese, for which he has our thanks. After securing our new "property" we left the concern rejoicing.

From Ripon to Berlin, the distance is twelve miles, and late in the afternoon we entered the town. The Fox river, "crooked, long and lengthy" flowed at our left, a cupola, with a small tin charger perched on the top, stood high on our right, the loud whistle of the cars came from the distance, but no steamboat made its appearance. We spent the day in Berlin.

The town is situated on both sides of the Fox river, and certains a population of about four thousand. Among its commercial advantages, it has railroad and river communications.

Dealers in dry goods and groceries are well represented, some of the stores give indications of a prosperous trade. The usual variety of mechanical operations are carried on.

Mr. Peck is a large dealer in hardware, and Mr. Warner in agricultural implements. There are three jewelry stores, and two drug stores. Mr. Burr has the best assortment in this department, and the finest building this side of Milwaukee.

There is a large trade in hides and pelts and a tannery is in successful operation.

We learned that a large and productive cranberry marsh is near the town. It is claimed that a large and growing trade centers at this point; supplies for the pineries are obtained here.

We met some of our old Columbus friends, among whom were Deacon Starks and lady and Rev. Mr. Grumley.

Mr. A. Goodrich, present incumbent of the Baptist pulpit in Columbus is mentioned as an enterprising and successful merchant. (formerly?) We also formed the acquaintance of Rev. Mr. Clark, pastor of the Baptist church in Berlin.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

September 15, 1960 Installment No. 465

TRIP TO BERLIN (Continued)

We noticed some neat residences, but none worthy of special notice. The place seems to be well accomodated with churches, among the best of which is that lately completed by the Baptist denomination.

There are two school houses in Berlin. The "old school house" is a good substantial building, built for use, and well adopted to meet the wants of that part of town where it is located.

Money in such buildings is profitably invested. The "new school house" is a beautiful structure, built at a cost of over thirty thousand dollars. The inside we did not see; but the outside is hung all over with gaudy trinkets. The site is a barren sand hill, with no green thing to relieve its desolation. Like a queen, dressed in her robes, this seat of the muses, stands alone; nothing in all its surroundings corresponds with it.

It seemed to us, while looking at the building, that use had been sacrificed to ornament; that these elaborate "fixings" spread over a framework of timber and clapboards, were a meager compensation for the money invested therein.

Berlin is a pleasant city. Business seems to be prosperous and the people are eminently social and kind.

With this impression we left the city.

COMMENTS

Since the writer of the article "Trip to Berlin" seemed to be greatly interested in churches and schools and was obviously a well educated man; and since he used "we", "us", "ours" we are inclined to believe that he was accompanied by some one else (probably his wife, although we have done no research as to whether Mrs. Bath was still living) and that Rev. Bath was the writer of the article.

In the same issue of the paper there was a notice signed by L. Bath. County Superintendent of Schools, regarding a series of meetings on different dates at different places, in which he cautioned everyone who expected to teach school in Columbia County to be sure to attend at least one of the institutes, otherwise a teachers certificate could not be issued.

The further fact that Rev. A. Goodrich was the "present incumbent" of the Baptist pulpit in Columbus, is good proof that Mr. Bath was then a full time County Superintendent of Schools.

There are a number of words of expressions used in the article, common in those days, that may not be clear to present day readers, especially some of the younger folks. For that reason we will make brief comments or side lights to make them more understandable.

OPENINGS

This area covering several counties was quite heavily timbered in spots, for example between Danville and Waterloo, where the settlers had to clear the timber, oak, elm, maple, hickory, walnut, ash, poplar etc from the land, and the only way it could be gotten rid of was to burn it; and in spite of that handicap, heavily wooded hard wood land was preferred by many. (Ask George Holtz about this).

Other settlers preferred prairie land, such as Clayson Prairie, Fountain Prairie, Sun Prairie, Arlington Prairie to mention only a few nearby.

And in between, where the heavy timber got thinner, leaving spots, sometimes quite large, almost without timber, but not clear enough to call it prairie. was called Oak Openings, and eventually just "openings" as for example our first settler Major Elbert Dickason, in 1839 plowed and planted the ground "the opening" almost free of large trees, from his cabin (see red granite marker across the railroad tracks at the foot of Dickason Boulevard) up to and perhaps beyond what is now called Cooks Hill, and from the river to possibly James street.

Many farms still have "woods pastures" and not a few stately oaks, maples, walnuts etc. in fence rows and door yards, and in at least a few instances in the middle of a field.

WHITE BEANS

From the earliest settlers, up until in the early part of the century, navy beans, white beans etc. were grown for produce buyers. Everyone had beans on the table the year around.

Every railroad town had at least one produce buyer. In Columbus there were two or more produce buyers who bought and sold beans, dried peas, potatoes, tallow hides, honey, poultry, eggs, clover seed and other seeds, butter and cheese.

Lueders and Krause operated in what is now the Columbus Milk and Ice Cream Co.; also Frank Wilske later Guy V. Dering; and at various earlier times other buyers.

Geese especially and turkeys were raised in abundance, and required large numbers of women and some men from before Thanksgiving season until New Years to dress, barrel, and ship them to eastern markets.

LATCH STRING OUT

This expression as an old one going way back to the earliest settlements in Virginia and New England.

The crude log cabins from the sixteen hundreds up to the early settlers here, 1840 to the Civil War, had very little hardware. Every settler here lived in a log cabin, mostly with one door and one window.

The door hinges were hardwood, the latches were hardwood that fell into position to lock the door on the inside whenever the door was closed.

To open from the outside, there was a thong of "rawhide" or later of leather fastened to the door latch and the other end poked through a small hole in the door frame a few inches higher than the latch. To lock the door one simply pulled the latch string back inside the cabin, whnever the latch string was "in" no one could open the door from the outside, but when the "latch string was out" it was a sign of welcome.

The expression is definitely a hold over from Colonial days, and is still used to indicate a welcome.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

September 22, 1960 Installment No. 466

WHEAT

Wheat, as is usually the case in early Wisconsin was the basic crop in this area from the time actually cropping prevailed up until the 1880's when the chinch bug put an effective stop to wheat growing in Wisconsin.

By 1860 or thereabouts, Wisconsin was second among the wheat growing states, and alternated with Chicago as the greatest wheat shipping port in the world. If interested to read more, see pages 197 to 202. The Wisconsin Story by H. Russel Austin.

NOT A BEARING YEAR FOR APPLES

In the early settlement of Wisconsin, and after failure to get good yields of varieties of apples that were favorites back east, there was a belief quite prevalent that apples could not do well in Wisconsin.

But with native grown trees, of both eastern favorites and other varieties developed here, apples properly grown in orchards that are propertly cared for, do quite well here.

But it is true that east of Lake Michigan, in the western portion of Michigan, production of apples, commercially, is much heavier volume than in our state.

One hears, even now, the expression "not a bearing year for apples" or the reverse, "this is a good year for apples." We have heard aften that apples do well every year, but we cannot vouch for the accuracy of the statement.

CHEESE MAKING

While cheese was made at home in the basement or elsewhere at an earlier date, the first actual cheese factory built in Wisconsin, was at Ladoga, Fond du Lac County by Chester Hazen, a native of New York in 1864. For a time it was often referred to as Hazen's Folly but by 1870 there were 45 to 50 cheese factories in the state.

The factory as Rosendale, referred to in the article under discussion was only a few miles from Ladoga, and could have been one of the very early ones.

RIVER COMMUNICATIONS

When the writer of this column first came to Wisconsin in May , 1900 it was to locate at Winneconnie, a small place on the Wolf River only a mile or so from its junction with the Fox; and at that time there was still considerable tonnage, as well as many passengers trips to and from Oshkosh and as far up the Wolf as Fremont. But the greatest activity was sorting logs at Bay Boom on Lake Winneconnie, and rafting them down stream to Oshkosh, Fond du Lac, Neenah and Menasha, towed by a steamer.

There were also regular runs daily from Oshkosh up the Fox through Omro, Eureka, Berlin and to Princeton.

Those interested in more about the canal system on the Fox and traffic by boats will find it in installments 126-127 and 128 published in this column in Nov. 1953.

As of 1869 when the "Trip to Berlin" was written there were locks in the upper Fox river and through traffic on the Fox and the canal at Portage, mostly lumber and wood products to the Mississippi through the Wisconsin river, to river towns as far as St. Louis.

But the boats were shallower draft, as locks of the present size were not built and completed until 1876.

The finished canal at Portage was 75 feet wide, 7 feet deep from the top of the revetment to the bottom of the canal, and the length of the canal was about 2½ miles.

The upper Fox river has five locks between Lake Winnebago and Portage and 17 between Lake Winnebago and Green Bay. Each lock is 160 feet long and 35 feet wide.

The distance from Green Bay to Portage via the Fox river is about 160 miles and the "fall" between the Wisconsin river at Portage to Green Bay is about 200 feet.

At one time there were 47 saw mills and 15 shingle mills in Oshkosh alone.

For a decade or two after the completion of the canal and lock system there was a "brisk" movement of lumber and other wood products shipped in shallow draft canal barges, towed by side wheelers steamers, the principal market being St. Louis.

But the coming of the railroads changed the picture as far as the upper Fox river is concerned.

THE END

THE WHITNEY FAMILY

Among the very early settlers in Columbus was Henry A. Whitney. He was born in Windham County, Vermont, on April 20, 1819, a son of Warren and Caroline Whitney, both of whom died in Vermont.

Henry Whitney received an elementary education in the common schools of his native Vermont. When about fourteen years of age he began peddling what were then known as "Yankee Notions" carrying on until he had covered most of the Green Mountain State. He followed peddling until he was about twenty.

The family were not only of New England stock, but were typically Yankee, and Yankee traits were very manifest in the make up of Henry A. Whitney and his son Alonza H. about whom we will hear more about later on.

As previously stated, his education did not go beyond the elementary; his practical career beginning at the age of fourteen when became a peddler, his genius for trading having been augmented in his contacts with hundreds of people every week for about six years at an age when most boys were still under the parental roof and care.

YOUNG MAN GO WEST

In 1839 he came west, took up land, and became a pioneer farmer near Peoria, Illinois where he spent two years; he then went to Rockford, Illinois and farmed for a year. Pioneer farming in the west was not too different from what it was in the hills of Vermont.

He must have made an exploratory trip into the Territory of Wisconsin, probably up the Rock river from Rockford for the Rock was "Navigable" as far as Aztalan (which probably meant for flat bottom or shallow draft boats (see page 155 of second edition of a History fo Wisconsin published in 1846, written by Lucrence A. Lapham, which says. "Small steam boats have ascended this river as far as Jefferson; and in 1841, a small steamboat was built of Aztalon".)

The southern part of central Wisconsin was thriving for land was still relatively cheap, around $2.50 per acre, having risen from the original government price of $1.25 to $1.50.

SPARCELY SETTLED

The population of Rock County increased from 480 in 1838 to 2867 in 1842; Jefferson from 468 to 1638 in the same period. In the same time Dodge County had 18 in 1838 to 149 in 1842, and Dane from 172 in 1838 to 776 in 1842; Columbia County had not yet been "set aside" as a separate county.

MILWAUKEE AND ROCK RIVER CANAL

One thing that brought the great increase in population of the Rock River counties, was the proposed Milwaukee and Rock River Canal, authorized in 1838, based on a grant of land from Federal Government.

In July 1839, a sale of Canal lands was held at Milwaukee, at which forty three thousand, four hundred and forty seven acres were sold to "Occupants of the land" at the minimum price of $2.50 per acre. (Construction began at Milwaukee but abandoned after only a few miles.)

It is not at all unlikely that young Henry A. Whitney looked into the situation and decided to cast his lot in Wisconsin.

Mr. Whitney's biography in 1880 Columbus County History says "Mr. Whitney was married to Miss Helen M., daughter of John and Nabby Pierson of Rockford, Illinois but a native of Vermont." But in the obituary of his wife in the Columbus paper of June 28, 1869 we read "she was born at Shelbourn, Vermont, May 23, 1825 and was married to Mr. Whitney in 1843 and came west shortly after."

We have no proof as to which is correct.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

September 22. 1960 Installment No. 467

WHITNEY STORY CONTINUED

THEY CAME TO WISCONSIN

It is possible that the young couple located at some other point before coming to Columbus, for in both the 1880 History of Columbia County and a later one of 1914 we find "He came to Columbus in 1844"

LOOKING AHEAD

From page 689, Butterfield's History of Columbia County we quote in part "when the village of Columbus was platted by Lewis Ludington, it presented a promising picture, on paper. Passing through the eastern limits, the rippling Crawfish marked its winding course. Leading away to the southwest from the river's oak fringer banks to the borders of clustering groves in the distance, were broad avenues with other avenues crossing them at right angles.

Near the river's edge was an entire block marked "public square" and not far away a "park," "schoolhouse," "church," "hotel" etc. all to be donated by the proprietor of the village.

WHITNEY'S TAVERN BUILT

Henry A. Whitney was the lucky possessor of that portion of the plat indicated as the "hotel" at the S. W. corner of James and Ludington streets. And in the summer of 1844 he secured absolute title to it by building a "hotel" on it.

LUMBER HAULED FROM AZTALAN

It was a "one and a half story frame". Most of the lumber of which it was made, was hauled from Aztalan. In the lower portion, Mr. Whitney kept a small stock of goods in a part of it, and in another part he kept a tavern, "food and drink for man or beast." On the upper floor were living quarters, and a room for overnight travelers.

About 1848 the tavern passed into hands of a man named Thomas; Mr. Whitney retained his mercantile business, moving it into another building nearby; and he also added a livery stable (horses and rigs for hire).

A. P. Birdsey next acquired the property from Mr. Thomas; built an addition to it, and conducted the business for a few years.

Birdsey sold out to Mr. Whitney who took as a partner Harvey McCafferty, who was to operate the tavern; this partnership did not work out satisfactorily, as Mr. Whitney was too busy with other business, his store and a freight hauling string of teams hauling produce to Milwaukee and merchandise etc. back, as well as his livery business. Therefore for about a year and a half the partnership was dissolved, and the building rented to others to operate. On the 8th of October, 1857 the place was completely destroyed by fire.

"Rebuilding commenced at once; winter was approaching and Columbus was without a hotel. There are few instances on record where so much energy was displayed as was the case in the construction of the new hotel."

Within eighteen days from the times the first shovel of earth was removed in excavating for the foundations, a substantial four story (counting the basement) had been erected and workmen were engaged in putting on the roof; Mr. Whitney surprised himself and his friends.

At times the hotel was operated by Mr. Whitney and at other times it was rented out; these changes were too frequent to list farther in this column.

HIS STORE PROSPERS

Mr. Whitney's store prospered and he handled large quantities of wheat, at that time the principal farm crop in the area; his teaming business included hauling the wheat to Milwaukee and almost any kind of supplies on the return trip. A round trip took from a week to ten days as the roads were only trails.

He had other men and teams hauling farm produce up to "the pineries" along the Wisconsin River. bringing back lumber.

RAFTS OF LUMBER

He also purchased lumber in large quantities, to be made up into rafts, to be floated down the Wisconsin River to the Mississippi to St. Louis, the principal market for Wisconsin pine cut on and to the west of the Wisconsin.

This operation was hazardous, to say the least, and sometimes the rafts, which usually contained many thousands of feet of lumber, came to grief while coming through the Dells of the Wisconsin.

HEAVY LOSS SUSTAINED

It is not known whether Mr. Whitney lost any rafts at the Dells or not, but he did sustain a very heavy loss when one of the biggest rafts was broken up near Alton, Illinois only a short distance from its destination, St. Louis.

The break up was probably because of high water, high winds or possibly by grounding on a treacherous sand bar.

That was a severe disaster, and almost a total loss, as practically all of his capital was tied up in the lumber irretrievably lost. This meant he had to start all over again.

TRADING WITH THE INDIANS

In order to recoup his losses Mr. Whitney began sending his wagons farther up in Wisconsin for the purpose of trading with the Indians, possibly trading goods for fur pelts or whatever the tribes had of value.

It must have taken years, but before too long he was again on his feet, conducting his hardware store in Columbus, and a branch store at McGregor, Iowa under the management of Mr. S. J. Eckert, who had long been associated with Mr. Whitney in his various operations, and whose wife was a daughter of A. P. Birdsey, Miss Rosetta. The Birdseys were also, somewhat distantly, related to the Whitneys through marriage.

OWNED MANY FARMS

Among his many other activities he was engaged in the buying and selling of horses and other livestock.

Having lost heavily through speculation in lumber Mr. Whitney began to acquire farms. His biography previously mentioned as of 1880, says "he now owns a number of farms, 300 acres in town of Columbus, four in Fountain Prairie, one of 280, another of 308, another of 103 and a fourth of 120 acres.

In Otsego he has three, one of 300 acres, another of 260, and a third of 130 acres. Two in Dodge County, one of 200 acres near Lost Lake, the other 180 acres in Calamus.

He also has two of 200 acres each, in Eau Claire County and one of 160 near Fairmont, Minn.

Mr. Whitney was a man of intense mental and physical activity, and had unusual good business sense, no doubt greatly sharpened by his early experience as a peddler, back in Vermont.

He was liberal in his contributions to any activity that he thought good for the community and commanded universal respect.

OUR FIRST POSTMASTER

Mr. Whitney having opened the first tavern, and store was also the first Postmaster. At the time of opening his store, the Whitneys are said to have been one of only three families comprising the population of what was even then called the village.

While not listed as a charter member of Masonic Lodge No. 75, he must have joined shortly thereafter, as his biography includes the statement "He has been a member of the Masonic Fraternity for 26 years (as of 1880)



We have not located an obituary of Henry A. Whitney but his monument at Hillside cemetery shows that he died at the age of 72, on May 25, 1880. His wife died at the age of 43 years eight months, January 23rd, 1869.

The couple had two children who lived to adult age, a son, Alonza H. Whitney, born Oct. 8, 1854 and a daughter Arlia, who became the wife of Mack Lee.

A small stone on the H. A. Whitney lot shows that a daughter Rosultha A. died June 12, 1845, age 2 years.

MRS. WHITNEY

A brief obituary, a part of which has been quoted, published Jan. 28, 1869, says also "while not a member of any church here, Mrs. Whitney was a regular attendant and a liberal supporter of the Methodist church (which at that time was a wooden structure that stood at the corner of Mill and Birdsey streets).

"Mrs. Whitney was well known in this community as woman of kind heart gracious spirit and ready hands to encourage and help the needy.

"At the time of her death, the Whitneys were the oldest residents of Columbus (meaning they had been here longer than anyone else then living.)

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

October 6, 1960 Installment No. 467

IS OUR FACE RED?

We regret that in last week's installment of "The Story of Columbus", we in advertently used a photograph of Alonzo H. Whitney instead of that of Henry A. Whitney, his father.

This week we show the photos that should have been used last week, Henry A. Whitney and "Lon's" again.





ALONZO H. WHITNEY

Alonza H. Whitney, the only son of Henry A. Whitney was born in Columbus, October 8, 1854, on the property on the east side of Ludington street almost opposite the brick structure, now the Walcott Studio, which was built about 1869 by Henry A. Whitney, where he continued to reside until his death in 1888, and became the home of Alonza until his death in 1928.

BORN, RAISED, AND DIED HERE

Columbus was Alonzo's (Lon's) only home town, and lived in only three houses, his birthplace, another house on the same site and the brick house previously mentioned No. 229 North Ludington street.

His education was in the schools of Columbus an Academy at Jefferson, in a private school for boys, in Oconomowoc, and three years at Ripon college.

After college he entered his father's business, principally in looking after the many farms that had been acquired in this area and elsewhere, and other matters connected including the hardware store, until the store was sold to Donaldson and Holton, early in 1869.

Following his father's death in 1888, several years were required to settle the estate advantageously, during which time Lon was in the real estate business.

ALONZO MARRIED

On November 12, 1879 Mr. Whitney was married to Miss Esther M. Lee, whose father was Perry Lee, an early settler in this area,and at one time was the keeper of the first hotel in Portage.

To this marriage two children were born, a daughter, Lillian Marie, born June 15, 1881 and is now the widow of Dr. Robert Blumenthal of Milwaukee who for many years was a practicing physician in Milwaukee; and a son Henry Lee Whitney born February 7, 1889 who died in Los Angeles.

Mrs. Whitney died in 1905 and is buried at Hillside cemetery.

Sept. 8, 1907 Mr. Whitney was married to Mrs. Lillian Stevens, widow of a Columbus Hardware Merchant, Mr. George Stevens.

Mr. Whitney was a private money loaner, and concentrated his loans in real estate mortages.

VICE PRESIDENT CANNING COMPANY

When the Columbus Canning Company was organized in 1900, Mr. Whitney was elected Vice President, which office he held, without interruption, until his death.

A few years later when it was found desirable, if not necessary, for the company to raise at least a portion of its own produce, he was instrumental in organizing what was called a Growers Association, of which he was the manager, but being a cripple, he delegated the active supervision to an able bodied assistant.

After a few years, instead of a separate organization the growers association became a Farm Department of the Canning Company which owned a number of farms, and leased other land; fed cattle, and thousands of lambs, had herds of Holsteins on several farms; all of which gave year around employment to several families and many more from early spring until late fall.

Mr. Whitney was Farm Manager until his death in 1928, his active assistants, at various times having been Fred Holtz, William L. Fritz, Sam Austin, and perhaps others. After his death, Sam Austin became manager, followed by William L. Fritz up until his death.

Mr. Whitney was a Republican in politics, but was never a candidate for any public office, although he had a large following.

He served for some years on the School Board many years ago. He was a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge in Milwaukee, but so far as the writer can recall was not a member of any local fraternal organization, but he was a member of the Rotary Club.

In his later years, he became a member of Olivet Congregational church, of which through his second wife he had long been a liberal supporter.

Mr. Whitney could always be counted on as a liberal supporter of any movement for the benefits of the community. He gave liberally to the improvements when Fireman's Park became an actuality.

But his outstanding gift was the Whitney Memorial Chapel at Hillside cemetery.

While some of his intimate friends had been told, under a pledge of keeping the gift confidential, the announcement was made in both local papers in the last week of March, 1921.

"Mr. Whitney had engaged a Milwaukee Architect, Mr. A. Class, who designed for him an exact duplicate of an old English chapel, a building 22 x 34 feet in size, the chapel proper, with an altar, and seating capacity of possibly 40 people, and in the rear, a Mausoleum, with nine cripts, each of size sufficient to hold one casket.

The purpose of the chaped being intended for the use of small funerals, especially in inclement weather, during the winter months, or heavy rainfall, the casket would be placed temporarily in one of the cripts, until the weather would be more propitious for opening a grave, or holding outside graveside interments.

The building was built of Flemish red brick, laid in an unusual Flemis Bond."



The building was to be built by Hasenfus and Ibisch and was to be finished before winter.

The minutes in the book of the cemetery secretary records show that the building was completed-on-schedule.

Heating was done by stove, as it would be used only occasionally.

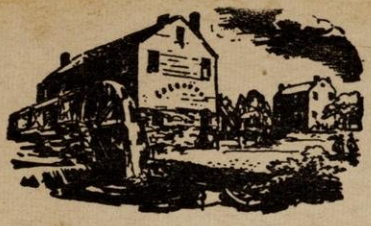
John Brokopp, who was custodian of Hillside cemetery for a great many years states that there had been a few times, in long stretches of bitter cold weather and heavy snows that all nine cripts were in use.

Mr. Whitney's passing was sudden. He was at the table in conversation. One minute he was talking and the next he was "in that peaceful sleep that follows death." A warrior had fallen dead.

Rev. L. C. Partch, his friend and pastor conducted the funeral at the home, and the winter being severe, the remains were placed temporarily in one of the cripts of the Memorial Chapel. There were a dozen or more honorary pall bearers, mostly lifelong friends and associates and the active bearers, all from fellow officers and employees of the Canning Company.

Among the beneficiaries provided for in his will, was a certain number of shares of canning company stock to Olivet church, thus assuring an income of about $100 every year thereafter.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

October 13, 1960 Installment No. 468

MRS. LILLIAN STEVENS WHITNEY

Mrs. Lillian Whitney was born November 6, 1860 in the town of Bristol, Kenosha County, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Lydia Allen Burling. A considerable portion of her childhood was in Chicago where she lived at the time of the great Chicago fire. In 1879 she was married to George C. Stevens. They had two children Arthur and Elizabeth (Bessie).

In 1884 the family moved from Union Grove, Wisconsin to Columbus where Mr. Stevens was engaged in the hardware business until his death in 1898.

During her long residence in Columbus, Mrs. Whitney was active in many projects. She was an active member of Olivet church, and for several years was president of Olivet Social Circle.

From 1909 until the time of her death, she was a member of Munedoo Chapter of the D.A.R. and had served as regent of that organization. At one time she was treasurer of Hillside cemetery Association, of which she was a long time member. For several years she had been a sustaining member of Columbus Country Club.

Later in her life, and in order to close the estate of her late husband, the Whitney home on Ludington street was sold, prior to which she had built the home at 236 South Charles street, where she lived until her death. This is now the home of the John Pratts.

ALONZO D. WHITNEY

We have no positive proof that this Alonzo was of the same Whitney family, but we have every reason to think so.

From a clipping found among the many that Mrs. Griff Jones, the former Matie Richards has, about the Birdsey family, a story of which recently appeared in this column, we hazard a guess that this Alonzo was an older brother of Henry A. Whitney. He was born in 1815, Henry in 1819, and not in the same state. which is not at all unusual, for these pioneers were "on the move" to conquer the west.

The name Alonzo does not seem to be too common a name, but Henry gave this name to his only son, born in 1854.

This stranger Alonzo, was married in Brooklyn, New York May 9, 1847 to Miss Rosetta Birdsey and Henry's first born who died early was also Rosalutha.

This Alonzo Whitney was a building contractor, having to his credit back east the building of one Episcopal and one Baptist church.

Later he came west to Wisconsin where he was engaged in building "depots" for what has long been called the Milwaukee Road.

This Alonzo, united with the Baptist church in Brooklyn, New York, while still a young man, from which denomination he never severed his connection.

His obituary does not go into details as to where and when he did his building for the railroad company.

It does say that in 1857 he was located at Red Wing, Minnesota. It was also in 1857 that Henry Whitney's hotel in Columbus was burned to the ground, and spectacular and speedy re-building took place.

To put up a four story building and have a roof on it in eighteen days was not a job for amateurs or small crews of workmen.

What is more natural, if the writer's hunch is correct, that Henry called upon the older brother, if such was the case, to take over with his crew of experienced builders from Red Wing, only a days ride by train from Red Wing to Beaver Dam (they had a through line; we had rails but from the east only.)

We may be completely wrong, and if so, it will not have been the first time.It is easily possible that the builder Alonzo Whitney, not yet fully established in his new location, came to the help of Henry and that Henry's son, Alonzo was named after his uncle.

THE END OF THE WHITNEY STORY

EARLY LOCAL WRITERS

In installments No. 72-3-4 published seven or eight years ago will be found a sketch of the family of Rev. Dudley Tyng, a Universalist minister who came here from New England in 1848.

While it is most interesting and would bear repeating in its entirety, we will not do so, but will print a brief condensation of portions, as a sort of introduction to the present sketch under the above title.

Anyone desiring to read the above mentioned installments, can secure copies from the Journal-Republican.

In his earlier years Dudley Tyng was a carpenter, and worked a this trade in at least three of the New England States. He was born in 1806 in New Hampshire, and is believed to have been a resident of Augusta, Maine, when he became converted to the Universalist faith, and made up his mind to give up his work, as a carpenter, go west and preach the liberal gospel, virtually without any preparation for the ministry, and no fixed income, unless it may have been a very small fee of a few dollars a month as a missionary.

He moved his family by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes to central Michigan and preached in the area around Portland, east of Lansing, for two years. In 1848 the year of our statehood, he moved to Milwaukee, and on to Columbia County, by ox team over the old corderoy road (a log road that preceded the Watertown Plank Road by some few years.)

A trip from Milwaukee to Columbus in those early days, was a long hard journey, requiring three or four days as the speed on the better portions of the road was only about two miles an hour on the dry ground, and much less on marsh land.

He took up land in the upper part of the township of Fountain Prairie, believed to be the northwest of present Englewood, on a lonely road called "Tyng's Way" where he tilled the soil for a subsistance living, and preached the gospel as a circuit rider, traveling by horse back. The farm is believed to be the Otto Bork farm.

On one of his preaching trips he was thrown from his horse, and injured to the point that he could not ride a horse or do farm work.

Mr. Tyng then acquired a small place on the Waterloo road (now Waterloo street) and in 1857 laid out Tyng's addition which consisted of 15 lots south of Poet street and 16 lots north of the same.

It is believed that the brick house at the south east corner of Poet street and Waterloo street was the Tyng home.

The street was named Poet street to honor one of his falented daughters, Harriet, or Hattie who by the time she was fifteen years of age had already become a regular writer of poetry and prose which appeared almost every week in the Columbus Journal and the Jefferson Banner.

When she was only fifteen she conducted a nursery school for children too young to attend the public schools and a year later she became a teacher in the schools at Winnetka, Illinois.

She published half a dozen or so books of poetry and prose before her marriage in 1863 at age twenty three to Mr. Eugene G. Griswold of Columbus, a merchant who some years later was one of the small group of Columbus citizens who founded the Columbus Library Association in 1877.

Rev. Tyng and his wife were parents of four daughters, all of whom were intellectual, well read and wrote with ease.

Sarah was born in Concord, New Hampshire in 1835 and died in Detroit in 1910. When her parents came to this area she became a teacher and may have taught elsewhere before coming here. Her first pay in Columbia County was $1.50 per week in the spring and fall and $2.00 per week for the winter term. She also received room and board in the homes of her pupils, spent one week in the home of each pupil.

She, herself has said that she "wielded the pen of a ready writer" for magazines and newspapers discussing important themes with a breadth of vision and cleanness of outlook.

She was married to Frances B. Spooner, a plasterer, of Columbus in 1863 and became the mother of two sons and two daughters.

Laura, whose place and date of birth is not of record was also a writer but to what extent is not known. She was married to Mr. A. J. Whitcomb, a hardware merchant of Columbus who also had a forty acre farm just outside Columbus on what was then called the Lodi road, now County trunk K.

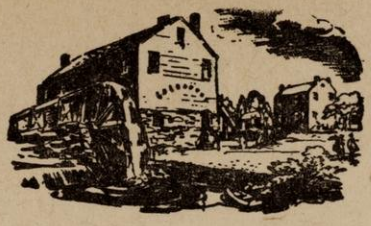
They had two daughters and one son.

It was the third daughter, Hattie, that brought fame to the family and her town, through her literary talent. She was born in Boston in 1842.

The youngest daughter of the Tyngs, Clara, became Mrs. Jerome R. Nashold of Fall River (see installment 21) and became the parents of five sons.

While Clara Tyng Nashold did not aspire to authorship she was a particularly graceful and interesting letter writer, a student of literature and an omniverous reader.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

October 20, 1960 Installment No. 469

AUTHORS AND ARTISTS

Columbia County History (1880) devotes pages 550-554 to Artists and Authors in which there is a brief biography of Hattie Tyng Griswold, and two poems "Unachieved" and "Three Kisses." There are also brief biographies, including two poems "The Record of Company B" and "Unrequited" by Sarah Dyer Hobart and something about LeRoy Irons, a Columbus newspaper man and poet.

And quite a piece about Mrs. D. A. C. Kellogg, mother of the late Judge Alonza H. Kellogg who preceded Elton J. Morrison as County Judge of Columbia County who was before her marriage an instructor of Art in an Eastern school, before coming to Columbia County where she met and married Dr. A. C. Kellogg.

We have already written quite a bit about the Tyng family but will add one item of interest. The plat maps of Columbus in all Atlases we have seen, from the very earliest up to the latest, spell the name Tyng as Thyng.

Obviously this was an error made at the time Tyng's addition was recorded August 8, 1857, and perpetuated in each new Plat Book, and on page 673 Columbia County History.

One daughter of Mrs. Hattie Tyng Griswold, Mrs. George Williams is still living in Oshkosh, as this is written in August, 1960.

MRS. SARAH DYER HOBART

Sarah Dyer was born in the town of Otsego, Columbia country, territory of Wisconsin in 1846, her father Wayne B. Dyer having moved from Fountain Prairie to Otsego in 1844 and founded the settlement of Dyersburg, which later became the present Otsego.

She commenced her literary work of writing for newspapers in 1864 at the age of eighteen; she was. no doubt, writing while still in district school, and is known to have written for publication several poems among which were "The Record of Company B" "The Legend of St. Freda" "Hector's Recompense" "Unrequited."

As a regular correspondent of the Toledo Blade (a well known family paper) she wrote under the nom-de-lume of "Floyd Bentley."

Her superior talents as a musician also have won her a reputation reaching far beyond local confines and of late (1880) years she has turned her attention almost exclusively to the divine art of melody.

EARLY WRITER CONTINUES

The date of writing or publishing "The Record of Company B" is not known to the writer, but presumably at some time after the close of the war.

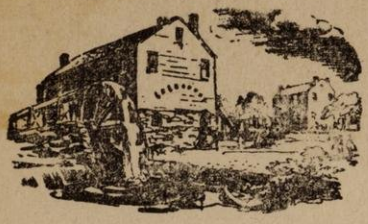
She was, without doubt, referring to Company B 7th Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, of which thirty five were from Fall River and Fountain Prairie, including D. Dyer, presumably her brother, and Martin C. Hobart whom she later married. For a detailed account of Col Hobart's activity see installments 332 and 333, Nov. 1957.

The poem follows:

"The Record of Company B"

"At the open door of the cottage, with a book upon her knee,
A fair haired child sat reading The record of Company B
Father, the names are many, and the lists are long, she said:
But tell me, who are the living, and who were the wounded and dead
Then he took the ancient record and laid it on his knee
And he told, in the purple twilight, the story of Company B
They came from the heart of the Prairie, These men so brave and true,
Who left their homes and dear ones, To march in the army blue.
One hundred stalwart yeomen, Plowing in springtime sweet,
Gathered the sheaves in autumn, Reaping the ripened wheat
They marched in storm and sunshine, They fought in the battle rain
Ah me! 'twas different labor from gathering golden grain
In the wild Virginia Mountains, Some rendered up their lives
With prayers for the stricken country, With prayers for mothers and wives
On the plains of sunny Georgia, Others were laid to rest,
With traitor soil around them, And its clods upon their breasts
Some died on the dreary marches — Hungry, weary and worn
And some in southern prisons, From friends and comrades torn
And when the crippled remnants came back and peace was given
Of the hundred who enlisted, The veterans were but seven
By many a blue waved river, And where old oceans surge
Waves through the solemn ages, An anthem and a dirge —
Unmoved by bugles summons, Or drum's deep reveille,
While angels guard above, Sleep the men of Company B
Ah me, she sighed, "the record, Is sad and full of pain
Praise God, the war is over, And the lands at rest again!
But I'm proud that, when the country, Was torn from sea to sea
My father fought to save her, In the ranks of Company B

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

by F. A. STARE

October 27, 1960 Installment No. 470

LEROY IRONS

In his former home in Winfield, New York, the early days of LeRoy Irons were full of the brightest promise of a fine literary career. He was the life of society, the ready writer of prose or verse.

But with failing health, commenced the struggle against fate.

From the files of the Columbus Democrat of April 21, 1877 we quote "he was a resident here for about ten years or more. Although his regular connection with a newspaper was confined to the Columbus Republican and a Duluth, Minnesota paper, he has for years been more or less a writer for the press, his poetical productions are numerous and have been widely read in newspaper circles.

The inspirations of the poet were strong in him and he had many graces of expression. Much of his verse have been published in these columns writing over assumed initials until a few days before his death.

Many of our readers remember the volume of Centennial poems he issued last summer from his sick room."

He was married in the spring of 1872 to Miss Frank Longworthy, of Clarksville, New York. He died in April, 1877, leaving his wife and a little daughter.

We seem to remember from numerous conversations with the late James Quickenden that his first regular job after finishing high school was a helper in a pool hall and restaurant operated by Roy Irons and his brother; while one was taking a vacation. It was here that Jim became proficient in playing billiards, his skill being equal to many professionals.

MRS. A. C. KELLOGG

Extracts from Columbia County History 1880.

The maiden name of Mrs. Kellogg was Harriet R. Ackerman, born in the town of Brownsville, Jefferson County, New York. When she was still a young girl she was sent to a boarding school, Fairchild Seminary in Herkimer County where she remained several years becoming proficient in both Art and Music.

She preferred Art so dropped music and devoted her full attention to painting and at the age of eighteen became a teacher of art in that same school, which position she held for three years, leaving Fairfield to teach in Hungerford Collegate Institute for nearly two years, when the building was destroyed by fire.

She then accepted a position of teaching art at Wesleyan Female college at Wilmington, Delaware, because of its nearness to Philadelphia, where she could pursue her own advanced work in art at Earl's Gallery two or three times each week.

Miss Ackerman came to Wisconsin in 1870, intending to return east for more teaching or perhaps to take advanced work herself; but decided to remain in Wisconsin and in Sept. 1871 she was married to Dr. A. C. Kellogg of Portage who was once a resident of Columbus where he got his first medical work under Dr. C. L. Hart for two years, then entered Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago.

In the spring of 1870 he joined with Dr. E. C. Maine of Portage and in the fall of the same year he received his license to practice medicine, opening his own office in Portage.

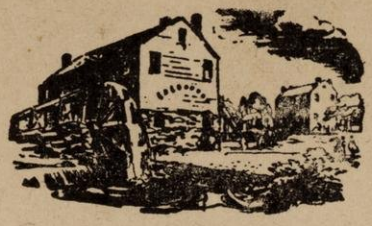
The following spring he was married to Miss Ackerman and they became parents of two sons and one daughter, Alonza F. Kellogg, lawyer, and County Judge, deceased; James Rossiter Kellogg, physician, Portage; and Harriet Ruth Kellogg who became the wife of Charles H. Hall, lawyer, deceased, Mrs. Hall being now a resident of Summit, N.J. Dr. A. C. Kellogg practiced medicine in Columbia County for forty three years, and a part of this time from 1877 to 1905 he was also City Superintendent of Schools.

From page 554 — Columbia County History (1880) we quote the following concerning two of her most famous paintings. "The Valley in the Autumn" Wisconsin scenery is a painting on which Mrs. Kellogg has lavished much wealth of coloring. Its title is suggestive; a widespread and faithful landscape, with perspective handsomely displayed, and a general effect whose beauty is marred by no hasty finish of details.

The water, transparents and yielding, reflects with soft luster what the bank presents. Still beyond the scenes already noted, there stretch away the Baraboo hill tops, their summits tipped with the radiance of the sun. It possesses a freshness of color that charms, an atmosphere elastic yet subdued and mellowed by the genial rays of an autumn sun.

"The Brook Trout" is a painting also worthy of special mention. It is much smaller than the one already spoken of. Its harmony of color is excellent and the trout, that seem to have just been taken from the crystal brook, are very lifelike.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

by F. A. STARE

November 3, 1960 Installment No. 471

FROM THE CHICAGO HERALD 1892

Someone with a talent for writing wrote a piece about Columbus, which bears a date line, Jan. 5, 1892, which was published in the Chicago Herald of January 6th. We have no doubt it was written by someone living here or at least one who knew a good deal about Columbus.

It could well have been, either A. C. Parkinson, or Clarence Eaton, joint owners and publishers of the Columbus Democrat at that time and both of whom were well educated, good speakers as well as good writers.

A clipping of more than two columns with three wood cuts, was brought in recently by Mrs. Wilma Fritz Black, who found it with many others in the attic of her mother's home at 442 S. Lewis street, the late Mrs. W. L. Fritz.

COLUMBUS IS CLASSIC
ONE OF WISCONSIN'S FAIREST GEMS

The Home of Authors and Students, the Residence of Historical Men and the Bit of Badger Soil on Which Horses Seem at Home.

COLUMBUS, WIS., Jan. 5 — This is one of the very handsomest towns in the state. "Its maples" says a resident, "are more beautiful, if they are not so historic, than the elms of New Haven." Hundreds of readers of THE HERALD will remember to have seen Columbus in summer, when the maples in full leaf shade the streets and the level pavements, when myriad flowers on many lawns give color to the sylvan scene, when music flats through open doors and sunset ends a day of perfect beauty. The visitor finds more wide grounds, more care in landscape gardening, more taste in home decoration — outside and in — fewer fences, fewer unsightly structures and less of everything that offends the eye and tells the heart of sorrow than in almost every other city in the state. It is a town of churches of good schools; a town where the best of books are bought and read as soon as they are in eastern cities; a town where all the foremost magazines have patrons, and where some of the very best find contributors. It is a town that shades off gradually into rich farming county whose large buildings, good fences and well kept stock tell of prosperity for the agriculturist. The dark soil of the plow land offers its sufficient proof of fertility. The spreading orchards tell of fruit in season. The well kept highways tell of years of competence. And the business buildings in the town stand four stories high in testimony of sufficient trade. It is not a county seat, but stands at the gates of four — Dane and Dodge, Columbia and Jefferson — and draws its trade and wields its influence as few of the county capitals can. It has a business men's association, as have so many other thriving places. Its younger men are in control. Its motto is that "qualified progress" which holds fast all that is good, but spends some money to acquire more. Lewis J. Sawyer is at the head of the organized forces of advance, with A. C. Parkinson, democrat, editor, mayor and stockman, to lend wise counsel and substantial help.

EMMA ABBOTT SANG HERE

But there are many things in Columbus better than "hustle" or horse. The town in some regards reminds one of Kentucky and, again, of Connecticut. The horse is here, taboo him as you will, and the rolling fields of the blue grass region, the deep, dark woods, the country places and heavy furniture, generations old — of the residences assist in filling the picture. There is the New England love of study and classical attainment, that old time spirit which does not rely on the latest fashions for its recognition, but knows the worth of men and women better than their apparel. It may interest you to know that Emma Abbott once sang in concert here, It was in the long ago, when the struggling little woman was fighting for the place in art and in esteem which she finally so conquered. She sang in the church over which Rev. Myron W. Reed was pastor, and just seventeen persons came to hear her.

"I don't know how much money she took in," said the man who told the story, "but I do know she didn't have nearly enough to pay her bills, She went, almost heartbroken, to Mr. Reed in the morning, stated her case and asked him to lend her $10. He looked at her, thought it all over and then he said: "I believe you are a good girl and I believe you are honest. I haven't the money, but I will go out and borrow it for you." He went to Mr. Blank and raised it, brought it back and gave it to her. I don't know whether she ever returned it, but I'll bet another ten she did."

So will any one who knew her. Mr. Reed preached here through the years of his young manhood, when his heart was full and strong and won in the little church of Columbus the beginning of that fame which drew him to New Orleans, then Indianapolis and lastly to Denver. Right across the street from the little old church he used to occupy another church building, formerly used by the Methodists, but now cast off by them for garments of modern material and form, is devoted to the uses of a seller of agricultural implements. Plows stand where the pulpit used to be. Harrows are heaped in the back benches where ranged in the obedient front pews and harvesters fill the amen corners with broad sickles that hint of good grain harvested.

The old town hall, the harbor of the fire engine, the municipal court room and all the scattered shelters of a city's dignity are now likewise gathered together in a handsome new building, which adds an auditorium with a seating capacity of 800 to 1000. It is a handsome stone and brick structure, a block from the business center, and a substantial addition as well as an artistic adornment in the town,

(TO BE CONTINUED)

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By E. A. STARE

November 10, 1960 Installment No. 472

HOME OF A WAR GOVERNOR

This is the home of ex-Governor J. T. Lewis, the "war governor" of Wisconsin. He was a prominent figure here in the early days of the state—a black-haired, powerful man then and one whose loyalty and worth have added honors to his state. In 1861-62 he was secretary of state, and in the two following years he occupied the executive chair. Shortly after his inauguration he joined that circle of governors who did so much to uphold President Lincoln's hands in the struggle against disunion. When Grant started on that campaign which led him through the wilderness and around Lee's flank to Richmond Lewis and Morton, of Indiana, with Yates of Illinois, went to Washington and tendered Lincoln 80,000 additional men, not to be counted in the quotas of the states, but to voluntarily help in the stupendous task the great emancipator had set himself. Lincoln received the Governors kindly. They had not come to ask office for either themselves or their friends. They did not dictate lines of military policy for him. They simply bade him godspeed and offered assistance. He asked them to call on him again the next morning and he would consider the matter. He was inclined to think the force already sufficient. But in the morning he seemed to have changed his mind. He told them to send on the men and send them quickly. They went home, and at the earliest possible day the troops were raised, armed, equipped and sent to the frontier, relieving veterans who were hurried to the front.

The wisdom of the movement stands well approved in a letter from Lincoln to Governor Lewis in which he says "I don't know a day after the re-inforcements came when, if we had taken 80,000 troops away from Grant, Lee could not have licked him."

That is the proof, after all. Mr. Lewis has sufficient wealth; he has filled many minor offices since the old war days, he has practiced some law and has devoted himself to his home and his books, and has grown old gracefully and full of honors. One picture presented in his house at night will never be forgotten. A rugged old man, with gray mustaches, rocking gently and delving in a book; a white haired woman, in her high back chair, both hands buried in a mass of cambric; an open piano, with photographs of children above it, a mass of plants and flowers in a deep bow window and a flood of light everywhere filling the rooms; the gentle step of women in the upper rooms, the warmth and comfort, the perfect restfulness! All this is blessing. though no lips can frame it.

Governor Lewis has traveled around the world; but in no land lies there a picture more beautiful than this.

Another of the early settlers here was Reuben W. Chadbourne, who died recently worth more than a $1,000,000. He was latterly president of the First National Bank, and ate in later life the bread of plenty which hardship's days in youth provided for him.

HATTIE TYNG GRISWOLD

It is the home of Mrs. Hattie Tyng Griswold, a poet and author whose lines have been read with benefit by thousands. Her story is very interesting. She came to Columbus a very little girl, and saw the day as womanhood approached her when self- support became a problem to be solved. From childhood she had had a passion for writing, and in those days the medium of poetry seemed most inviting. The writer of these weak lines remembers a day in the golden past when a slender girl sang as the sun went down:

I have just been learning the lesson of life,
The sad, sad lesson of loving,
And all of its power for pleasure or pain
Been slowly, sadly proving;
And all that is left of the bright, bright dream.
With its thousand brilliant phases,
Is a handful of dust in a coffin hid
A coffin under the daisies,
The beautiful, beautiful daisies,
The snowy, snowy daisies.
And thus forever throughout the world
Is love a sorrow proving;
There's many a sad, sad thing in life
But the saddest of all is loving,
Love often divides far greater than death,
Stern fortune the high wall raises,
But better far than two hearts estranged
Is a low grave starred with daisies,
The beautiful, beautiful daisies
The snowy, snowy daisies
And so I am glad that we lived as we did
Through the summer of love together
And that one of us tired and lay down to rest
Ere the coming of winter weather.
For the sadness of love is love's growing cold
And 'tis one of its surest phases,
So I bless my God with a breaking heart
For the grave enstarred with daisies,
The beautiful, beautiful daisies
The snowy, snowy daisies.

Never mind about the slender girl, and the past and the sun that went down. Here, after twenty years across a checkered life, comes Mrs. Griswold who in her earliest trials, wrote "Under the Daisies". It appeared first in the New York Home Journal, which was then one of the best literary publications in the country. It drifted about the country, lost its author's name, was quoted one night to Willard, the composer, who set it to music. Years later, when it had reached a sale of thousands, the publishers learned for the first time who had written it, and if the song is printed now it carries the poet's name as well as that of the musician.

There is another sadly beautiful thing — "The Three kisses" which many of the old young people will remember. The writer tells of that kiss which a dying mother gave her and then went out in the chill and darkness of that unknown land; of that warm kiss of early love which quickened the woman heart within her and burned for happy years till the lips that gave it were pressed by her in turn—and lay there white and hard in death's stern fixity. Then this: When lips have felt the dying kiss,

And felt the kiss of burning love,
And kissed the dead, then never more
In kissing should they think to move.

Here is a sonnet that seems to tell of study in the technique of her craft. It is later, riper, stronger, better in many ways, but is no more true than the others. It is called "A Woman".

Speak low to her, sweet Savior, as she stands
In life's dim twilight, where the shadows grow
Deeper and deeper, and the cold winds blow
From the dark future's unimagined lands.
She stands before thee with her toil-worn hands
And tired feet, torn with wandering to and fro
In all life's desert places. Pray thee show
A path more pleasant through Life's closing sands!
For she—poor heart—has lingered long amid
Life's dreariest scenes, nor ever climbed its heights
Sordid and dull and mean from very birth
Life's glory and its grandeur from her hid
She has but groped through cloudful, starless nights
Nor seen the moon's white floored transfigure earth
But there are other things than poetry.

Mrs. Griswold has done much special writing on a Chicago daily paper; has published a book "Home Life of Great Authors", and another "Waiting on Destiny" and another "Lucille and her Friends". There is an evident effort to reach the mind of young people in these works. They are not juvenile, but they tell much the grown girl and the big boy need to know and want to know. Mrs. Griswold was married in 1863 and has been blessed with three daughters, one of whom is now married and all of whom have reached an age that rounds her life with blessings. Her husband is a wealthy and busy man, a merchant whose activities have helped his town and whose nature is as noble as his life has been blest.

BRIEF PERSONAL MENTION

One is puzzled with plenty when it comes to personal mention. Here is Dr. R. W. Earll, a physician somewhat after the kind described in "A Day With the Country Doctor" in a recent Scribner. He is past sixty, devoted to his patients, intent on discharging the duties of a noble profession, a reader of good books and the owner of the best private library in Columbus.

Mr. Coles, a young lawyer, stands in some ways the representatives of another phase of life. He is active, full of the vigor of youth, yet immersed in the classics of Greece and Rome. "He dines" with Demosthenes" says one of his friends, "sups with Cicero and lies down at night with Virgil and Horace."

There is Rev. W. S. Ralph, a universalist minister whose work has been found acceptable to Chicago and Boston, but who finds Columbus best of all. He is a man of "real power and eloquence—a scholar" as scores of traveling men who have heard him can testify at their homes as they read this.

Mrs. Sarah D. Hobart, another contributor to standard magazines lives just out of Columbus, at Fountain Prairie. There seems to be something about the place which conduces to the better half of life. The restfulness, the beauty, the evident love of good literature, the high standard of scholarship, the bond of fraternity which holds all hearts together seem to make of the little city a model place for a home. No doubt a breath from this place when autumn fired the maples with blaze of red glory crept over to the home of Ella Wheeler and inspired her to that poetry which has made her and her home famous.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

November 17, 1960 Installment No. 473

HORSES AND HORSEMEN OF NOTE

But say what you will, the horse is a horse. If that transition shocks you, don't read any farther. A man may write about beautiful things till his soul is steeped in ecstacy; but when the round of inspection brings him to a practice track, when the guide conducts him through a stable where a hundred thousand dollars' worth of Hambletonians have their home, when a matched team of blooded beauties fly past with not a jar in the rhythm of movement, one must consign all books and writers to deserve rest and turn to "man's most noble friend, the horse".

Roys Bros., breeders and trainers, are Columbus men. They are at the head of the business in the state, with 200 acres of perfected stock farm right up against the town, and 500 more six miles out in the country. Their place is known as Wheatland Stock Farm, and they have now perhaps 700 head of promising horses. Their attention is devoted mainly to the lighter class. Onward who has made a good record, is from their stables. So is North Anna, with a record of 2:25, and many others in the '30 class. There is probably no section of the country, North or South, better fitted for the raising and developing of good horses than is this about Columbus.

A. C. Parkinson, editor of the Democrat, mayor of the city and in his second term as president of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society, has with his partner a stock farm with some two hundred head of excellent animals. They divide attention between trotting and draft animals, and have made the business pay immensely. Their place is known as the "Belle Colleen" stock farm.

A. G. Cook, lawyer, has some valuable horses. So has Colonel H. M. Brown, ex-mayor and lover of horses. Dr. E. Churchhill, who devotes his business hours to repairs in teeth, has several trotters. J. W. Leffingwell raised Flossie G. who made a record of 2:18 ¾. She is now the property of Williams, at Independence, Iowa and is one of the most creditable illustrations of Columbus' qualities as a horse producing locality.

So extensive has the horse industry become that a veterinary hospital has been established with Dr. L. A. Wright of the Ontario College, at the head. It is fully equipped, and next to the Chicago hospital at State and Twenty-Fourth streets is probably the best in the west. For a town of 3,000 people there is no place in the country that stands so high in horse interests as does the home of these men.

Taken altogether, there is probably no handsomer home place in the state than in Columbus. Compared with other cities, a rather enthusiastic resident has called it a "Japonica in a field of daisies." The drives about it are so charming in summer and so pleasant even in winter, the places of interest surrounding it are so numerous and the people themselves so uniformly courteous and cultured that one will search long for a reason to decry it."

And thus we have a glimpse of what our town was like in the era preceding the Worlds Columbian Exposition in 1893.

THE END OF "EARLY LOCAL WRITERS"

JOHN B. CLEVELAND

In installment No. 84 published in the Story of Columbus about eight or nine years ago, we gave a brief biography of Mr. John B. Cleveland, taken in part from Columbia County History published in 1880.

Only recently, new and additional information has come to our attention, so we are reproducing what was published; and following that, we will add the new material.

John B. Cleveland

John B. Cleveland was born in Saratoga, County, New York in 1919, lived with his parents until 1837 then went to Ashtabula Co Ohio where he learned the merchantile trade, and remained until 1856. Then he came to the town of York, Dane Co. Wisconsin where he bought land and continued farming until 1873 when he disposed of that and bought 120 acres lying in sections 15 and 22 in the town of Columbus, where he continued to farm for many years.

It is believed the farm was the one later and better known as the Henry Peters farm on the stone quarry road, or the 120 acres in the town of Columbus section 22 and twenty adjoining on the north, in section 15. We are not sure which as we have not checked the Abstracts of Title.

He was married in 1845 to Miss Julia Coleman of Astabula, Ohio who died in York in 1865, leaving seven children, Louisa, Fannie, Oliver C., Horace W. Julia, Nettie and Mary.

Mr. Cleveland was one of a group called the nineteeners, about which a story will appear later, the name being because this particular group headed by John Swarthout, were all born in 1819.

In his later life Mr. Cleveland and his daughters moved to town and lived in the house which is now No. 501 Fuller street, the home of the late August Feldhusen.

Both sons, Oliver and Horace, died prior to 1880; some of the daughters probably married and there may be descendants from the distaff side in this area, but we have no knowledge of any.

Mrs. Cleveland died in 1864 and Mr. Cleveland in 1888 according to the grave stones at Hillside.

No photograph is available, much to our regret.

Now to bring the story up to date we are writing additional information as follows:

Attorney Lloyd J. Paust advised a few months ago that he had recently met an Attorney from Great Falls, Montana, named H. Cleveland Hall, and during their contacts had learned that Mr. Hall's grandfather had once been a resident of Columbus and asked if there might be some way of getting any local information from Columbus regarding his ancestor since he bore the middle name of Cleveland.

Mr. Paust suggested that perhaps in the writer's research for the story of Columbus he may have run across the name of John B. Cleveland, and if so he would appreciate, and would send on to Mr. Hall whatever he could find.

Not knowing whether the family name of Hall might have a bearing, we provide clippings on both the Cleveland and the Hall families which Mr. Paust passed on to Great Falls.

TO BE CONTINUED

John Cleveland Story Continued

We received the following letter from Mr. Hall, dated August 1, 1960 from which we quote.

"Mr. Lloyd J. Paust, knowing of my interest in Columbus, Wisconsin, very kindly forwarded to me various installments of your "Story of Columbus" containing, among other things, a short history of my grandfather, John B. Cleveland. There was also a history of the Hall family who were not relatives of mine. It was all very interesting. I have made a copy of the Cleveland matter and now, at Mr. Paust's suggestion, return the installments to you. I rummaged among various old albums of my mother's and came up with the enclosed photographs of my grandfather and Emma Lowth who, as I now recall was mother's best girlhood friend.

Now, to complete the Cleveland history in so far as concerns the daughters. Nettie (Antonetta), my mother, came to Montana in 1888. She taught school in Helena and married my father, John H. Hall in 1891. They had two children — myself and my sister Doris. Mother died in 1946. Mary followed my mother to Montana and married here. She died in 1949 leaving no children. Louise and Fannie went to Nebraska and married. Fannie married John Cleveland and lived in Freemont until the death of her husband and then went to California to live with her children. One daughter, Louise, now lives in that state. Aunt Louise died in Nebraska. Julia married John Russell Young. one time U.S. Minister of China, and afterwards Librarian of Congress. I know nothing of her descendants.

There hangs on my office wall a deed dated January 13th, 1848 under which my great uncle, Oliver Cleveland and his wife Anna transferred property in Conneault, Ohio to my grandfather. This fits in very well with your history.

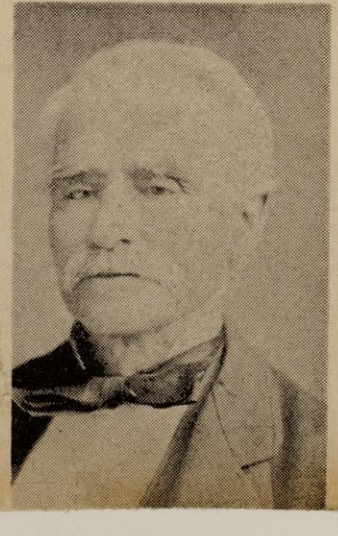
Again thanking you for your kindness, and with kind regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,
H. Cleveland Hall

To the above we add, that Mr. John B. Cleveland, whose picture we here reproduce, was one of the group of "the nineteeners" because they were born in 1819. (see installment 114, published August 6, 1953).

We also publish the picture of Miss Emma Lowth, who Mr. Hall referred to as his mother's (Antoinette Cleveland) best friend. (See installments 64, 65 and 27).





Miss Lowth became Mrs. Eugene Brossard. She was the youngest child of Mr. Matthew Lowth and became the mother of two sons, Matthew, a Madison, Wisconsin Attorney and Eugene E. jr., deceased who was a mining engineer.

There are, no doubt, a few people in the area, who will remember the name Cleveland, from having heard their parents or grandparents speak of them.

We are glad to have heard from Mr. H. Cleveland Hall, and for the pictures he sent.

End of Cleveland Story

More About A. P. Birdsey and Early Days In Columbus

In a recent story of the Birdsey family, published in this column, we mentioned an old account book that had come to light, about and around which we would endeavor to write a new chapter at a later date.

It should be born in mind that in the first decade of the early settlement that is now Columbus, the 1840 to 50 period, and for several years up to the Civil War, the area was sparsely settled, the roads were only passable, and at times during the rainy season not even passable.

BARTER AND TRADE

There were no banking facilities until 1856, except a limited amount of borrowing from a few private money loaners: there was an extremely limited amount of specia (hard coins) in circulation, and most buying and selling was really barter and trade. (hence the term "I trade with").

It apparently was the custom that about the end of each calendar year, or the beginning of a new one, business men would "square up" with each other, and with as many customers as passable. Business men would even buy or sell accounts receivable, as shown by entries in the book of accounts to which we are referring.

LEATHER BOUND BOOK

First let us say, that this particular book is well bound in leather with paper of good quality, and must have had, originally, over 400 pages, many of which have been cut out of the back of the book beyond page 381.

It originally had an index with the name of Birdsey's customers. There are entries as early as 1847 and frequent entries are found, such as "balance carried forward from Book No. 1" indicating that there had been a previous book beginning a few years earlier.

It will be recalled that Almon P. Birdsey located in Columbus having sold his farm in the vicinity of Jefferson moving here and went into business, although he lived on and operated a farm in Fountain Prairie or perhaps town of Columbus. He did not move into the so called village in 1845.

AN EARLY INN KEEPER

It is not of record that he conducted a real store for very long but the account book clearly shows that he had a bar, as well as a hotel or inn of sorts, served meals, kept travelers over night or longer, bought and sold farm produce and livestock, conducted a livery stable, boarded hogs and other animals for other people, bought and sold accounts receivable ,loaned money, ran a frieght line taking produce to Milwaukee, bringing back merchandise of every description, largely alcholic beverages, which, apparently he sold in quantity or wholesale, as well as by the drink at the bar.

At one time he purchased what was then called "The Corner Store" (but not the Corner drug store) although we cannot identify on what corner the store was located; but that particular store was sold within a short time.

There are entries as late as 1858, indicating that he probably did business in several different buildings in Columbus, for it is known that he was an individual who was always on the move, and almost a professional trader.

HE LEFT HERE IN 1865

It will be recalled that Mr. Birdsey sold out in Columbus in 1865 and moved to a farm near McGregor, Iowa where he lived until his death on August 6, 1869.

Also his son Linus had married early in the sixties, and we assume that when the father, A. P. Birdsey moved to Iowa in 1865 he may have left this account book with his son, Linus. Our reason for this assumption is that frequently, old account books of that period were often passed on to the children to use as scrap books, and half empty pages for childish drawings, arithmetic problems, practicing penmanship etc. for that is what happened in the case of this particular account book.

A SCRAP BOOK

It contains (not consecutively) many, many pages of poetry, pretty fashion pictures, personal items from local papers, but almost invariably without being dated, also not less than fifty obituaries; not less than a dozen articles from local papers, some with pictures have been scanned.

Some bear dates as late as the centennial of Columbus in 1940 with pictures of Columbus people at a dinner attended by more than 200 Milwaukeeans, former residents of Columbus, two of whom are recognized as Ernest von Briesen and Harry Brown.

Another is a picture of Owen Goodspeed of Columbus on his 100th birthday. Another of three Hasey brothers, John, Alfred and Samuel whose age averaged 89 years.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

December 1, 1960 Installment No. 475

CONTINUING "A SCRAP BOOK"
MRS. ECKERT

Which indicates that only the last Birdsey sister, Rose, Mrs. Frank Eckert, to pass away in 1946 at the age of 81 could have inserted the clippings mentioned above and others like them.

Mrs. Eckert spent the last two years of her life in the home of Mrs. Emily Schulze of Columbus and after her burial her effects in a couple of trunks were delivered to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Griff Jones to be held for word from Mrs. Eckert's nieces as to what disposition was to be made of them. That was about fifteen years ago and no requests have been received in the meantime.

While Mrs. Jones is not a relative of the Birdsey's but Frank Goodspeed, husband of Mollie Birdsey was an uncle of Mrs. Jones so she is "almost next of kin." It was while looking for the group picture of the four Birdsey sisters used in this column recently, that Mrs. Jones remembered the old "account book-scrap book" which she loaned to this writer, who hopes an account of portions of the book will prove to be of interest to those who read this column.

PORTIONS OF AN INDEX

The first vacant page of the index is the "D's" Dunning, O. B. Dickason, Noah; Drake, William; Dodge, Hiram; Drake, Sanford; Dodge, Aaron; Duncanson, Jacob; Dickson, Ela; Dodge, Hiram (Millwright); Dyer, Wayne B.; Dye, Benjamin; Davis, Jane; Drake and Wright; Dean Mr. (storekeeper); Dicks Jr.; Dodge, William; Donell, Mac; Daily Mrs. veDarson D.

The E's are covered up with two "poems" worth reading," two dialogues and this quip "A Low-Bred Woman." One who stays at home, takes care of her children, and never meddles with the business of her neighbors. The species is almost extinct.

The "F's" are left uncovered and this is who they were Farnsworth W.; Fields Henry; Fields William; Frink and Company; Freeman Charles; Folsom L. G. Fields John; Friend M & EV Co; Fields and Jones; Frink Henry; Fields Oliver; Folsom Frank F. F. Fargo, J. B.; Fowler Frank; Flahaven Catherine; Foreman (Dutchman) Farrington Andy; Finn John; Foley Mary; Farmington Margaret.

G's are covered up with four poems but the H's cover a whole page like this.

Houghton James; Hart Johnathan; Haskell H. S.; Hayden Charles; Haydon Amos; Hicks John; Hagerman B. F.; Huntington James; Hart B. F.; Herminan William; Hotaling Joseph; Hoyt ———; Hyde Walter; Haskins William; Hayden John; Higby Andrew; Howe Walter; Hill Charles; Harkness ———; Huntington and Austin; Hart and Drake; Howe, O. C.; Higby Mrs. (on the prairie); Huntington Carr; Houghton and Pulver (Otsego); Hildebrant Mary; Hamilton Patricia; Haskins A. A.; Hoppin J. C.; Haas E.; Hays William; Harcting S.; Harcting Peter, Houghton G.

ONLY A SAMPLE

It is not our purpose to enumerate the remainder of the visible names in the index as this has been only a sample. Many are names not seen before; similarity of names indicates related families; many are familiar names, some frequently mentioned in this column in the nine years it has been running; many are names of those who fought their share of the civil war; some never came back.

SOME CHARGE ACCOUNTS

And it will be remembered the charge accounts that will now be discussed are those of early settlers in the forties and fifties.

Here is the account for one year of Joel Burke. The charges are written in shillings and pence but the extension to be added up at the end of the years is in dollars and cents. We cannot say whether the U. S. ever had in circulation coins named shillings and pence or whether the terms were merely "figures of speech" such as "six bits" used occasionally even now to indicate seventy five cents.

First entry is August 27, 1851 to bar 3/ (meaning 3 shillings) and no pence and extended as 38 cents. August 30 to whiskey 8/ $1.00; August 30 Jug 2/6 (two shillings 6 pence) or 31 cents; September 1 Bar 2/ or 25 cents; October 7 Bar 2/ and 1/6 (same day) 44 cents; Oct. 10 Bar 1/6 and 1/0 or 31 cents; Oct. 11 Bar 2/ or 25 cents; Oct. 12 Bar 2/ or 25 cents; Oct. 15 2/ and 2/ or 50 cents; Oct. 17 2/ - 25 cents; Oct. 18 to cash (borrowed) 24/ Bar 2/ or $3.50. Oct. 22 1 pair mittens 7/ or 88 cents; Oct. 22 8 meals and 3 lodgings $1.38; Oct. 22 3 bushel oats at 30c - 90 cents; Oct. 22 hay for team 3/ 38 cents;

Nov. 8 Bill 10/ Bar 2/ and 2/ or $1.75; Nov. 10 Bill 4/ 50 cents; Nov. 14 Bar 1/ and 2/ and oats 1/6 total 56 cents; Nov. 14 account from store book page 109 $1.40; Nov. 17 1 saddle, 1 log chain, 2 bags (no figures entered); Nov. 22 Bill 10/ or $1.25; Nov. 26 Bar 2/ and 2/ or 50 cents; Nov. 27 Bill self and tram 9/ or $1.13; Nov. 29 cash lent in harvest 24/ or $3.00; Nov. 22 Bill 7/6 or 94 cents; Dec. 30 to bill 7/ or 88 cents; Jan. 15 cash to Ellenthorp 11/ of $1.38; Jan 16th Bar 2/ of 25 cents.

These charges total up to $24.52 and there are credits as follows "By expenses $2.34; by overcharge which belongs to H. McCafferty to pay $3.91; by cash $2.30 by wheat $34.50.

And another charge for bar bills from Jan. 16 to 29th $3.13.

And at the bottom of the page is written "the above account is settled and paid in full January 27, 1852.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

December 8, 1960 Installment No. 476

MORE ABOUT A. P. BIRDSEY STORY

CREDIT NECESSARY

The account quoted above shows vividly the scarcity of specia (hard money) in circulation even for a drink at the bar for as little as 25 cents was charged to his account — the necessity of borrowing a little cash during the harvest, to pay help (which was about 50c a day, meals and lodging and some feed for the horses which indicates Mr. Burke had not always gone home at night, one time having lodging for three nights — and the transfer of a part of the charge to McCafferty who was to pay Mr. Birdsey.

Another charge account shows only four items spread over three years as follows:

July 25, 1851 — one gallon whisky (exact spelling now obsolete) 4/pr 50 cents.
Sept. 3 1853 — 10 bushels of oats $2.50.
Aug. 27, 1854 — 2 gallons whisky $1.00.
June 17, 1855 — 2 bushels oats $1.50 (note oats were 75c per bushel in 1855 and only 25c in 1851.

Here is one beginning in 1849, Charles Hayden (there were several different Haydens, farmers, brick yards, merchants)

July 4, 1849 — 3 dinners 3/ or 75 cents.
July 4, 1849 — 1 Harness $6.00.
July 8, 1849 — Hay for horses 2 nights 1/6 or 38 cents.
July 8, 1849 — 2 bushels oats 3/ or 75 cents.
July 8, 1849 — 1 meal 1/6 or 19 cents.
July 16, 1849 — credit for one harness.
Oct. 18, 1849 — To keeping hogs $3.00.
Dec. 18, 1849 — To 10 pounds beef at 6c — 63 cents
Dec. 15, 1849 — To 13 pounds beef at 5c — 65 cents
Dec. 16, 1849 — To 10 pounds beef at 5c — 50 cents
Dec. 17, 1849 — To 16 pounds pork at 6c — $1.00
Dec. 31 — Dr. to note against Picket for plow $12.00
Dr. to 26½ pounds beef at 6c 12/9 or $1.59
By cash 88/ or $11.00
By cash 52/ or $6.50
By cash 7/ or 88 cents
By cash paid Spencer $10.00
Account settled Jan. 2, 1850 $36.75
Dec. 1852 — To use of Boar $1.00
Dec. 1853 — Beef 48 cents
April 26, 1854 — 10½ bushels oats $2.63
May 3 — 26 bushels oats $6.50
May 7 — 22 bushel oats $5.50
May 16 — 22 bushels oats $5.50
May 28 — 4 pounds butter 50 cents
June 25 — 16½ pounds butter $2.00 got at different times
4½ pounds butter 56 cents

Here the account is carried to next page, which in later years was plastered with poems and other clippings from newspapers.

NAMELESS

Here is an account, whoch will be nameless, which was transferred from Book 1, February 1851 which has 17 items in one year for whisky, mostly by the gallon at 4 shillings or 50 cents. Other items are three to secure cash, which totals $4.56 1 cradle (a harvesting scythe) 32/ or $4.00; 10 lbs. tallow $1.00; tobacco 2/ or 50 cents.

There are 7 items if whisky or gin in March 1852, one for Board, 3 meals 6/ or 75 cents and in October 14c pounds of beef at 5 cents or 73 cents.

A FEW ITEMS

A few items picked out of various accounts. 33 pounds flour at 2/ or 66 cents; 10½ bushels of wheat $6.50 1 cord wood 12/ or $1.50; 51 pounds flour $1.28 (flour at that time came in wooden barrels and was weighed out in amounts requested, and if near the bottom of the barrel, whatever weight there was; this was called scraping the bottom of the barrel."

More items out of the usual are, use of cattle (oxen) to Bassetts Mill at Danville 50c; use of team and wagon 50 cents; 1 pine plank 25 cents; use of cattle 3/ 38 cents; use of bull 4/ 50 cents; use of wagon 2 days $2.00. The above items spread over two years were taken from account of Amos Hayden.

McCRACKIN IS RIGHT

One account is headed William McCreggan or McCrakin (the latter being right but not spelled right. Aug. 20, 1851 use of buggy $1.50; Bill by stranger 50c; Sept. 1st mutton 89 cents; discount with O.D. Tramer $2.00; scattered over Sept. Oct. and Nov. are 14 items, mostly for beef. Mutton and pork once for each.

Jan. 1, 1852 2 suppers at ball 1/2 or $1.50; Jan. 24 use of buggy to Madison 14/ or $1.75; plowing garden 6/ or 75 cents; 2 pigs 12/ or $3.00; neither item dated. 1853 May, plowing garden 6/ or 75c; June 19 use of horse 6/ or 75c; July 14, 240 feet lumber at 10/ or $2.40.

Here is a small account of John Boutwell April 7, 1851 1 dinner 2/ or 25 cents; cash $1.00 Oct. 9th. Oct. 18th cash $1.00; Oct. 22nd cash $1.00. This account was settled Nov. 4 by 15 26/50 bushel of barley $3.88.

DOMESTIC HELP

Here is one that illustrated what the going wage of household help was, and purchasing goods to be charged to her employer.

MARGRET FARRINGTON

Jan. 1, 1852 to one pair shoes $1.75; Feb. 23 cash $4.25; April 16 cash at Dodges Store ....6.92 and paid Ruth 73 cents; Credit her account 21 weeks work up to the 23rd day of April $31.50; credit her 4 weeks work $7.00; cash at Dodge's for goods $1.28; June 10 cash at Haselton's store $8.78; cash at Shepards store $2.98.

June 16th cash 8/ or $1.00; cash 40/ or $5.00; cash 40/ or $5.00. August 2nd cash $2.50; cash $1.00 cash 80/ or $10.00.

Credit by 19c weeks work from the 24th of May up to October 10 at 14/ per week $34.13; June 30 $2.00; cash 8/ or $1.00; paid peddler $1.63; Sept. 14 cash 40/ or $5.00 July 17 cash 14 $2.00; cash 16/ October 13 credit one half weeks work 88 cents settled in full.

SEED CATALOGS

Seed catalogs, then as now, were quite attractive, mostly in black and white, although there are a few colored pictures among the many cut outs pasted over so many pages. Those of which we write were from "new catalogues for 1878."

Whether or not Mr. Birdsey always had a store is not known; be that as it may; he dealt in meats, livestock, lumber, grain, coal, farm produce, shoes and many items but we have yet to find items usually found in a grocery store such as coffee, sugar, spices etc. His teams, how many is not known were on the road to or from Milwaukee, hauling in livestock, farm produce, wood etc. and hauling back lumber, coal lime merchandise of almost any description, household furniture, kerosenes (then called coal oil) whisky, brandy and the like.

A gentleman named J. McKinestry, who may have been a dealer, in lumber or more likely, was biulding a house for himself or others, His accounts was opened in 1853 with these four items; To 4 M shingles $12.50; 1050 ft. siding $21.00; 870 ft. pine lumber $15.66; 1 M shingles at 24/ or $12.00; May 28 1076 ft. oak lumber for R. W. Roberts $10.76; June 19th 754 ft. oak lumber$7.54; 679 same $6.79; bill 32/ $4.00; bill 6/ or 75 cents; 600 ft. lumber $3.00; March 14th 14th 1250 feet pine lumber at $20.00 per M $25.00; there is another charge of $12.50 but items not shown.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

December 15, 1960 Installment No. 477

BIRDSEY STORY CONTINUED

JOHN PULVER

In 1850, June 16, John Pulver had dinner costing 1/6 or 19 cents. Sept. 5 he had 3 meals and 3 lodgings costing a total of 81 cents. Book does not say who the other two lodgers were, probably members of his family, or guests) Sept. 25 shows Brandy 4/ 50c and next line shows credit by error, wrong account. Sept. 25 by teaming to ball. March 8, 1854 John Pulver bought 1 accordion cost being being 12/ or $1.50; and on same date bar, 30c; Nov. 25 1 plow handle 4/ or 50 cents, and another bar bill 2/ or 25 cents.

SUSAN

Because he kept a tavern with a bar, dining room and lodgings, Mr. Birdsey must have employed domestic help for several names of domestics have shown up in this book. He evidently helped some of these girls by paying her only a little cash, and the balance with an interest bearing note signed by himself.

Here is an account to "Susan" (nursing girl). She must have helped provide for her own family as there are occasional charges for beef, candles, bread etc; these is one very unusual charge, April 26, 1855 "coffee she burned up" $1.00. She was evidently paid up in full only once or twice a year, whatever was due after deducting small cash payments of $1.00 occasionally, sometimes as little as 50 cents; also an occasional dress, or shoes bought at local stores, which were charged to her account at Birdseys. She was credited with 21 weeks work and a later entry shows she had a balance due of $66.25.

At that period coffee came "green," unroasted, in large heavy fibre bags; even as late as the 1880's, when this writer was a boy there was no "packaged" coffee found in village grocery stores, although by that time, grocers had both "roasted" and "green" in those heavy bags.

It was sometime in the 1890's that grocers began to stock roasted coffee in one pound paper bags, but it was unground, still in the berry, and no kitchen was complete without a "coffee mill" or grinder, in which the housewife ground just enough for her immediate needs.

Later grocers put in a large counter coffee grinder, in which he ground the contents of a one pound bag, and poured the ground coffee back into the original bag.

Going back to the green coffee, each family roasted small amounts of coffee berries in a shallow pan placed in the kitchen stove oven to become roasted coffee; and many a pan stayed in the oven too long and "burned" to charcoal.

Does any one remember Lion Brand of Wolsom Spice Company or Arbuckles XXXX brand of coffee?

D. D. KELSEY

D. D. Kelsey was one of our earlier settlers, a blacksmith by trade and who in later years built the beautiful white columned colonial residence at 206 N. Ludington now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Garling.

His account in Birdsey's charge book opens with this notation "1851 to account from book No. 1, page 362, which judging by Book No. 2 ran from three to five pages.

We will pick out only a few items; we have previously commented on scarcity of specie hard money in the form of various coins of different metals, copper pence, nickel, hence the name for the five cent piece, silver 3 cent pieces and dimes, quarters, half dollars and dollars in silver.

There being no bank here prior to 1856, the only coins in circulation were few and far between, usually in the hands of merchants. When an individual had none he if his credit was good, could "buy" or borrow a limited amount having it charged to his account.

So Mr. Kelsy on Oct. 19, 1851 is charged for cash in the amount of $2.00. He probably took his meals at Birdsey's for on Jan. 21, 1852 appears a charge for 45 meals and 2 lodgings $5.89 and on the same date he is charged $3.00 Birdsey paid on his behalf to "Ellenthorp."

In April Kelsey is charged for $25.00 cash; several times there are charges for coal (probably blacksmith coal) usually one ton at $15.00. We know from other records that coal was not usually carried in stock, as wood was plentiful and cheap. Birdsey took orders for coal, hauled it on his freight line, the transportation being about twice as much as the coal.

We have proof of this, for Oct. 16, 1853 appears this charge 2 tons of coal at $5.50 and hauling $20. or a laid down cost of $31.00 for two tons; also in May 1854 1 load of coal $8.25; hauling $12.50; and again Sept. 14, 1855 coal $7.32 and hauling $13,26.

He bought one load of wood, probably a small load which is charged at 3/ or 38c; another for 8/ or $1.00 and 18 fence pickets at 2 cents each.

In 1851 on August 3rd Joseph Maxfield bought 39 gallons of whisky at 40 cents per gallon and one whisky barrel 6/ or $16.35, also 27½ feet of stove pipe $3.44; In Dec. and Jan. 1852 there were 6 gallons of whisky at 40c, 1 pint brandy at 3/ 38 cents, another the same and 1 pint port wine at 50 cents.

MILFORD LOOMIS

Milford Loomis is charged for board for Sept. 1 to Oct. 19, 1851 5 4/7 weeks at 16/1 a total of $11.25 and Nov. 7, 1852 board $84, which would cover nearly a year. Jan. 1, 1852 appears 1 dish oysters 2/3 and use of team $2.00; several others charges for use of horse or of team; March 3, 1852 he bought a pair of overshoes $1.50.

LEWIS LUDINGTON

Lewis Ludington the real proprietor of the land on which the earlier settlement was located, never lived here but his account in Birdsey's Book 2, shows that he came to Columbus about once a month; here are the items; June 16, 1851 to 9 days board $4.50 1 rake 1/ or 13 cents; July 22 to 8 days board $4.00; August 2 use of buggy 8/ or $1.00. August 15 9 days board at 4/ $4.50; October 6th use of buggy 8/ $1.00; team to Southport (now Kenosha) $6.00; John Hustis bill 31 cents; Oct. 9 1851 board for self 21 days $10.50 10 bushel oats 2/ $2.50 and 11 bushel oats at 20 cents $2.20 and credit for overcharge of 50 cents on the 10 bushel of oats. To use of man 24 days $11.04; paid Gray's order $45.00; by cash to balance $83.22.

DR. J. C. AXTELL

Dr. J. C. Axtell, our first physician, came here in 1845 and lost his life while serving as surgeon in a Wisconsin Regiment in the Civil War.

His charge account in Book 2 opens with amount transferred from page 406 in Book 1, amount $147.34.

From Oct. 10, 1851 March 13, 1853 there are 21 entries of bar bill running from as small as 6 cents (twice)to the highest, 63 cents, and averaging about 25 cents.

There are in this same period three items for Brandy and one for wine; there are a few charges for beef running from 25 to 50 cents each; one item is for use of cutter (in Feb.) 4/, Bar 2/ and one pint of brandy 3/ total $1.12.

For a period nearly two years, the above would not be considered excessive drinking.

OUR FIRST DRUGGIST

John Swarthout, our first druggist who for a time had as a partner, Dr. Axtel; first entry Sept. 10, 1851 is for 15 days board, 8 lodgings, a total of $5.28.

At the time he was unmarried but was married in the spring of 1852. He had built his first and only home the white colonial house just back of the library, into which he took his bride.

The account shows a few times that he had hired a horse and buggy, had his garden plowed, and harrowed. He probably bought meat and groceries at several other local stores as well as from Birdsey. Beef must have been his favorite meat, and it was priced at 6 cents per pound but sometimes at 5 cents. Pork was usually 7 cents and mutton 8 cents. Potatoes were 6/ for half a bushel of 38 cents.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

December 22, 1960 Installment No. 478

ROAD TAXES

One item in an account is somewhat unusual. It paid road taxes. No matter who they were, taxes had to be paid. Mr. Birdsey and presumably other merchants would pay the balance due and charge to their respective accounts most of which were settled up near the year end.

CARRIED HIS WIFE

One item in na account is somewhat unusual. It reads Sept. 14 in the account of A. Z. Maynard, an early settler here (carrying wife to Oak Grove $1.50. For any who may not know "carrying" is simply another way of saying "taking" or "driving" a passenger to or from one place to another, as part of the service rendered by a livery stable.

These accounts are only a few from several hundred and are intended to be samples of the many different services rendered by almost all businessmen or keepers of stores, and how they helped each other as a clearing house locally.

Had we access to such books for another later period after the coming of the railroad in 1857 they would be interesting but different.

The prices that prevailed; the use of the symbol expressing the shilling and the pence, but extending the amount in dollars and cents; the scarity of coin in circulation; the ease with which credit could be had, and the squaring up of accounts at the end of each year, in the ten years preceding the opening of the Civil War, are all interesting. We hope our readers enjoyed it. Did we hear anyone say yes?

END OF STORY, MORE ABOUT A. P. BIRDSEY

LOCAL PAPERS OF A CENTURY AGO

Local papers, of which we have copies as far back as 1855, served not only to dispense the news items, legal notices and some advertising matter, also served as literary journals to a degree, for with money exceedingly scarce, only a small percent of the people could afford to subscribe for periodicals, magazines or books of cultural nature.

Almost every issue of the local papers, had at least a few columns of educational matter either clipped from eastern papers or magazines, or articles contributed by local intellectuals or State wide politicians.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION

From the issue of Columbus Democrat of January 29, 1869 we take a column entitled "Compulsory Education" which from its contents we judge is a rewrite of state press and the Governor's Message to the Legislature and the public.

"The question of compulsory education has, for the past four months, been quite generally discussed, and arguments pro and con advanced.

It is no political interest, and the press of the state stand divided on opposing sides. The Governor, in his message recommending something of this kind and it is probable that some legislative action will be taken.

The first question to be decided is this; does the regulation of family matters, with regard to instruction, come within the sphere of legislation?

When no crime has been committed, can the law cross the threshold of home and force the child from the jurisdiction of the parent?

The mother may be ignorant, and ignorance may be the legacy transmitted, but the child is her own and nature as well as law, has made her its natural protector.

Other means of removing this ignorance, and rescuing this young immortal from its unfortunate condition may be proper, but force would seem like oppression.

But if such a law should be passed, requiring, under penalty, all children to attend the common schools, could it be enforced?

Movements in this matter should not be hasty. Precedents, taken from what has been done by despotisms of the old world, can have no forces here.

The genius of American institutions, their glory and success, are based on freedom to all, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of conscience, freedom of the common school.

Each of these may be patronized or not, as the soverign choice of the individual shall decide. (please remember this was printed over ninety years ago.)

There is as much wisdom manifested in finding the point where legislation shall cease, as there is in the enactment of the wisest laws.

The question of compulsory education involves not only the choice, but the right of individuals.

The parent is not only the natural guardian of the child, responsible for its protection and support but he has a right to the service of that child as compensation for that guardianship.

Circumstances may make a draught upon family resources, for which this "humane" law has made no provisions. The parent may need the help of his child at home. He may be cleaning up his homestead, the pinching hand of sickness, and poverty may lay its grip upon his household, the grain needed for bread, may be wasting in the field, or the wages which the child might earn by his labor, might be needed to procure to the necessaries of life.

But in such cases the primary calls of nature must be set aside, the demands of the school room are paramount; the grim skeleton of this ghostly enactment must take precedence and rob the family of its last resource.

Arguments are built upon the fact that large numbers are growing up without any education. This is true, and must be true, as long as our population is receiving such a rapid increase from foreign emigration.

But we are confident this evil is over estimated. In the statistics collected from various sources and condensed by the state superintendent large numbers are reported who do not attend common schools, and the inference is that these have no school advantages.

This is a misconception of the true condition of things, many of these do attend school. The Norwegian, German and other nationalists have private schools of their own and to these they send their children.

This is not the best course, we admit as it would be better to have all the children instructed in the common school; still this fact must be considered when we foot up the estimate of destitution which prevails in the election of the youth of our land.

It is far less apalling than these naked statistics would seem to indicate.

There is a criminal remincence and the keeping up of these "national" (foreign language) schools is unwise; but will a compulsory law remove this evil?

National prejudices exist, and these are strong. They teem from the four quarters of the earth, and center on our prairies and throng our cities.

The element of discord are now numerous, and sometimes threaten to sweep the land like a tornado in its wrath. Will the law proposed harmonize these elements?

We are in favor of common schools. As the base of their usefulness is widened, the perpetuity of our government shall be secure. Let them be free to all without any respect to nationality or creed. Make them attractive, so that children will be drawn to their quiet walls. Prune them of all sectarian instruction, and then tax the people for their liberal support. Make them a power in the land, but by all means let it be a voluntary power.

Forced attendance would be unwise and fail in its object. We should say of the school as we would say of any church, break away every fetter, and make them a free benefiction to the people.

Let their benefits be as manifest as the blessed dews upon the fresh earth, and then let the people choose and the final results can not be doubtful. The attendance will increase from year to year, and ignorance will not not only be considered a misfortune but a disgrace.

THE END

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

December 29, 1960 Installment No. 479

Present day readers may wonder why we, who are historically minded, dwell so much in the past.

We who are active at the present time, whether they realize it or not, are making history.

It is the purpose of this column which is now in the first half of the tenth year of research and writing about what went on, how people lived, their manner of speaking or writing, a century ago.

LOOKING FOR A SUCCESSOR

Some day this writer will lay down his pen, to be, perhaps, picked up by someone else and carry on, if there is sufficient interest on the part of our readers to want it continued.

Possibly half of what has been published has been biographical sketches of early pioneers, bringing the family stories as near up to date as possible, with photographs if the living have kept the pictures of the old folks.

Many sketches of general interest covering local matters, business, churches, fraternal societies, schools, the plank roads, the waterways, the railroads and scores of other subjects, have been written and published.

The bound copies of old newspapers, loaned by the Wisconsin Historical Society 1855 to 1863 inclusive and from 1868 on up to almost the present time are available for use by the researcher, from which we have gathered large portions of the information necessary to write what has been written.

We have published, ver batin, short articles that have been published as far back as over a hundred years ago.

From the Democrat of April 29, 1869, we now give you

"Good Old Days", the story of four weeks of travel from Vermont to Chicago in 1845, the route being by turnpike, which name was used to indicate a better than usual road, and some of which in the older settled portions in the New England, and the middle states were toll roads. Perhaps the story will mention which canals were used. No name is signed to the sketch, other than "correspondent of Springfield Republican," and which was, no doubt clipped from a newspaper of early 1869, but describing a trip made in 1845.

THE TRIP

"The contrast between the slow and tedious modes of emigrants from the Eastern to the Western states (meaning any state west of the Great Lakes, or the Ohio River) twenty five or thirty years ago, and the quick and easy way of traveling now, is so great that I will give your readers some of my experiences.

There having been no through line of railroad completed to Chicago in 1845, a journey hence from the Eastern States often occupying three or four weeks, was more tedious than now.

Some of father's friends had made the entire land route, of 1000 to 1200 miles with horses and covered wagons, but the distance by way of the Great Lakes, a favorite early route, was much farther.

Our friend wrote back such glowing accounts of the soil, climate, and the hospitable frontier people, that my father decided to try his fortunes in the west.

EARLY MORNING

Accordingly, long before sunrise one September morning, in 1845, he and mother, with five children and a few housekeeping articles drawn by a two horse team, were slowly moving along the dusty road from Rutland, Vermont to Whitehall, N.Y. The good byes with neighbors and school mates, whom we never expected to see again, had been said the day before.

About noon we reached Whitehall, N.Y. and were soon transferred on board the canal line boat "Red Bird" bound for Oswego, New York.

Our quarters were probably more comfortable on the boat than they would have been on a crowded packet boat; We cooked our meals in the "cuddy", ate in the cabin, and at night hung our hammocks in the cabin.

It took our boat several days to traverse the long lines of the "Champlain" "Erie" and "Oswego" canals, and we were detained several days at Oswego, waiting for the propeller "Syracuse" which was to take us across Lake Ontario through the "Welland" canal, and across Lake Erie, Huron and Michigan.

HEAVILY LOADED

The small propeller was loaded with three or four hundred passengers, mostly for Wisconsin (territory) and Illinois parts, besides considerable merchandise and how she ever reached Chicago is a wonder, for we encountered a fearful storm one dark night, and were driven back eight miles through the Straits of Mackinaw.

Long stops made at many lake ports but finally after about two weeks from Oswego, the anxious emigrants landed in the busy city of Chicago, the goal of their golden exceptations.

PRAIRIE SCHOONERS

The streets were crowded with grain wagons or prairie schooners as they were called) from all sections of Illinois, and it was easy to find rude conveyances, in these homeward bound wagons to almost any point within eighty or ninety miles.

Late in the afternoon of October twentieth, we left the city in one of these teams (wagons) for our destination, Bloomingdale, Dr. Page County, Illinois (now on the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, and thirty miles from the lake.

NIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE

I shall never forget my first night on the prairie. It was dark and cold, with a dense fog peculiar to Illinois, shrouding everything and making the air uncomfortable to breath.

Late in the evening we stopped at a farm house on the dark and muddy "OPlain river (could this have been Des Plaines) and asked for shelter for the rest of the night.

The house contained only two rooms, but as the owner had once been an emigrant himself and understood our situation, we were welcomed to stay by his fireside.

I never more thoroughly enjoyed a good bed in a well kept hotel (in later life) after a hard day's journey, than I did that night enjoy a place on the floor, and a blanket, round the kitchen fire on the prairie.

A NEW HOME

The next forenoon completed our journey of over four weeks. We met with a warm welcome at our new home.

People in a new settlement welcome emigrants among them and help them in a manner unknown in older and wealthier states."

A CANAL PASSAGE TICKET

In the story of the large family of Mr. James H. Sutton published in late 1954 in the Story of Columbus in installment No. 172, Sept. 30 we reproduced in full size a passenger ticket dated Sept. 16, 1844 of splendid state of preservation which read as follows:

HORNDEN AND CO'S PASSAGE TICKET

No. 929 Albany, New York September 16th, 1844

This entitled Mr. James H. Sutton to a cabin passage for nine persons, making 4½ full passengers from Albany to Buffalo.

Each full passenger, entitled to five pounds of luggage free. Extra luggage 50 cents per 100 pounds.

Received six dollars for 1200 pounds of freight, at 50 cents per 100 pounds, to Buffalo.

Total amount paid for passage of 9 persons and the extra freight $11.25.

WHAT BECAME OF THE HORSES

It will be noted in the narrative "Good Old Days" that the family left Rutland, Vermont, in a wagon drawn by a two horse team and by noon, were on board the canal boat Red Bird at Whitehall, New York.

While the account of the trip, written twenty five years later, does not say, it may be assumed that the wagon and team were either sold, or driven back to Rutland, for it is not likely that the team and wagon made the four weeks trip by water routes, four different canals, and four of the Great Lakes. This conclusion is born out by the reference "Late in the afternoon of Oct. 20th we left the city (Chicago) in one of these teams for our destination."

What a contrast there is in mode of transportation between "then and now" with our super highways toll roads, crowded with cars and trucks, at speeds that are almost incredible, to say nothing of jet planes that cover the mileage recounted above, in about two hours.

THE END OF THE STORY OF THE TRIP

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

January 5, 1961 Installment No. 480

EARLY COLUMBUS NEWSPAPERS

In our research over the years we have been writing this column, now nearly ten years, we have written about a great many people, and all we could find about the various newspapers published here in the early days.

COLUMBUS RECORDER

It is believed that the first paper printed here was the Columbus Recorder, sometimes referred to as the Columbia County Recorder published by Carr Huntington, who was also the editor. It apparently was started in 1850 and its place of business was "some place" on Broadway (now Dickason Blvd) and Mill street about where the Zick Garage now is.

The Recorder suspended early in 1857 and moved to Portage where it passed out of existence late that same year having been sold by the sheriff for non payment of debts.

Mr. Huntington later went to Blue Earth, Minnesota and started a paper at that point where the trail is lost.

The State Historical Society have no copies of the Recorder in their files and no one locally came forth with even a single copy when we appealed to readers of our present papers, for which reason we could add nothing to the above.

The "Recorder" was of Democratic persuasion, but after the Republican party was "born" in Ripon in 1854 we believe, there began here and there to appear "hopefully" now and then competitive newspapers under the Republican banner.

THE COLUMBUS JOURNAL

On January 22, 1855 Daniel Mallo and his son in-law Delancy L. Thayer began publication of The Columbus Journal, the first number of which, a seven column folio appearing on the above date.

Mr. Mallo a man an of long experience in newspaper work and was well along in years. In Dec. 1856 Mr. Thayer retired from the Journal to accept appointment as door keeper in the state legislature.

On March 10 Mr. Mallo's younger son, an experienced practical printer and ready writer joined his father, but the arrangement did not work out as the son Marcus died on Feb. 4, 1860.

The elderly Daniel Mallo carried on the best he could and continued to publish the Journal until June 6th, 1861, when Mr. D. H. Pulcifer and Mr. J. F. Hazelton took charge under some arrangement with Mr. Mallo, the details of which are not known, Mr. Hazelton was the editor, while Mr. Pulcifer was the practical printer and manager. Mr. Hazelton was a merchant, and in less than a year was destined to enter the army.

In April, 1862 Mr. Pulcifer withdrew from the management and a few months later Mr. Hazelton did the same.

In the issue of the Journal of May 7, 1862 a notice of dissolution of the partnership was published and all accounts should be paid to Mr. Hazelton.

Upon Mr. Hazelton's retirement from the paper the old veteran, Mr. Mallo, again assumed charge, but he was infirm and feeble and gladly accepted the help of his friends.

Death put an end to his trials and tribulations on Oct. 30, 1864 which so far as we know was the wind up of the Columbus Journal. The latest copy we know of in the State Historical Society volume is late in 1863.

THE COLUMBUS TRANSCRIPT

Apparently Columbus must have looked like a good location for a paper, for Valentine Boltuff and his brother John who had been publishing the Lodi Weekly Herald suspended publication of the Herald on Nov. 9, 1864 came to Columbus with the "material" probably meaning type, composing stone, and probably a hand press, and such other necessary appurtenances including some news print, and established the Columbus Transcript, unfolding the Republican Banner, and pledging himself beneath its folds, to support the great new national party in all that was consistant with the wants of a large constituancy.

Mr. Boltuff was said to have possessed by little literary ability but wielded a composing stick with great fluency.

There was sufficient local genius abroad, however, to supply the Transcript with editorial pablum and the paper flourished. The above and what follows is largely from Columbia County History published in 1880.

In August, 1868, after nearly four years here, in the heat of the summer and a memorable political campaign a somewhat sudden, but not altogether unexpected change took place in the office of the Transcript.

Mr. Boltuff disposed of the business, and soon went to Floyd County Iowa, where he re-established himself in the same line of business.

Only one somewhat shop worn and tattered copy of the Transcript is known to exist, which the writer possesses. It is Vol. 4 No. 26, dated June 10, 1868, and is only a part of the paper.

THE COLUMBUS DEMOCRAT

Henry D. Bath, whose father Levi Bath was Cunty Superintendent of Schools, and Minister of the Baptist church in Columbus, was the purchaser of the "effects" of the Transcript, and, on the 10th of September, 1868 he ushered into the journalistic world, a seven column folio newspaper, the Columbus Democrat, with marked political inclinations, strongly the reverse of those of its predecessor, as was indicated in the names of the presidential preferences that floated from its mast head, aud their emphatic endorsement editorialy.

Mr. Bath, in his Vol. 1 No. 1 on the editorial page said "To the public." It is already known by many, that the Columbus Transcript, which was formerly issued from this office, has changed hands, and today for the first time, we believe, in ten years the colors of the Democratic party as hoisted by a newspaper in Columbia County.

Much could be written, but because of the necessity of brevity we will only mention a few facts. In 1872 the form of the Democrat was changed to a six column quarto.

Mr. Bath was, for two years, prior to 1868, City Editor of the Milwaukee News, resigning his position on account of chronic ill-health, sustained in the war. He had had considerable experience calculated to test one's journalistic qualifications. His views concerning the province of journals in the interior were carried out to the extent of making the Democrat a valuable narrator of local happenings.

HE PRESERVED EARLY HISTORY

Mr. Bath was especially industrious in the work of perpetuating the early history of Columbus.

It is a fact well known to the writer, if not to others that in the 1880 publication of Columbia County History by Mr. C. W. Butterfield, who was an extremely able and experienced historian, practically most if not all of the references to Columbus and this area, were almost identical with material that first appeared in print in the Columbus Democrat.

The Democrat changed hands frequently through the years up until comparatively recent years when it was purchased by the present owners of the Columbus Journal Republican, and consolidated with the latter.

THE COLUMBUS REPUBLICAN

In the Presidential campaign of 1868, by an adriot manuever of the Democratic party, the Transcript was purchased, as described above, changing hands and political party. This was less than eight weeks before the Presidential elections, and the political pot had been boiling fiercely.

To say that the citizens of Columbus and the area, were put out and felt they had been sold down the river, is putting it mildly. There was a strong Republican majority in Columbus and in Columbia County and the fact that the Republican Transcript's rug had been rudely jerked out from under them did not set well on Republican stomachs. and something had to be done about it and quickly.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

January 12, 1961 Installment No. 481

EARLY COLUMBUS NEWSPAPERS CONTINUED

JOHN R. DECKER

At that time Mr. J. R. Decker was publishing a small weekly paper, the Waupun Times, in the prison city.

Someone from Columbus knew him, and also knew that things were not going too smoothly for brother Decker. "Inducements were made to him" which must have pleased him, for he sold out the Times, came to Columbus, by way of Chicago, where he bought an entire new printing office including a job printing press, which was something new in Columbus.

On October 7, 1868 the first issue of the Columbus Republican came out. It was a seven column folio, ably edited and handsomely printed, with several local writers contributing and giving the newspaper plenty of ammunition.

We have carefully read several copies of both papers even though the sulphuric smoke could almost be sufficating after ninety odd years has passed.

SUBSCRIPTION SHEETS

The History from which we have culled these facts used the expression "Inducements were made" but no details were given; but we have in our possession one old legal cap sheet, undated, which reads as follows:

"We the undersigned agree to take the Republican paper about to be started in Columbus, for one year and to pay therefore five dollars." It may be interesting even at this time to know the names of those on this sheet, and there were probably other similar sheets circulated. Here are the names. Rogert Jones; W. D. Hoard; Peter Kimball; D. D. Kelsey; George Graham; N. A. Robinson; Peter McIntire; George Robinson; W. H. Butterfield; H. W. McCafferty; A. D. Bond; Daniel Hall; Dr. Norcrop; W. B. Halsey; O. R. Luey; Henry Waterhouse; G. S. Campbell; Collins Hidman; Thomas Smith; J. E. Churchill; F. G. Randall; Charles Anderson; A. O. Sexton; W. E. Butter; S. W. Chadbourn; A. J. Whitcomb; Hazelton and Johnson; Adam McConnell; Miles Burnham.

Mr. Decker was editor and publisher for many years in fact up until his death shortly after the turn of the century. Subsequent owners that we recall were R. C. Leitsch; John Roberts and the present owners, Waldo and Lowell Larson.

THE COLUMBUS UNION BANNER

Early in November, 1960 the writer received word from our fellow townsman Attorney Carroll B. Callahan, who is also currently the President of the Wisconsin Bar Association, to the effect that Attorney Rolland A. Kuckuk of Shawano, Wisconsin in a recent communication said "In going over some of my mothers papers, I came upon the enclosed which you or someone interested in the history of Columbus might find of interest.

The D. C. Pulfcifer mentioned in this document was my grandfather"

The document referred to is a single page, printed and headed COLUMBUS UNION BANNER, below which was printed a picture of the 32 star flag of the United States floating above a wing spread flying American Eagle.

Beneath the heading are two lines of printing as follows: "Whosoever is not prepared to Sacrifice Party Organizations and Platforms on the altar of his country, does not deserve the countenance and support of honest people.

"The subscriber will issue about the first of June a weekly newspaper, to be known as the Columbus Union Banner to be published and printed in the village of Columbus, Columbia County, Wisconsin."

Then follows four paragraphs of what might be a platform, a most excellent one, and concluding with a request of support of the people of the state.

It was dated May 24, 1862; and there was left blank space headed "NAMES" with room enough for a dozen signatures.

In the rear of bound copies of Columbus Journal Republican, from January 3, 1861 to December 30, 1863, on loan to us by the Wisconsin State Historical Society, there are six copies of the Columbus Union Banner Vol. 1 — No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 dated June 26, 1862 to August 7, 1862. They are 6 columns folio, or four pages, and all were sent, separately to the society as indicated by societies name on the upper margin of page one.

There are no more copies of Columbus papers in existence so far as known until Vol. 1 No. 1 Columbus Democrat, of Sept. 10, 1869. Therefore we cannot state or even guess how long the Columbus Union Banner may have been published.

RESEARCH NEEDED

Being desirous of filling in whatever data could be found, about Mr. Pulcifer, we wrote his grandson requesting any data the family might have, even if no more than an obituary.

We received, promptly, a letter, and three clippings from Shawano County Journal, and other papers, from which we have compiled the following with more continuity than quoting the clippings ver batim and correcting a few obvious errors.

In his letter, Mr. Kuckuk, said, in closing "Columbus should consider itself fortunate to have someone like yourself who not only has the ability, but the desire to assemble this type of historical material. Various attempts have been made along this line in Shawano, but have not been highly successful."

DANIEL H. PULCIFER

Daniel Haight Pulcifer, was born in Vergennes, Vermont Nov. 16, 1834, the eldest in a family of thirteen children. He early found himself called upon to assist

in the support of this large family, but accepted the responsibility cheerfully, and was for some years its entire support though at the sacrifice of his educational prospects.

Hence it was that at the age of twenty, his education was so limited that he could read with great difficulty and write not at all, much of what he did know having been gained by practical experience in a country printing office, which he entered as an apprentice at the age of 14, at White Hall, N.Y.

CAME TO WISCONSIN

In 1855; at the age of 21, he migrated to Wisconsin, and located at Oasis, Waushara County, where in the spring of 1858 he established the Pine River Argus, which was soon afterward merged into the Waushara County Argus, the plant being moved to Wautoma.

Later Mr. Pulcifer sold out the Argus and became editor of the Plover Times at Plover, in Portage County.

HE CAME TO COLUMBUS

Still later (it was in June, 1861) he became editor and partner of the Columbus Journal, at Columbus, Wisconsin so continuing until May 7, 1862. (The obituary says "until 1863," so it is entirely possible and highly probable that he may have kept the Union Banner flying until sometime in 1863).

Leaving Columbus, whatever the date, he became connected with Fond du Lac Commonwealth, in the capacity of local editor.

Severing his connection with that Journal in Feb. 1865 Mr. Pulcifer moved to Shawano with his family and took charge of the Shawano Journal, which he edited with ability for several years.

HIS MARRIAGE

Mr. Pulcifer had married at Oasis, Wisconsin July 6, 1856 ot Miss Anna E. Wright, a native of New York state, or about a year after he came to Wisconsin. The couple became parents of two sons and one daughter. Their first son, Orvie W. died in Dakota at the age of twenty seven; another; son, John H. was married in 1885 to Miss Mary Kuckuk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Kuckuk of Shawano and the Pulcifer's daughter, Mary was married to Mr. Anton Kuckuk.

Attorney Rolland A. Kuckuk of Shawano is a son of this union, and therefore a grandson of Mr. Daniel H. Pulcifer, the former editor of Columbus Journal and later the Columbus Union Banner.

After several years with the Shawano Journal, date not known, Mr. Pulcifer engaged in the hotel business, operating the old Wescott House in Shawano.

HE ENTERS POLITICS

The records indicate that he became interested in politics; among various positions he filled, from the local head up to Federal appointments, are Clerk of the Court, Deputy Sheriff, Deputy U.S. Marshall and three terms as Mayor of Shawano.

In 1866 he was elected to represent the Shawano district in the Wisconsin Assembly; and was again chosen to the same post in 1878. He was Sergeant at Arms in 1880.

Among his accomplishments was the compilation of the Wisconsin Blue Book in 1879 for which he won acclaim.

In 1882 he was appointed by Postmaster General Howe as a post office inspector. He rendered such outstanding services that he was retained continuously through the administrations of Postmaster General Howe, Gresham, Hatton, Vilas, Dickinson, Wanamaker and Bissell.

In politics Mr. Pulcifer had always been a staunch Republican ever since the organization of that party. During the Harrison convention held in Minneapolis in 1892, he was appointed messenger, with duties of importance and secrecy connected with the convention being entrusted to him.

Socially Mr. Pulcifer was a Freemason, and was instrumental in establishing a lodge of that fraternity in Shawano. He was always a total abstainer, and had taken a more or less active part in the temperance cause for several years prior to his death he had been a prominent member of the Temple of Honor in Wisconsin, in which order, he in 1883 was Grand Chief Templor of the State.



He took an especially big interest in temperance work among the young and near the close of his life he spent much time in organization of a Junior section of the Temple of Honor and Temperance in Shawano which was successfully instituted with a membership of 54 on the Saturday before his sudden death from a heart attack.

Mr. Pulcifer's death came without warning. He had attended divine worship at the M. E. church Sunday morning, ate a hearty dinner and spent the atfernoon and early evening with his family and a close friend, A. J. Smith of Anherst who was his guest for the day.

Death was due to heart failure, and came so quickly that the distracted family was unable to realize that the kind husband and father was no more.

Picture which is a reproduction of a wood cut of Mr. Pulcifer published Jan. 19, 1896.

END OF STORY OF
EARLY COLUMBUS NEWSPAPERS

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

January 19, 1961 Installment No. 482

LODGES — SOCIETIES — ALLIANCES
LOCAL — STATE — NATIONAL

Columbus, from its very early days, seems to have been well organized: On page 690 Columbia County History (1880) we find "The common tendency of civilized people to form themselves into societies for mutual advancement, developed itself at a very early day in Columbus."

ODD FELLOWS

We find that a lodge of Odd Fellows, I.O.O.F. was founded here in 1849. It was called No. 40 and was organized September 12, 1849, with the following Charter members; D. F. Newcomb, Andrew Higley, Benj. F. Hart, F. A. Fowler, J. J. Guppey, H. S. Haskill, and Jerome B. Fargo. It prospered and grew in numbers until 1872, when it surrendered its charter and suspended operations.

In 1869 another lodge of the same order, I.O.O.F. came into being, on May 8, charter being applied for by Benjamin Kelsey, J. R. Jones, A. H. Vanvoorhes, C. H. Townley, T. C. Charles, E. Richards and A. Miller. As of 1880 this lodge had sixty-one members. No doubt part of them were former members of No. 40.

Connected with the Odd Fellows was Miz pah Encampment organized May 6, 1875, and Irene Rebecca Lodge No. 59, a woman's auxiliary.

MASONIC

Columbus Lodge No. 75 Free and Accepted Masons, was organized June 12, 1856, and is still an active organization, the only one of the several other early secret societies still active. (The Lodge has been written and published at length, see installment 278, November 8, 1956.)

As early as 1850, an organization known as the Sons of Temperance was organized and chartered. Among the organizers were Chester W. Deau, merchant, W. W. Drake farmer, John H. Valentine, William McCracken, R. W. Chadbourn, land agent, insurance, J. P. private money loaner, etc. Samuel McLarty, tailor, Harvey Loomis, merchant, A. D. Williams. Milford Loomis, builder. D. F. Newcomb and others.

Independent Order Good Templars, was organized February 6, 1874, Columbus Lodge No. 46. I.O.G.T. which permitted women members. The following were Charter members: Dr. E. D. Kanouse, E. G. Stitt, Rev. W. A. Cain, Lansing Williams and wife, H. Griffiths and wife, Walter Stitt, T. H. McConnell, Mrs. A. McConnell, Annie M. McConnell and twenty-five others, which lodge was active for many years.

TEMPLE OF HONOR

Columbus Temple of Honor, Temple No. 19 was instituted April 23, 1875. Charter members: Rev H. Sewell, Dr. E. D. Kanouse, B. F. Hart, M. G. St. John, Dr. Jay Jennings, E. E. Jones, J. R. Jones, William Cole, R. T. Williams, J. W. Quain, F. W. Hart, J. Jackson, M. W. Sawyer, E. Federly and Samuel Hutchinson.

TURNVERIN GERMANIA

The Columbus Turnverin Society was the title of a society which existed from 1865 to 1869, when through lack of sufficient interest and support, disbanded.

However in 1874 a more energetic group with the same laudable objects effected a new Society October 14 with the following charter members: J. Engle, O. Vogl, M. Alft, F. Wirth, H. F. Vogl, G. Morrisse. Autone Winter, J. G. Stahl J. Seipp, C. Mohring, J. Kurth, J. Altschwager, G. Knaack, C. Roth, and G. Sproesser. For some time they met and practiced physical fitness at Henderson's Opera House, but later built a "Turner" Hall or Gymnasium on West James Street at Main Street, As of 1880 there were 45 members.

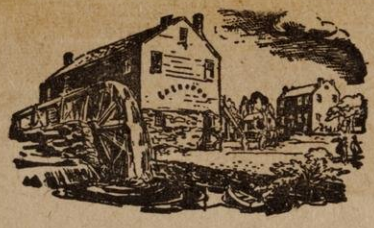
St. Jerome's Temperance Society. Organized January, 1876, by election of the following officers. President, Terrence Flannagan; Vice President, M. V. Cunningham; Secretary, Bernard Conlin; Treasurer, John Crook; Spiritual Director, Rev. H. J. Roche.

In May 1880, the same group formed a Library Association with 100 volumes of choice books.

Rev. Roche was a strong advocate of Temperance principles, and met with considerable success in his work.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

January 26, 1961 Installment No. 483

OTHER SOCIETIES

In addition to those societies and lodges mentioned we have noted in our intensive reading of the local newspapers from 1855 on, that there were many smaller local organizations, some built around and part of the several churches.

Cultural groups such as Debating Societies, Musical Societies, Agricultural Societies, and almost with out end.

Butterfields Columbia County History published in 1880, leaves quite a gap to fill. In the interval, other lodges were organized. Some that we know of, but without dates or particulars were, Knights of Phythias; Knights of Columbus; Modern Woodman; and various Men's Church Societies, the first perhaps, being Olivet Mens Club to which any man regardless of church affilation, could belong. It was organized by Rev. Robert Hopkins and called "Olivet" because it met in the church parlors of Olivet church.

As time went on almost every church in town organized a men's club, but with the coming of radio, television, automobiles, good roads, etc. most of these clubs ceased for lack of interest and non attendance.

We have written up Agricultural Fairs at considerable length, so will not repeat these, but will tell what we have found about some organized efforts of rural groups.

FARMERS INSTITUTES

Farmers Institutes are not new; they began in various countries in Europe for the purpose of disensinating information on improved methods of farming

In 1842 the New York State Agricultural Society held meetings for forward looking farmers to listen and participate in discussions about the latest discoveries of farming methods, or the newer inventions in agricultural machinery, or the addition of improved breeds or livestock or seeds etc.

The farmer, or at least some of them, became impressed with the value of a liberal education, and soon realizes that he can obtain substantial aid from the College of Agriculture.

In 1859 the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture endeavered, with only moderate success, to establish systemic courses.

In Michigan in 1861 the state College was authorized to institute winter courses of lectures for others, besides students of the Agricultural Colleges, but it was about ten years later before the system was really successful.

The effort to interest the farmer in improving his lot slowly moved westward and no where was it more successful than in Wisconsin.

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

The earliest of the great National organizations was the Patrons of Husbandry, a secret order, with ritual, "degrees of work" suggested by or similar to those of the Masonic and the Odd Fellows fraternities. The scheme was devised and formulated and publicly announced August 5, 1867, by William Saunders, then Superintendent of the United States government gardens and conservatories in Washington D. C.

Mr. Saunders had occasion to visit western New York, Ohio and several other (Mid) Western States, took with him the ritual and plan of work under the first degree, which had been formulated in Washington, and succeeded in interesting five other men in the proposed "order."

Later that same year the "work" of the second, third, and fourth degrees was formulated and the name "Patrons of Husbandry" was given to the order.

NATIONAL GRANGE

At Washington, in December, 1867 nine persons, who had taken the work in the four degrees, met and organized the National Grange. The constitution provided for the admission of women to membership, and also for the election of four ladies as officers (of each Grange) to be designated Ceres, Pomona, Flora, and Lady Assistant Steward.

The chief objects of the organization were stated to be "the promotion of unity and co-operation among the tillers of the soil, and the defusion of a higher measure of intelligence and culture."

Seven years later there were reported to be about 22,000 granges, with a membership reaching into the hundreds of thousands. During the year 1888 over two hundred more granges were added, and one year later, the total membership of men and women was reported at over half a million; and in 1890 the subordinate granges numbered about 26,000.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

February 2, 1961 Installment No. 484

STORY OF LODGE, SOCIETIES (Continued)

FARMERS ALLIANCE

The first Farmers Alliance was organized in Texas in 1873 for the purpose of cooperation against cattle thieves, but as it increased in numbers its scope was extended, and by 1887 it had reached a membership of over 100,000, and then united with the Farmers Union of Louisiana. The two bodies, thus consolidated, were incorporated as the National Farmers Alliance and Co-operative Union.

ANOTHER FARMERS ALLIANCE

Another Farmers Alliance was organized in New York State in 1873, and spread westward as a non-secret order, and became a strong body north of the Ohio River and west of Pennsylvania.

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL WHEEL

The National Agriculture Wheel, a league or guild similar in scope and aims to those of the Grange was founded in Arkansas in 1880 and soon reported numerous branches and a large membership in the southwestern states.

The National Farmers Alliance and Industrial Union, was the out-come of a union consumated in St. Louis, Mo. October 1, 1889, between the last two groups mentioned above. The new society thus created was then credited with a total membership estimated from 1,600,00 to 2 500.000.

THE OCALA PLATFORM

At a meeting at Ocala, Florida in December 1890, a series of resolutions was adopted,which became known as the "Ocala Platform." It called for the abolition of National Banks; the establishment of sub-treasurers, from which the Federal Government should loan money to farmers at a low rate of interest; the increase of the circulating medium to not less than fifty dollars per capata; the prevention of dealing in futures on agricultural and mechanical productions; the free and unlimited coinage of silver; the prohibition of the alien ownership of land, and the restoration to the government of all such lands as well as those owned by corporations in excess of their reasonable needs; the extension of free trade with other nations, the establishment of a graduated income tax; the limitation of national and state taxes to the absolute needs of an economically administered government and the government ownership of all means of communication and transportation.

One of the outstanding features of the Ocala meeting was the development of a feeling in favor of an independent political party movement — a movement which would be likely to engage the attention and sympathy of all the various farmers organizations, and at the same time he sufficiently unrestricted in its membership to open its doors to such "honest persons" as are shut out from membership in most, if not all, of the other farmers societies (many of which were so-called secret societies.)

CITIZENS ALLIANCE

There was already at hand an organization which seemed adapted to meet the wants indicated. Nearly a year before, the Citizens Alliance was started in Kansas and had already a large membership in that state, and in Nebraska and Iowa. Its platform or declaration of principles stated that "The organization is formed for the purpose of co-operating with the Farmers Alliance, the Knights of Labor, and other orders in support of the St. Louis platform, which embraced largely the same items adopted at Ocala, and to this end the organization is political in its nature."

NATIONAL FARMERS POLITICAL LEAGUE

The National Farmers Political League, is another non-secret, independent political, non-partisan, organization. Its work was directed toward securing a just representation and treatment of the Agricultural interests in Congress, and in the various state legislatures, and due recognition of farmers in all public affairs, without conflicting with the best interests of the entire people.

This organization consisted of a National League and of state leagues, and of county and town leagues.

It was the most far flung lobbying group ever devised up to that time, excepting the G.A.R. itself.

OTHERS

Among the many other Farmer organizations were Farmers Mutual Benefit Association which claimed half a million members, mostly in Mid-Western States. The National Farmers League, mostly in Eastern States. The National Colored Farmers Alliance and co-operative Union. Composed of Negroes, only, and naturally covered only Southern States. The National Farmers Alliance, which was organized in Chicago in 1880, which had State Alliances in 15 states, and scattered societies in other un-organized states. This latter one was more interested in such issues as "The preservation of the pooling clause in the Inter-State Commerce Law; to the extension of the in the Inter-State Commerce Law; to the extension of franchise (votes) to women, and also equal pay for equal work, and for the enactment by Congress, of laws forbidding the sale of options on produce in exchange of the country.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY

In 1891 the chairman of several of the so-called Farmers Organizations, called for a meeting of "delegates from all organizations of producers." This confederation of many groups, including, "The People's Party, The Independent Party, the Knights of Labor," and on July 2, 1892, the first National Convention of the Peoples Party was held in Omaha, Neb.

Their platform called for a Union of Labor forces, free coinage of silver, increase of the circulating medium, a graduated income tax, government ownership of telegraph and telephone systems, re-clamation of lands from aliens, the eight hour law, limitation of the office of President to one term, and opposition to all subsidies to private corporations.

Its candidate for President was General James B. Weaver of Iowa, and for Vice President General James Field of Virginia. The People's Party received 1, 055,424 popular votes with 22 electorial votes for president.

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN

This winter can be remembered as a youth, in 1896, hearing the "Peerless Orator," William Jennings Bryan deliver a sturing address in which he used the phrase "the free and unlimited coinage of silver, on a ratio of sixteen to one," which became the battle cry of the Democratic party campaign after Bryan was nominated for the presidency at the convention in Chicago that summer.

However in that period of his life the writer was not of voting age, and was more interested in earning a living, at whatever work could be found. Incidentally teaching country school for twenty1five dollars a month, for three terms, paying ten dollars a month for room and board, after having had one year in a high school in 1904-05, and ten days at a teachers institution. Finally going East in October, 1896, to take a job on a railroad, for a dollar a day and board, in the State of Maine.

Every thing was new and different and very interesting. One thing noticed was that almost every village had a Grange Hall, and larger villages had a Grange General Store where members of the Grange could buy almost any article at a reduced price, but non members paid the full price.

The Grange Hall was the center of social activities of the community where members of all or any church, or of no church, met and enjoyed the society of each other.

He even participated on two occasions when concerts were being given, and found these gatherings very enjoyable.

In research for this article about early social activities in Columbus, he ran across an article of some length, in the Columbus Democrat of February 12, 1876 partaining to a lecture on the subject of the Grange, what it is, what it has done.

This brought back pleasant memories of more than sixty years ago. The speaker was the Hon, F. A. Thompson, Lecturer for the National Grange, and was given in Henderson's Opera House, the building being the former wooden church of the Methodists, originally built on Mill Street at Corner of Birdsey, sold to Mr. Henderson when the big brick M. E. church was built on what is now Dickason Blvd. in 1872 the old church was moved to where the Frigid Locker Plant now is.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

February 9, 1961 Installment No. 485

The Columbus Democrat of February 12, 1876, said: The Opera House on Broadway was well filled on Wednesday afternoon to listen to Hon. F. A. Thompson, lecturer of the National Grange. Quite a number of ladies were present, and although most of the audience were farmers, there was considerable sprinking of other occupations.

Mr. Eli Sherman of York, was made chairman, and Mr. Mic Adams of this City, secretary.

HE SPOKE TWO HOURS

The lecturer spoke for nearly two hours, retaining the attention of his hearers to the close. The manner, for the most part, being rather conversational and his matter practical. We subjoin an outline of his address.

To own and cultivate land is now regarded as the stepping stone to respectability, and from various causes the tendency of the population of cities towards the country more than formerly.

When you and I were boys, said the speaker, there were scarcely half a dozen millionaires in the country. He then alluded to the present aggregation of capital under individual control, and its results.

PURPOSE OF THE GRANGE

The purpose of the Grange, he declared, to be to bring the producer and the consumer into closer relation. Its attitude is not inimical to other classes; it has no disposition to make war even upon the middle man, and it is content to let him make the most of his opportunity in business, while it does what it can for its own interest.

Every class is essential to the prosperity of the country. The middle man as well as the lawyer, the doctor or the manufacturers. You might as well dispense with the church or the school as the middleman. Neither has the Order a disposition to lay a straw in the way of the railroad companies. But while it means no antagonism between agricultural and other interests, it claims the right to correct the wrong and injustice done to other classes.

It claims the right of co-operative association. That principle is the genius of the present age, and the vast progress of the century is due to it.

CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

Co-operative assocoation has built the 75,000 miles of railroad, and the 70,000 miles of telegraph which transverse the United States and has made the trackless deep the highway of commerce.

Association characterizes every interest and no class expects success without it. Even engineers, sportsmen, paper makers, and many others have their National Conventions. It should characterize agriculture.

All great achievements of the day result from associated effort. Farmers might as well dispense with the plow and the harrow as to neglect the duty of combining the intelligence of his class.

The power of the Grange is the power of organization. Are farmers today (1876) the only human beings who cannot act together? Many of the brightest minds and much of the capacity of the country, including such names as Washington, Webster, etc, have sprung from agriculture.

AGRICULTURE MOST IMPORTANT

It is the most important of interests. By the census of 1870, over half the population of the United States and two thirds of its wealth are engaged in it. Of the 40 million of our people, twenty million are males, thirteen million are voters, and six million are agriculturalists.

Four fifths of the voters of the great north west are farmers. Even in a state so largely commercial and manufacturing as New York, four hundred thousand of its 1,760,000 voters are employed in husbandry. Greater capital and more numbers are employed in agriculture than in any other three occupations of the country.

Until recently, the farmer has acted individually, but he is learning the force and superiority of harmonious action; although he is really the only independent class.

It has been said by the middle-men on the one hand, we will have nothing to do with the farmers for one year; and by the farmers on the other hand, we will have nothing to do with the middle-men for a year. The result of the experiment would have been that the middlemen would long since have passed away, while the farmers would have been measurably prosperous.

SOME OPPOSITION

Some have opposed the organization of farmers because they felt they had a right to certain profits. But the speaker felt grateful for opposition. It is necessary. It stimulates efforts and makes the Grange more circumspect in its action.

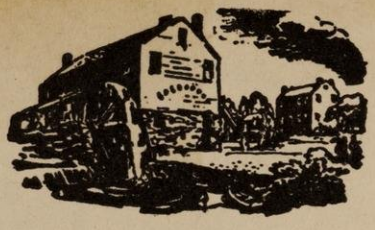
The union of farmers has already corrected some great abuses relating to stocks and the management of railways whose companies have learned that farmers produce the bulk of their freight. Now men of that class can get transportation as cheap as anybody else; and moreover the antagonism manifested by other classes, some years ago, has been allayed, and there is more harmony.

Agriculture is the only interest that has had no voice in fixing the price of its own products. Other occupations have established the valuation of their own services and products, and of those of the farmer also.

When he wanted to sell he asked, what will you give?

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

February 16, 1961 Installment No. 486

GRANGE IS BIG BUSINESS

The principle which underlies the Grange Organization is the aggregation of sales and purchases. During 1874 it saved to the membership of the order $12,000,000; during 1875 — $20,000,000; and altogether it has saved them $35,000,000. The agents of the Grange now have in their hands for the benefit of the members, $17,500,000.

Six years ago not one manufacturer would deal directly with the Grange; now they are all glad too.

The speaker then showed how the Grange by the community of its members, and by its relations in all parts of the country got more for its grain, pork, butter, and other products, and bought its machinery, salt, seeds, plaster, fertilizers, etc, at less cost than could otherwise be done, mentioning many instance where large margins had been made in both directions.

From his remarks it appeared that the agencies of the Grange, in the North, South, East, and West are buying and selling in all these quarters for the benefit of members of the order in each locality; and that the planters of the south in many instances now ship their cotton to Liverpool, England, through the Grange.

MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

In regard to machinery and implements, it was asserted that the Grange could now buy direct of manufacturers and at better figures even than the agents themselves received. The reason being that the agents getting large commissions are over anxious to make sales, and that as a rule one machine out of every four was never realized on by the manufacturer.

Other sources of loss is neglect, exposure to weather, re-shipment, long delay in payment, expensive commissions, etc. The short and safe rule is through the Grange, and the manufacturers are satisfied to take it.

The first "Marsh" harvester, the speaker thought, cost him $217 and he can now buy it for $110. He understood the regular price this year was $190 on time or $175 for cash, and $150 through the Grange.

And in general, he stated, they could buy agricultural implements for half former prices. Not only this, but by organization they were masters of the situation regarding the sale of their own products, and buyers of wool, pork, butter, etc., now looked up to farmers and asked them what they would take.

Every general credit merchant looses bad debts, and must charge accordingly those who do pay. Hence the undeviating principle of the Grange is the ready cash and pay system.

The lecturer replied to the objection that Grangerism would ruin the business of towns and villages, depopulate them and drive their inhabitants into the country as producers — by saying that the villages of the northwest are now as flourishing as ever before, and that when agriculture prospers, the whole community prospers.

If the savings of the farmers were locked up, the result to the villagers might be disasterous, but not where their surplus was spent in building improvements, painting, carriages, etc.

When they get better prices they can pay everybody, and business generally is lively. It is when their prices are low and their affairs depressed that general curtailment ensue.

WHEN THE GRANGE BEGAN

On the first of September, 1868, there was not a Grange in the United States, and very few had ever heard of the Patrons of Husbandry, Number one of the order of Granges, was organized at St. Paul, Minnesota, September 2, 1868, and the speaker (Mr. Thompson) was its master.

During the next year only ten were organized. During the second year, 39 and during the third, 38.

But in 1873 there were several thousand Granges and in 1874 there were ten thousand more, and now there are about 25,000, and only 600 have died out, and more have consolidated.

There are now 40 different states having Granges, including every state except Rhode Island, and the Order is now on a firmer basis, more permanent and satisfactory than ever before.

WOMEN IN THE GRANGE

The speaker believed, too, that the order had taken such root in the agricultural mind that it would flourish in perpetuity with the two other great agricultural orders. Women's presence in the order led him to believe this: Women have learned to love the Grange. It is her social opportunity and she urges her husband and brothers to attend.

There she is better appreciated because better understood, and 400,000 ladies of the Grange of the country, add greatly to its influence.

If the Grange was not a secret society, it could not exist at all. The world is full of secrets. Every family has them, and this is no objection to the order. Its political influence is greater than that of any other society except the church. Yet it is in no sense a party organization, and religion and politics are excluded from its discussions.

It is the most powerful educator on the continent and is lifting farmers to a higher plan of thought. It is the great minister to intelligence, and its motto is "justice to all and injury to none." This is the age of brain, not muscle.

It was the school-master, not the needle gun, that gave victory to Germany (Franco-American War), and it is by the school-master that the Grange seeks to do its work.



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

by E. A. STARE

February 23, 1961 Installment No 487

ANTI-POTTER LAW OPPOSED

The following preamble and resolution were introduced and unaminously adopted. Whereas a bill is now pending before the legislature of this state for the substantial modification of Chapter 273 of the laws of 1874, known as the "Potter Law," and Chapter 334 of the laws of 1875, ammending the same therefor. Resolved that the passage of said bill, or any attempt to repeal or modify said law, so as to advance the present rates on railroad freights or passenger traffic, will meet with our unqualified disapproval and severe censure. (End of Mr. Thompson's speech)

From the above, one would gain an impression that Grangerism had not gotten a good foothold in the town of Columbus.

DANVILLE HAD A GRANGE

A little research in the Columbus Democrat, forward to July, 1876, does not turn up any real information, except a couple of items, one in the issue of March 4, 1876, pertaining to a social evening at the Grange Hall in Danville, at which Mr. J. C. Brainard delivered a lecture of his own composition, Mr. J. S. Bean and Miss August Steward each read selections," the latter one being a humorous number entitled, "Women in the Grange." A discussion ensued in which Mr. James Webster, Mr. Brainard and Mr. Felix Lynch took part.

It was announced that similar meetings would take place on every third Saturday night.

Our elderly friend Brad Richmond says he can remember going with his father to a Grange meeting in the neighborhood school house.

COUNCIL HELD AT DOYLESTOWN

And in the issue of March 25, 1876, a report is given of an all day meeting of the "Patrons of Husandry" at Doylestown. (The Patrons of Husbandry was an earlier agricultural society which gradually changed into the Grange.) The program indicates that it was something like a council or convention, with representatives from at least six Granges meeting jointly. Several well known names, locally, are mentioned .and are given as an item of news. The item follows:

"PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY"

Doylestown, March 21, 1876

Morning Session. Council called to order at 10:00 a.m. by L. H. Doyle, secretary. Brother E. A. Dean elected Presidents pro tem. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Eight orders of business, remarks, were made by Brothers Morse, Lee, Bennett, and Dean. On motion, Council adjourned until 1:30 p.m.

Afternoon session. Council called to order by acting Brother Dean. Brother Morse was appointed to act as steward and gate-keeper.

Fourth order of business. Secretary read his annual report which was adopted. Sixth order of business. The amendment to articles III, section 1, of the constitution was adopted. Eighth order of business. Remarks by Brothers Tubbs, Seward, Doyle, Robinson, and Youngs.

Purchasing Agent Dean made a verbal report. On motion it was voted unanimously to continue the council and to proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following results:

Hon. J. R. Rowlands president. No. 377. Springvale

H. Tubbs, vice president, No. 50, Hampden

L. H. Doyle, Secretary and purchasing agent, No. 430, Doylestown.

H. C. Field, treasurer, No. 128, Fountain Prairie.

P. Morse, gatekeeper, No. 430, Doylestown.

Trustees — E. A. Dean, and John Foster, Fountain Prairie and Thomas Waterworth, No. 325, Fall River.

On motion, all newspapers in the county were requested to publish the proceedings of the meeting.

The attendance at this session was very large, the M. E. Church being well filled, and a greater interest in the order being manifested than at any previous meeting of the council.

From the above, it is evident that no lodge of either the "Patrons of Husbandry" or the Grange existed in Town of Columbus at that time.

THE POTTER LAW

We have mentioned the Potter Law is other articles of this series, and are here reprinting a bit of information pertaining to early days transportation that will make more clear the need for said law.

Our early railroads grew up from the needs of many different localities, each trying to find transportation relief from the ox drawn wagons, and the horses that followed the oxen, and with no regard whatsoever for any general system, but which followed as a matter of course, resulting in two major and a couple of minor systems.

Frequently the work of grading, and bridging of small streams began before sufficient money was in sight and bankrupcty overtook the roads sometimes before the iron rails had been bought or laid, thus wiping out many of the pioneers who had mortgaged their farms, property and future to help bring a railroad to their community.

HOW R. R.s WERE FINANCED

The usual and perhaps only possible plan of financing was to obtain stock subscriptions, evidenced by an interest bearing note from those people in the area through which the line would be built; then procure the aid of townships, counties and municipalities.

Then after the line was built and in operation the property would be mortgaged to cover a bond issue.

The bonds and mortgages would then be offered for sale, or delivered if a sale had been previously negotiated in such money centers as New York City, London or Amsterdam.

In order to make the bonds attractive they had to carry a high rate of interest to tempt those with ready money to invest and the earnings of new roads through sparsely settled areas was unsufficient to any more than pay running expenses and frequently not enough for that.

When the interest due on bonds could not be met, default occured and foreclosure of the property naturally followed to protect the bond holders.

RAILROAD COMMISSION REPORT

In the 1876 report of the Railroad Commissioner of Wisconsin it is stated that 3,785 farms had been mortgaged, amounting to $4,079,433; and that town, county and city bonds, totaled $6,910,652, and that the cost of building Wisconsin's Railroads had been $98,343,453.67.

But, in spite of heavy personal losses to those who had done their best to help improve their immediate areas, the various roads proved of incalculable benefit to the areas and the state as a whole.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By E. A. STARE

March 2, 1961 Installment No. 488

From Mr. Wright Austin, 632 Seldon street, Columbus, we learn that Mr. Ralph Seward, Lake Mills, whose wife is the former Lorena Conklin, was at one time engaged in organizing Grange Societies in the upper peninsula of Michigan. in the area around Stephenson. He thought it might have been somewhere around 1915.

Wright also recalls that a Grange Store operated in Danville, in a building that no longer exits.

Do any more of our readers have any recollections as to whether a Grange Society existed in Columbus? If so your friends will be glad to hear about it.

ANGRY STOCKHOLDERS

The anger of many farmers and businessmen was especially directed toward "the Railroads" because, on top of loosing their money in the form of railroad stock, they believed the railroads, which at that time were not under any form of government regulation, were alleged to be charging exhorbitant rates of freight. To illustrate in 1860 the charge for hauling grain from a Mississippi River port to Milwaukee by rail was 10c per bushel but by 1865 this charge was doubled, and from up river points Prescott or Hudson the jump was from 10c to 35c per bushel.

THE GRANGE

In 1867 there was organized "The Patrons of Husbandry, which soon became known as the Grange. The movement starting in Minnesota spread to Wisconsin and by 1872 there were 28 local Granges in Wisconsin, and by 1874 there were in Wisconsin 500 Grange Societies with 20,000 members.

Their first objective, once they had gained members enough to create a pressure group, was to secure lower rates and regulation of Railroad activities.

THE POTTER LAW

The result was the introduction of the Potter Act, named for the Senator who introduced it which fixed passenger and freight rates at about three fourths what they had gotten to be.

The Railroads, jointly, carried a test case to the State Supreme Court, which sustained the injunction and confirmed the right of the state to regulate said railroads.

There seemed to be little doubt that there had been collusion and fraud at times, and the decision met with general approval at least in the rural areas of the state.

The decision was not reversed, and became the cause of and basis for Wisconsin's Railroad Commission established in 1905 under the administration of Gov. Robert M. LaFollette, and our present Public Service Commission.

In time an era of good feeling became general, increasing with each succeeding generation, replacing the antagonism and distrust that prevailed during the lifetime of the hardy pioneers who suffered the losses.

This is a very much condensed account what led up to the organization of the Grange, and its rapid spread in Wisconsin.

You who are frequent readers of this column, will recall that from the end of 1863 to the fall of 1868 there are no copies of Columbus Newspapers, probably for good reason, as it is presumed there were none published here during that period.

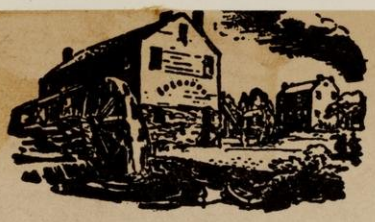
We are inclined to believe that as progressive a place as Columbus was, it probably had a Grange in the 1860's and may have been one of those that dropped out. It would be interesting to know the facts.

THE GRANGE AT EVANSVILLE

In 1929 the Columbus Canning Company, with which this writer became connected in 1902, acquired the plant and business of Garden Canning Co. at Evansville, Wisconsin, which put us in contact with the National Grange, which was, and still is well and firmly established, not only with lodges in different parts of the surrounding area, but with a large general store and lodge in Evansville.

The writer has not been in contact with Evansville for a dozen or more years. and therefor is without personal knowledge, but assumes from occasional references in the Milwaukee Journal and other papers that the Grange is still active in those parts.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

March 9, 1961 Installment No. 489

FROM MILWAUKEE JOURNAL

In the Milwaukee Journal of Sunday, November 9, 1958, the late Lewis C. French of the Journal Staff, had an article of some length entitled "Turtle Isn't So Slow in U.S. Grange Race." Group in Rock County may come in first because of project to Tame Stream.

We think it is worth repeating for its sets an example of what can and has been done when a segment of a community makes up its mind to accomplish something really worth while.

"Most people in Rock County, all those in Clinton and even the farm youngsters in the town of Turtle are holding their breath awaiting the answer to one question:

"Will the Turtle Grange (No. 655) win the top place national award and $10,000 for community service?"

The decision will come this week. The Grange, the old line combination fraternal and farm organization, is holding its national convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

An award committee has been around looking over the projects and work of the Turtle Grange, and has already awarded it a regional prize.

WATERSHED INVOLVED

If this Grange does win the national contest, it can well thank, among others, a college professor, a seed corn salesman and a rural school teacher for the spark that pushed the Spring Brook watershed project into national attention.

But first, to appreciate fully this national community service project contest, one should understand the background of the Grange.

Much more than just a farm organization, it is sort of a "community spirit." Even back in grandfather's day there was this spirit of being "neighborly" when you joined the Grange.

The farm family came to the Grange hall. There was one secret session for fraternal business. Then the women adjourned to the kitchen to spread out the feast, perhaps an oyster stew in winter or pancakes and sausage.

The men talked farm policies and the trends so they could advise their spokesman in Washington, D.C.

NEIGHBORS RALLY TO HELP

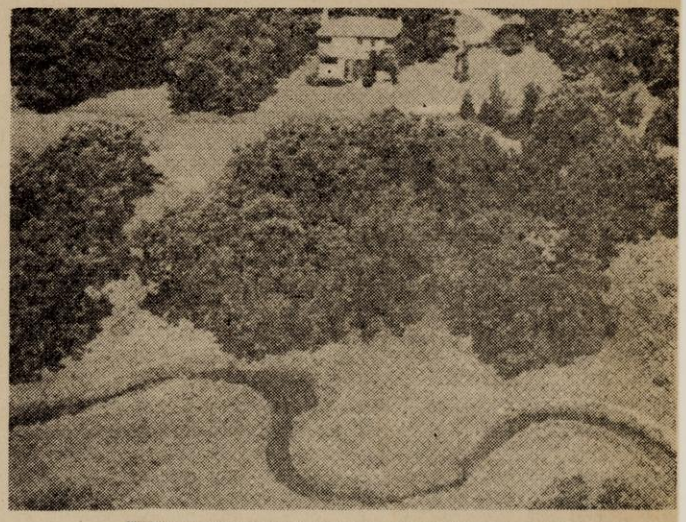
Through the mechanization and concentration of farming, the Grange kept alive this idea of neighbors rallying to help those in need. If a neighbor's barn burned down, neighbors helped to rebuild. If the father got hurt and was unable to harvest the crops, telephones rang and the next day his neighbors were over harvesting the hay or grain.

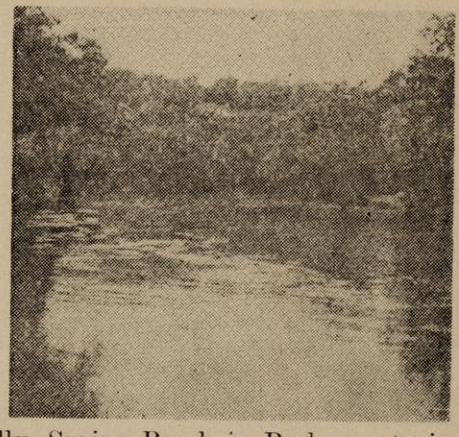
Let the church need help and the community acted.

It was this way with Spring Brook.

Spring Brook is just like thousands of other creeks in Wisconsin, especially in the slope land.

This brook starts from springs on the edge of Clinton and twists and turns through glaciated ridges and valleys for a few miles before flowing into Turtle creek, which joins the Rock river at Beloit.





Normally, Spring Brook in Rock county is a gentle stream that meanders past the residence of Dr. Carl Welty of Beloit college (upper). But heavy rainfall used to make it a raging river, 150 yards wide in places (lower) that carried away valuable soil. The town of Turtle Grange is in the running for a national award for its work in taming the stream. From Sunday, November 9, 1958 Milwaukee Journal.

THEN THERE WAS TROUBLE

Normally, Spring Brook was a harmless, meandering stream, twisting through the bottom land pastures, deep enough for a "swimmin' hole" on the Virgil Olsen farm. The farm youngsters loved the brook, using it for wading and catching chubs or pan fish. The older farm boys would catch a mink or two in traps.

The farmers kept grazing the slopes. They cut back the timber. They cleared off the bramble cover trying to stretch their crop and grass land.

And then there was trouble.

A torrent of rain, especially when floating ice choked up the underpass culverts, would create fury in that little creek. It would rear up in a few hours, spilling water eight feet deep across the bottom land. In an angry swirl of the flood, the murky silted waters could rip out fence posts and even telegraph lines, undermine roads and send crops and trees into Turtle creek.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

TOPSOIL WASHED AWAY

Landowners looked with dismay as floodwaters, often 100 to 150 yards wide, ripped through their lowland fields.

Tons of topsoil went into Rock river. Gullies were cut in exposed slopes.

Two days after the flood, Spring Brook would be back to normal within its meandering banks, a gentle flowing brook or creek.

But this year the farmers with land draining into the brook were startled — the stream was bone dry.

The only water in Spring Brook now is a trickle of the effluent from the Clinton treatment plant and a little spring water.

Curious, Dr. Carl Welty, a naturalist and conservationist at Beloit college, looked up the records and found that the last time this Spring Brook had dried up was back in the 1880's.

Drought and dropping water levels this year have dried up Spring Brook for the first time in almost 70 years.

This was a shock to farmers who use the stream to water grazing cattle.

"ALL NEW TO US"

Dr. Welty had built a tidy home on 12½ acres of land overlooking Spring Brook, putting in trees and making the land a bird sanctuary. Even a few deer come to feed along with the birds.

This professor attended the Turtle Grange meetings.

So did Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Veihman, the seed corn salesmen, who had homes within the watershed.

Elected chairman of the town of Turtle, Veihman became a member of the county board and, before he knew it, was a member of the county agricultural committee.

"It was all new to us." said Veihman.

He and his wife attended a national watershed conference. Coming home, they looked at Spring Brook and the growing erosion on this fertile land. Why not a Spring Brook watershed? they asked. First we have floods and then no water at all.

TEACHER WAS CONVINCED

Ellen Wildermuth, a rural teacher, was convinced of the need for soil conservation and allied benefits such as clean water, recreation and wildlife. So she incorporated the watershed idea into her classes. The rural youngsters learned that if they wanted to catch fish the water must be preserved and protected.

"We need watershed protection," said this teacher.

The school youths went home and talked conservation and watershed programs to parents.

Rock county, with its fertile prairie land east of Janesville, never got started on a watershed program. The farmers listened but took the attitude that their soil was so rich and so deep that a little erosion would not hurt them. So they grazed the slopes and cropped the problem land, and neglected the wood lots.

"SPARKS" MET AT GRANGE

All three of the "sparks" — the professor, seed corn salesmen and teacher — attended Grange meetings at the Turtle town hall.

When Spring Brook went dry the farmers were ripe for action.

Earl Ryan, a soil technician of the Janesville office of the agriculture stabilization and conservation committee, came to the Turtle meeting to help in the early planning.

Then Gerald W. Easton of Janesville, fieldman for the federal agriculture department, pitched in to fill up a gully on the Olsen farm and to make a quarry on the farm into the town of Turtle fun par complete with trees and picnic tables-an outdoor wil life reserve with bushes and trees.

Under leadership of Lester Wallace, master of t Turtle Grange, the Spring Brook watershed proje was accepted as the main community service progra of this Grange.

Paying no attention to Public Law 560, with federal grants and supervision, these farmers us their town and farm equipment. They did most the work themselves.

DAMS WERE BUILT

Retention dams were built on the E. H. Keitzma farm, and a larger pond on the Dougan farm wi conduit outlets and emergency spillways. Both ho back water that could roll down the slopes and car topsoil into Spring brook at flash flood stages.

Theodore Johnson, who has 137 acres, says he w finding it increasingly difficult to plow the hills. joined up in the watershed project to terrace his fiel to hold water, and to strip crop to bring "a mellown to the hillside land."

A three way agreement was reached betwe farmer Forest G. Knueppel, the town highway co mittee and Knueppel for sharing in the building of project to prevent run-off from slope land from floo ing highway 15 and often creating an ice haza

"FOR THE FIRST TIME . . ."

Through the Turtle Grange, most of the 137 far in the watershed are taking action to stop the floo and to restore a safe level of clean water.

More timber should go into the wood lots. In tim as the watershed takes hold and shows results, the e gineers will go to work planning a larger reservoir meter the flow into Turtle creek.

"For the first time Rock county is active on t watershed program," said Fieldman Easton. "T farmers and home owners north of Janesville on Ro river are in the 'let's do it' stage as well as those the western section of the county."

This watershed project isn't all the work that h been done by the Turtle Grange.

Walk into the Turtle hall and you at once the spirit of this Grange. The place smiles. There flowers in a rock terrace before the steps. There drapes on the windows. The lawn is clipped and cle Thrifty trees reach for the sky. Tables invite peo to stop and rest as the tense world goes whirling by that highway to Beloit and Clinton.

"DO GOOD" PROJECTS

Even the windows have been washed. There is paved parking lot. You see the watershed results fr the windows — fields in winding contours and str along the slopes.

There are a dozen of "do good" projects Grange has carried.

The town of Turtle has a well equipped volunt fire department and the Grange is mainly responsib Members bought the equipment with money earn from community projects.

Once a year the men gather to donate and bute six fat barrows and make a special sausage that i treat. The women prepare a pancake supp Every year some 1,500 people flock to Turtle town hall to feast, and the returns support fire department.

That's the way this Turtle Grange does thing

We might add that Mr. French's prediction ca true. for Turtle Grange No. 655 was awarded $10 000 prize, the top award in a National Contest outstanding community service.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By E. A. STARE

March 23, 1961 Installment No. 491

WE SKIP 50 YEARS OR MORE

For lack of time to trace the grange from 1876, our last local item mentioned, through the next fifty or sixty years, during which we are sure the Grange grew steadily for some years, and perhaps began to decline for obvious reasons, as did many other societies and lodges.

Turning to the 1949 printing of the Encylopedia Americana we find, "The Grange had become fairly well established by 1872, and when the panic of 1873 hit agriculture, the farm people turned to the new organization for help. The Grange movement swept over the nation during the years 1872 to 1876, which were the boom days of the organization.

The decade of the eighties, however, saw a decided decline in membership, but Grange efforts to secure legislation restraining combinations in restraint of trade and to have the secretary of agriculture raised to Cabinet rank attracted wide attention, so that by 1890 there was an upward trend in both members and influence.

Since the 1890's, membership has steadily increased. The Grange is nonpartisan and nonsectarian and operates independently of government agencies. Its activities may be broodly classified as educational, social and recreational, co-operative and legislative.

Every regular meeting has a period known as the "lecture hour" devoted to discussions and other educational work with some recreational and entertainment features.

Matters of public importance are freely discussed in local, state and national groups, and resolutions adopted which are carried to state legislatures and to Congress, by legislative committees or representatives.

FROM THE GRASS ROOTS

This "from the grass roots up" policy of the Grange in legislative work has been effective, and it has witnessed the successful columination of many of its efforts for the improvement of farm life and the farmers economic condition.

For many years the Grange has maintained a legislative office in the national capital.

In the co-operative field, much has been done by the Grange toward promoting insurance companies carrying fire, windstorm, and automobile risks; also life insurance and hospitalization coverages.

In some sections there is co-operative buying of commodities such as commerical fertilizers, binder twine, and fields.

CO-OPERATION

The organization has worked for the establishment of general farm co-operatives for the handling of supplies and the selling of farm products, although many of these are not wholly Grange controlled. In some states the Grange has statewide co-operatives for the handling of farm machinery, gasoline, oil and other materials.

One thing we noticed is that some where, sometime in the long interlude we are skipping, the teenagers and younger children were brought into the movement; and since nothing has been found referring to the Grange as a secret society, we may infer that secrecy was dropped. Possibly when children were brought into the picture.

Again quoting, "The units of the Grange are: juvenile Granges with members from five to fourteen years of age. (The first of these was formed in Texas in 1888). Subornate Granges which are local community units with members from fourteen on up. Pomona Granges are county or district units made up of the subornate bodies; and state Granges to which delegates are elected from the lower bodies.

The National Grange, the delegate body of which is made up of the masters of state Granges and their wives.

Juvenile and subordinate Granges usually meet weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly. Pomona Granges, monthly, bimonthly, or quarterly. State and National Grange meetings, are annual conventions held annually.

In 1944, the most recent figures we have found, were 36 State Granges, 692 Pomonas, 7007 subordinates, and 1305 juvenile units. More than 200,000 Grange meetings are held each year.

These figures are 16 to 18 years ago; whether the trend has been up or down we do not hazard a guess.

If some one with positive knowledge comes forth with more information, we will be glad to write more on the subject.

THE END OF LODGES, SOCIETIES - ETC.

MORE ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR

We have published a total of 64 installments having to do with the Civil War as it affected people from the general trading area of Columbus, beginning with Installment Number 318, dated August 15, 1957, and at intervals during 1957-58-59, and up to April 1960.

CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL

Had we known that effective in January, 1961, and for four or five years following, there would be a National Centennial Memorial of the Civil War in effect, with hundreds or thousands of newspaper and magazine articles, many of them of material that had never been published previously, appearing, we might have been tempted to defer our General Civil War series, until now.

However, we are glad we did publish what we had written from time to time, rather than defer it, for who can tell what will happen from day to day. One can have life insurance payable at death, but we know of no assurance that can guarantee life itself.

INDIAN TROOPS

In Installment No. 440, March 10, 1960, we had something to say about Indian troops participating in the Civil War, both in the Confederate Army and in the Union Army, in which we regretted that we could find so little about them.

In the issue of the Saturday Evening Post of January 14, 1961, there is a wonderful colored reproduction of a painting depecting the battle of Pea Ridge in Northwestern corner of Arkansas, which shows Indian Calvalry charging the Union lines. The painting was reproduced from an 1889 Kurg and Allison print.

And in the text by Ashley Halsey, Jr. there is much more information about Indian warriors than we could ever hope to find, so we will quote, liberly, from the article, giving full credit to the author and to the publishers.

PEA RIDGE

But first a little about the battle of Pea Ridge, as it affected Wisconsin troops, from a history by William DeLoss Love, published in 1866, entitled Wisconsin in the "War of the Rebellion."

In the maneuvering in south western Missouri and northwestern Arkansas and a little in Indian Territory, (now Oklahoma) there were several lesser engagements between the Union forces comprising the Army of the Frontier, and the Confederate forces.

Two larger battles were fought, the first being that of Pea Ridge. In these marches and counter marchers and lesser conflicts, Wisconsin troops, including the 20th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry (of which August Fritz was a private in Company E.) repeatedly passed over the battleground of Pea Ridge, it does not appear that any Wisconsin troops, or at least the 20th in which we are especially interested were in the battle proper.

This battle was fought March 6-7, 1862, proved to be one of the most severe battles of the war.

The Union forces did not exceed 10,500, while the Confederate forces, by their own estimate were from 30,000 to 35,000.

The leading Union Generals were Curtis, Sige, Asboth, Davis, and Colonel Carr, the last four having each a division.

The Confederate Commander Generals Price, Van Dorn, McCulloch and McIntosh.

"The Federals were at first surrounded and repulsed, but the day was saved, in great part, by the genius and bravery of Sigel. There McInotsh, who was a cultivated man, is said to have grieved because he found himself in "such bad company" among the rebels, was slain; and there, also, the notorious Ben McCulloch fell mortally wounded, declaring with the most horrid oaths, as he was born from the field, that he would not die; that he was not born to be killed by a Yankee. But he died."

Unfortunately Love's history seems to have omitted further details on the battle of Pea Ridge.

REPUBLISHING INSTALLMENT 444

We here republish a portion of installment 440 from the Story of Columbus, which is based on the personal diary of August Fritz, grandfather of Mrs. Wilma Fritz Black, and father of Miss Eleanora Fritz, both of Columbus, and from Love's history.

DIARY OF AUGUST FRITZ

The dairy previously mentioned runs from June 21, 1863 to the 23rd of August 1864, and covers several engagements not listed on his discharge papers. Whether there were diaries prior to, or following, we have no knowledge.

All of the material used in describing the campaign, thus far is from a History of Wisconsin's part in the Civil War, published in 1866, written by William D. Love, a book of 1140 pages

INDIAN TROOPS

To what extent Indians participated on either the Union or Confederate sides in this great conflict, we have very little knowledge; but from the source above mentioned we do know that included in the forces of General Lyon that fact that Indian troops and colored troops were mentioned.

For example, "in the engagement at Honey Creek on the Elk River in July 1862 the forces included First Kansas Colored, the First, Second, and Third Indian Regiments; the first battalion of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, one company of the 14th Kansas, a few recruits attached to the Fourth and Fifth Embryo Indian Regiments" and the first battalion of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry Companies B.G.H.I. and M. commanded by Major Calkins.

These numbered about 3,000 men. The enemy's force was about 7,000.

From another source of information we learn that the powerful Tribe of Cherokee Indians in Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) split wide open on the question of slavery, part of them following the lead of a young chief named Stand Watie, born in Georgia, and transplanted to the Indian territory, when the Tribe was forceably moved out of Georgia some years before.

Watie became the publisher of a newspaper, printed in the Cherokee alphabet, some years before the war, and probably had a strong following; and when the split came he became the natural leader of the pro slavery fraction. He became a General of Indian Cavalry, fought against General Lyon's Army, the "Army of the Frontier" in Arkansas, also in the territory, often against fellow tribesmen who fought for the union.

Watie was small of stature, copper colored, a natural born leader, and fought for the Confederacy for more than four years.

He was the last Confederate General to surrender, holding out until June 23, 1865, when he boldly rode up to a detachment of Federal Cavalry who were looking for him, and tendered his sword in token of surrender, near Doaksville in the Territory.

He later became a successful planter in what is now Oklahoma.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By E. A. STARE

April 6, 1961 Installment No. 493

THE BATTLE OF PRAIRIE GROVE

The first real battle in which August Fritz participated was that of Prairie Grove, Arkansas, one of the really big engagements, as far as number of troops, and Generals, on both sides are concerned, with the possible exception of Pea Ridge. We quote enough to give you real knowledge of this battle.

A CURTAIN RAISER

The Battle of Cane Mill, was only a curtain raiser, a series of skirmishes, preceding the big battle.

November 27, 1862, found the Wisconsin 20th was in General Herron's forces on the march southward to join the forces of General Blunt at Cane Hill, Arkansas. Six companies of the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and the Ninth Wisconsin Infantry were in the area of Cane Hill. General Salomon and a portion of his brigade were taking part in the engagement.

On November 29th the Wisconsin 9th went back to Rhea's Mills, took possession and resumed the milling of flour for making bread for the Union forces, and feed for their animals.

THE BATTLE BEGINS

There was much maneuvering and several skirmishes in the Cane Hill area; during the forenoon of December 7th it was learned that the Rebel General Hindman and his men had effected a flank movement and were on the march toward Rhea's Mill. Union General Blunt moved toward Hindman from the west, while Union General Herron approached from the north with the second and third divisions of the army of the Frontier commenced the battle at ten in the morning, the 20th being in Herron's Army.

The rebels numbered 26,000 with 22 pieces of artillery under Hindman and his four divisions commanders, Rains, Marmaduke, Forest, and Parsons.

General Herron had 7,000 men and 24 pieces of cannon and General Blunt, 5,000 with 24 pieces.

The enemy had a strong position, they were on a wooded height, with large open fields in front and their left.

They were able to obtain perfect knowledge of all our movements and could mass their forces on any point we might attack.

A BATTERY SILENCED

After considerable battling, General Herron directed all his artillery, at once, against the nearest of the enemy's guns, and silenced it in two minutes. He then tried another and another in the same way until eight or nine of the most troublesome were abandoned by their possessors.

When General Blunt's forces reached the field, at two in the afternoon, General Herron was nearly out flanked by the numerous enemy his batteries nearly ready to fall and his men almost exhausted.

GENERAL BLUNT

General Blunt immediately marched his forces across the open plain, pushing the rebels back inch by inch, till they fled to the woods, where our troops charged them.

On the crest of that wooded hill, for four hours hung in perilous uncertainty that terrible conflict. But when Heron's men learned that Blunt's army was on the field, they were inspired with new bravery and power.

At nightfall an armistice was agreed upon and in the morning it was found that the enemy had fled.

The Wisconsin troops engaged, in addition to many other units, were one battalion of the Second Calvary, under Major Miller; five squadrons of the Third Cavalry and two howitzers, under Major Calkins; and the Twentieth Infantry, under Major Starr, Lieutenant Colonel Bertram having command of the brigade. The ninth Wisconsin for the most part had charge of the trains.

20th CHARGES

Early in the battle the 20th Wisconsin were ordered to storm the wooded height beyond them. They advanced in line at "double quick" one hundred rods, until they were brought face to face with the enemy. The regiment then halted, fired two rounds, and commenced to charge up the hill.

The whole slope was covered with underbrush, and they advanced with great difficulty, but kept pressing on, in as good a line as possible, and soon stood before a rebel battery of six guns. Firing one volley, rushing over the rail fence they captured the battery. The brave Major Starr led his regiment in this charge.

CHARGE STOPS

They pressed on beyond the battery to the enemy's front lines. The right wing of the 20th had advanced to within thirty feet, when the enemy opened up a tremendous cross fire. Against such a storm of bullets, men could not stand, and the right wing gave way.

AND RETREATS

A heavy column of rebel infantry was seen advancing on the right. A minute more and the 20th would have been surrounded, for they were facing five regiments of the enemy. No course was left, but to retreat at once.

The 20th retreated to a fence, where they reformed and remained there until the firing had ceased for the day.

ANOTHER CHARGE STOPPED

Meanwhile the 26th Indiana and the 37th Illinois prepared to charge. These two regiments had been in the battle of Pea Ridge, a few weeks earlier, and were considered to be two of the finest regiments in the "Army of the Frontier." They advanced up the hill but were also repulsed.

In this terrible charge made by the 20th, it was scarcely twenty minutes from the time the first man fell, till they were ordered to withdraw but in that brief time 51 of their number were killed, 150 wounded and 8 missing or nearly half of those engaged in the charge.

OFFICERS PRAISE 20th

Colonel Bertram, in his official report of the battle, says of the 20th Wisconsin. "Officers and men behaved and stood like veterans." It was the first battle most of them had been in.

General Herron wrote to Governor Saloman, of Wisconsin, "I congratulate you, and your State, on the glorious conduct of the Twentieth Wisconsin Infantry, in the great battle of Prairie Grove."

The Ninth Infantry, at night, escorted a train to Fayetteville and at 2 o'clock the next morning were ordered upon the battlefield again, having marched 45 miles in in 32 hours.

After this battle, the 20th remained in Camp at Prairie Grove, until December 27th when they became a part of 12,000 troops with 36 pieces of artillery on a reconissance to Van Buren, Arkansas, on the Arkansas River, most of this march being along the ridge of the Boston Range of Mountains from Fayetteville south, but no engagements of consequence are reported.

The 20th regiment were ordered back to Missouri and spent the balance of the winter, moving from place to place in the southwestern part of the state.

SATURDAY EVENING POST

The article referred to, which appeared in the Saturday Evening Post of January 14, 1961, the second of a series of "Untold Stories of the Civil War," entitled "The Braves in Blue and Gray," by Ashley Halsey Jr. The sub heading says, "More than ten thousand Indians fought in the Civil War on one side, or the other." Here is the story of their generals, their heroism, and their savagery.

WONDERFUL ACTION PICTURE

A large reproduction of an 1889 print, in color, covers more than a page, a superb action picture. shows the blue clad cavalry, artillery, and infantry, with artillery firing point blank into the gray clad cavalry anl infantry in an all out charge, supported by field pieces in the rear.

The inscription below the picture states that of the 16,200 Confederate troops about 3,500 were Indians; and that the print is a highly romanticized artist's conception of the engagement.

There is also a reproduction of an actual photograph of General Grant and four of his staff, obviously taken in his tent at a later date. One of the four is a Seneca Chiefton, Donehagawa, better known later in the war as General Ely S. Parder, in uniform, who had been chosen earlier in the war by General Grant as his staff military Secretary.

There is also a reproduction of a photograph of General Stand Watie, a Cherokee, (previously mentioned in Installment 440 The Story of Columbus) who commanded the last Confederate Army unit to surrender.

Another photograph, reproduced, is that of General Albert Pike, who recruited Indians for the Confederate Army, and who encouraged and permitted the Indians to fight with bows, arrows, and tomahawks.

TO BE CONTINUED

SECRETARY STANTON OPPOSED

Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton was opposed to the use of Indians in the Union Army, and was emphatic to the point of rudeness to the tall swarthy man standing before him, asserting that the Union would win the war with white troops, and needed no help from Indians.

The man was Donehoyaiva, sachem of the Seneca's who had been rebuffed many times before because of being an Indian.

For twenty years or more, he had represented his tribe in Washington D.C. He had studied law. He was an excellent lawyer but was denied admission to the bar because, being an Indian he was not a United States Citizen.

Then he became a civil engineer, educated at Reniselaer Polytechnic Institute, and was good enough to be appointed superintendent of a Government project at Galena, Illinois.

There he befriended a former Army officer who was so down on his luck that he was working as a humble clerk in a store.

In 1862, after the break of the Civil War, the sachem returned to the Seneca Reservation in Genesee County, New York and in accordance with a tribal custom, he asked his father for permission to go to war.

He then applied to the Governor of New York for a state militia commission appropriate to his standing, but the governor fealty refused to put him in the militia, even to save the union. In Washington, Secretary Stanton said the same thing, as mentioned above, but more impolitely if possible.

IN THE ARMY AT LAST

Not until the summer of 1863 was the Seneca Chiefton whose "white" name was, Ely Samuel Parker, able to secure a commission as a captain of engineers.

It is likely that the humble clerk in Galena may have helped him for the former clerk at Galena now spoke with authority and influence, for he was now a Major General who had conquered General U. S. Grant. Ely Parker soon joined Grant's staff.

MILITARY SECRETARY

Within a year, Parker was a Lieutenant Colonel and military secretary to General Grant. He rode beside Grant through desolation and death in the Virginia campaigns, a tall figure on a rangy black horse; he was known among the troops as "the Indian." At Spotsylvania he is credited with saving General Grant from death or capture. The absentminded general had ridden straight toward the enemy's lines, where Parker halted him and guided him back to safety.

He was with Grant at Appomattox. Col. T. S. Bowers, the senior adjustant, felt so overcome by emotion that his hand shook and he could not write.

Parker took the penciled notes of the surrender terms, as set down by Grant, and transcribed in a fair hand the original copies of the document that ended the Civil War.

BRIGADIER GENERAL

Grant subsequently promoted the big Indian to Brigadier General, his commisison to date form Appomattox.

While president of the U.S., General Grant gave Parker a post war distinction of being the first tribesman appointed United States Indian Commissioner.

STAND WATIE

Parker was not, however, the oldest Indian general in the Civil War, as Confederate. Brigadier General Stand Watie was in the war from the start, and has the distinction of holding out for some months after the war was officially over.

As to Stanton's attitude that the Union would win with white troops alone, the fact is that before the war was over, one out of every ten union soldiers was a Negro, and the Union ranks were augmented by thousands of Indians.

Again or still quoting author Halsey "Unknown to Stanton, nearly an entire company of Tuscaro Indian volunteers served early in the war in the 53rd New York Infantry, otherwise known as D'Epineual's Zouaves.

Never were redskins better camouflaged. The Zauaves wore gaudy French North African uniforms.

Like the rest, (of the regiment) the Tuscaroras sported tassiled red fezzes and billowing Oriental trousers.

THE SENECAS AND DELAWARES

Parker's own tribe, the Seneca, subsequently raised a company of braves who served in another New York regiment.

A band of Delawares scouted for Federal armies in the Mississippi Valley area. Some of the Cherokees still left in the Carolinas meanwhile served as Confederate scouts in the Northeast.

All together, more than 10,000 Indians, — some put the figure as high as 15,000 — participated in the Civil War on one side or the other. Mostly they served west of the Mississippi.

OVER 5,000 CAVELARYMEN

The Confederacy regularly enlisted at least 5,500 redskin cavalrymen. Some 4,000 Indians are known to have served in the Union Infantry. As the figures indicate, the war split the tribed as well as the states. Many were torn by doubts and questions of allegiances.

In the armies, Confederate Indians out-numbered Union Indians at the outset for several potent reasons.

The Confederacy promised in writing that, if it won, it would create an all-Indian state or nation in the heart of America, approximately where Oklahoma now is.

Many Indians in this area, especially the so-called Five Civilized Nations of Cherokees, Choctaws, Creeks, Checkasaws, and Seminoles, were originally Southern, and owned Negro slaves. They (the tribes) were deported West years earlier, with their belongings, including slaves, under escort of the very same Federal Army arrayed against the Confederacy.

ALBERT PIKE

The final and perhaps strongest father in the redskins' Confederate leaning was a leader — stalcoat full bearded Albert Pike, a remarkable cod-fish Bostonian turned Arkansas; by background a Scholar, teacher, editor, lawyer, orator, soldier, poet, and Masonic official.

Pike, bred in the New England holbed of abolition, negotiated nine (different) treaties with the Indians on behalf of the Confederacy.

As one Creek chief related, Pike "tell them ain't no more U.S. — ain't any more treaty — all be dead. Creeks better make new treaty with South and Southern President protect them and pay them more annuity than U.S."

After pausing to write the "fighting words" to DIXIE, which began as a mellow minstrel tune, Pike became a confederate brigadier general commanding the Department of Indian Territory, all the redskin lands west of Arkansas and north of Texas.

A veteran of the Mexican War, Pike formed the redskins into regiments and battalions along tribal lines.



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By E. A. STARE

April 20, 1961 Installment No. 495

OTHER LEADERS

Col. D. N. McIntosh and his brother, Lt. Col. C. McIntosh — via a trader ancestor — and partly Creek, headed the first and second Creek regiments of Mounted Rifles, nearly all full-bloods came under Col. John Drew.

Stand Watie, who was a three-quarter Cherokee, commanded the 2nd Regiment of Cherokees, mostly half-breeds.

A Seminole battalion formed up under their Chief Hemha Micco, otherwise known as Lt. Col. John Jumper.

The first Regiment of Choctows and Chicsaw Mounted Rifles, served under Col. Douglas H. Cooper.

SOME INDIAN OFFICERS

Except for Pike and Cooper, a former Mississippi planter who had became a Government agent for the Choctows in 1853, the officers were Indian or part Indian.

Pike promptly made one policy clear to all. "The commissioned colonels of Indian regiments rank precisely as if they commanded regiments of white men, and are to be respected and obeyed accordingly."

The regiments were organized to the point of rendering regular fitness reports on their military condition, which often was deplorable by West Point standards.

INDIANS FOUGHT IN THEIR OWN WAY

Like most expert leaders of Indians, Pike let his braves fight in their own way. Nearly all rode wiry plains ponies which they sometimes tethered to the rear while engaged.

In at least one battle, Pike permitted the Indians to climb trees and fire from that vantage point.

Many used shotguns, a favorite weapon of the Confederate Cavalry generally.

Col. Drew's full-blooded Cherokee, by special authorization, attacked in true Indian style with bows and arrows, tomahawk's and scalping knives.

ATROCITIES REPORTED

The unconventional weapons of the braves soon led to atrocity stories. Although many Yanks and rebels had armed themselves with enormous fighting knives, and one entire Indiana brigade of white men toted hatchets, the reappearance of the dread tomahawk and scalping knife chilled the paleface blood. In vain Pike and his aides pointed out that they were no more barbaric than many other weapons.

PEA RIDGE

The Confederate redskins, originally recruited solely for service in their own territory, first faced enemy fire in a big battle when they followed Pike afield into Arkansas. There nearly 3,500 fought as a brigade in the crucial engagement at Pea Ridge, near the Missouri-Oklahoma line. (in northwestern Arkansas)

They formed more than a fifth of the Confederate force in that battle. Cherokees, reinforced by a few Texans, captured a Federal battery despite all Indians holy horror of Artillery in general, but soon let go their prize.

When the Confederates, after winning the first day, last on the second, Stand Watie's mounted men covered the retreat.

Hardly had the war whoops subsided when the Federals, who had no Indians of their own in that battle, accused the rebel redskins of tomahawking and scalping at least thirty Union soldiers.

Whatever basis the report had, they were magnified as they traveled East.

The New York Tribune of March 7, 1862, referred to the Indian brigade as "the aboriginal corps of tomahawkers and scalpers," and surmised that General Pike in leading them "got himself up in good style, war paint, nose ring and all."

The Southern Indians, incensed, repudiated the charges fluently. They asserted that any use of tomahawks and knives was in the heat of battle, legitimately.

CHEROKEE COUNCIL

The Cherokee National Council even passed a formal resolution which would have done credit to a United Nations committee. Resolved that in the opinion of the National Council, the war now existing between the said United States, and the Confederate States and their Indian allies, should be conducted on the most humane principles which govern the usages of war among civilized nations, and that it be and is earnestly recommended to the troops of this nation in the service of the Confederate States to avoid any acts toward captured or fallen foes that would be incompatible with such usages.

The controversy and confusion over scalping was typical of Indian participation in the war. From the start it was a welter of tribal entrigue, military red tape, jealousies and repetitions of the sad story of both white men and redskins' breaking promises.

PLEDGES BROKEN

Neither the Richmond nor the Washington governments made good fully on their wartime pledges to the tribes.

Some braves, on the other hand, switched sides repeatedly and galloped off to which ever army offered the most guns, glory and cash on the line.

Late in 1861 Colonel Cooper's Choctaws and Chickasaws with some Confederate Creeks and Cherokees and some Texans, attacked a large but unorganized band of pro-Union Creeks. Cooper claimed to have killed or wounded 500 Unionists in a desperate battle. The Union sympathizers then fled up the Verdigrio River into Kansas where many starved or froze to death for lack of Government aid.

THREE REGIMENTS FOR THE UNION

Despite much hesitation and some opposition from Secretary of War Stanton, the Union in 1862 raised three regiments of Indians for infantry duty. Many were Cherokee and Creeks. The Osages volunteered to serve if given flour and whisky.

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Indian Regiments, (mentioned in our installment 440, Story of Columbus) all originally designated as home guards, were brigaded with Kansas Cavalry and artillary. Soon they were sent south to recapture from the rebels what is now the upper part of Oklahoma. A description of the redskin soldiers, in the miss-spelled words of a white Indian agent survives, as follows:

"The Indians with their new uniforms and small

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By E. A. STARE

Installment No. 496 April 27, 1961

MORE ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Indian Regiments, (mentioned in our Installment 440, Story of Columbus) all originally designated as home guards, were brigaded with Kansas cavalry and artillary. Soon they were sent south to recapture from the rebels what is now the upper part of Oklahoma. A description of the redskin soldiers, in the miss-spelled words of a white Indian agent survives, as follows:

"The Indians with their new uniforms and small Military caps on their Hugh Heads of Hair made rather a comical Ludecrous appearance. They marched off in Columns of 4 abreast singing the war song, all joining in the chorus and a more animated seen is not often witnessed.

The improvements the Indians have made in drilling is much greater than I supposed them capable of and I think the opinion nad confidence of all in the efficiency of the Indian Regements is very much greater than it was."

FIRST CLASH

Regularly recruited Union and Confederate Indians first clashed in some number at Locust Grove near, present-day Tulsa, Oklahoma. Both sides fought in conjunction with white troops. The Union won. The 1st Indian Regiment, mostly Creeks, surprised the Confederates and took 100 prisoners, including a Colonel from Missouri.

CHANGED SIDES

To be on the winning side, many Cherokee enlisted men went over from the Confederacy to the Union. With the next Southern victory they switched back.

During a Confederate effort to recapture the Granby lead mines in southwestern Missouri, an important source of material for bullets, white-lead forces of Indians battled near Newtonia. Colonel Cooper's gray coat Chocktaws and Chicasaws forced Federal Cherokees under Col. W. A. Phillips to break and run. The loss included many Indian ponies shot down.

SCALPS TAKEN

As at Pea Ridge, scalps were taken. With Federal Indians engaged, the Union made less fuss about atrocities.

In two subsequent engagements, the Union forces inflicted defeats. A mixed army of whites and Indians caught the Confederate Indians, greatly outnumbered, on the open prairie in the vicinity of Old Fort Wayne, near Marysville.

Again General Stand Watie and his Cherokee half- breed calvary covered the retreat. At Honey Springs, near Muskegee, the first and second Indian regiments, plus white Union troops, went against the Confederate Indian brigade. Much of the redskin's ammunition proved defective, and they fled.

INDIANS CONFUSED

The general confusion among Confederate Indians was aggravated meanwhile by two breaches — in the Southern chain of command, and in the Cherokee Nation.

Picturesque General Pike, his hair flowing to his shoulders and his elequence pouring forth like passages from the Old Testament, claimed that supplies for his Indians were diverted to white troops in Arkansas. He blasted Maj. Gen. T. C. Hindman and Lt. Gen, Theophilus Holmes, the Southern commanders in that area.

Their surbordinates, he asserted, seized 650 uniforms, 300 tents, and large amounts of munitions, and payroll cash, while he personally had to pay $2,000 for 400 pair of shoes for barefoot Indians.

"While you were robbing the half-naked Indians to clothe other troops," he continued, "the Federals were sending home the Choctaws whom they had taken prisoners, after first clothing them comfortably and putting money in their pockets. No one need to be astonished when all the Indians shall have turned their arms against us.

PIKE DISGUSTED RESIGNED

Pike resigned his Confederate Commission in disgust. His superiors placed him under arrest. Later they released him and accepted his resignation.

Another blow befell the Southern cause later in when John Ross, principal chief of the Cherokees, virtually let himself be captured by Union forces, with the tribal treasury and documents. Ross who never had favored secession, was soon reported in Washington dickering to return all his tribesmen to the Union fold.

STAND WATIE BECOMES GENERAL

The recessionist Cherokees called a convention, ousted Ross and elected the doughty Stand Watie as principal chief. The Confederacy then made Watie a brigadier general to cinch his staties. A miniature civil war broke out within the Cherokee Nation. Many full bloods switched to the Union side. Watie's half-breeds stood firm for the Confederacy. Each side slaughtered the other as apportunity presented.

CONFEDERATE STRENGTH WANES

With the collapse of Confederate strength west of the Mississippi and gradual domination of the region by the Union, Indian warfare de-generated into a series of raids. It was as irregular cavalry that the rebel redskins excelled. Watie and his horsemen specialized in harrising Federal supply trains.

In one surprise attack he captured a United States supply ship on the Arkansas River and rode off with ample provisions and other supplies.

Fighting like die-hards, Watie and Col. Peter B. Pitchlynn, Chief of the Choctaws, did not surrender with their men until June 23, 1865. After all other commands had yielded."

OUR THANKS TO MR. HALSEY

Again we express our appreciation for the splendid research work done by Mr. Halsey Jr. That enabled him to write such a complete narrative about Indians in the Civil War.

PEA RIDGE BATTLE FIELD

The 4,400 acre Pea Ridge battlefield, largest Civil War battlefield west of the Mississippi, will be dedicated as a National Military Park on the centenial of the engagement, March 7, 1862.

The State of Arkansas bought the land for a half million dollars and presented it to the Nation.

The writer of the "Story of Columbus" which has been running in the Columbus Journal Republican for about ten years, without financial compensation, purely as a service to the community, has been a consistent reader and admirer of the Saturday Evening Post for 60 years.

WISCONSIN INDIANS

Wisconsin Indians also served, as noted on page 1032 of Love's "Wisconsin in the War," published in 1866 from which we quote. "The Indians of Wisconsin are worthy of commendation for their patriotic interest in the War, and their forwardness in enlisting in the military service. Some of the leading men (of the various tribes) were well informed on the questions at issue, and by public address infused intellegence and patriotism among their people.

The Indians names found on the roll of the dead of some regiments, testify to the valor of Wisconsin red men. They who witnessed them on the field, can give many of them a good name."

We assume from the above that there were no strictly Indian Units, but being volunteers, were added to whatever units were being formed at the time of their enlistments.

NEGRO TROOPS

Authority was received from the War Department in October, 1863, to raise colored troops. Early in 1864, about 250 colored men enlisted for the United States colored infantry, under command of Col. John A. Bross, of Chicago. Other men of the State joined colored organizations in the East.

Colonel Bross and his regiment were assigned to Burnside's (Ninth) Corps, and after the Petersburg Mine was sprang, he charged further within the enemies lines than any other troops.

Seeing the hopelessness of capturing Cemetery Hill, he was about to retire, but just as he seized the colors, he was shot in the temple, and fell dead, providentealy enfolded by the flag of his regiment.

OUR OWN BELOVED GOVERNOR

Gov. James T. Lewis, who for as long as he lived was a much beloved leading Citizen of Columbus, and about whom this column has had much to say during the almost ten years it has been running, was the eighth to become governor of our state.

Many of our citizens still living knew the governor in their youth, and can testify to the fact that he was a humble and retiring man, a friend to all who knew him.

He, in more ways than usual, was a tower of strength in the war effort as will be voted from pages 929 to 932 inclusive, of Love's "Wisconsin in the War." as follows:

TO BE CONTINUED



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By E. A. STARE

Installment No. 497 May 4, 1961

GOVERNOR LEWIS AND HIS ADMINISTRATION

Inaugural Address, — Recommendations To The Legislature, — Earnest Support Of The General Government, — Formation Of Regiments, — Filling The Quotas Of The State, — Attention To The Soldiers, — Adjustment Of Claims, — Constitutional Amendment, — Biographical Sketch.

JAMES T. LEWIS was inaugurated Governor of the State of Wisconsin on the 4th of January, 1864. He was the eighth person who received that honor. In his inaugural address, he pledged himself to use no patronage for a reelection, to administer the government without prejudice or partiality, to observe economy, to promote agriculture and the arts, to inculcate morality, to foster education and benevolence, and emphatically, to employ all his executive power to suppress the rebellion and terminate the war. Having previously served as lieutenant governor and secretary of state, he was well acquainted with the duties of his new office, and entered upon them with ease and vigor. vigor.

HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS

In his first annual message, he made suitable allusion to those who withheld their support from the National Administration in the prosecution of the war, and who favored the withdrawal of our troops from the field of conflict with treason, and while fitly condemning their course, as tending to the destruction of the Government, he treated the subject in a mode calculated to allay the fears and disarm the prejudices of that class of persons. But whatever the conduct of some, he declared, as the representative head of the State, that the rebellion must be suppressed, that the Union must stand.

Feeling the importance of a strong military organization at home, on account of the late draft riots, and the Indian massacres in a neighboring State, and having an unfaltering determination to aid the General Government in the prosecution of the war, he recommended the legislature to adopt a more efficient militia system. And forecasting the future, he advised incorporating a provision for military instruction in the act establishing a State Agricultural College.

SECOND MESSAGE

In his second annual message, he pleaded for an untiring prosecution of the war until its object should be accomplished, and said of the chief magistrate, President Lincoln: "Few will be found, I think, who have the hardihood at this day to deny the integrity of the pilot now at the helm of the nation." He added, concerning Wisconsin: "Amid the gloom which has surrounded the nation, our noble State has never faltered. She has always and promptly responded to the call of the General Government. There could be no mistakenly the feeling of her people. Their votes and their sacrifices have declared that they stand by the Union. Their bullets and their ballots have always pointed in the same direction."

CALLS FOR MORE TROOPS

During the first year of Lewis's administration. 1864, the President made the following calls for troops: February 1st, for 500,000; March 14th, for 200,000; July 8th, 500,000; December 19th 300,000,— a total of 1,500,000. Previous to Lewis's inauguration, the formation of regiments had gone forward until the Thirty-fifth Infantry was half filled. Governor Lewis devoted himself assiduously to furnish the quotas of the State by volunteers. The Thirty-fifth was soon completed and sent to the front, and two companies were recruited for the Fourth Cavalry, and five for the Sixteenth Infantry. The Thirty-sixth Infantry was filled in thirty days, and the Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth soon after. In April, Governor Lewis tenedred to the President, 5,000 infantry troops for the term of one hundred days, which called into existence the Thirty-ninth, Fortieth and Forty-first regiments. Under the call of July 18th, the infantry regiments from the Forty-second to the Fifty-first inclusive, were organized and sent to the field, — all for the term of one year.

SPECIAL AUTHORITY GIVEN

By special authority obtained from the war department, the battalion of First Heavy Artillery was recruited to a maximum regiment of twelve companies, and three companies were recruited for the Twenty-ninth United States Colored Troops. Adding to the foregoing many recruits sent to old organizations, and 6,000 veteran reenlistments, the total number of troops raised in the State from January 4th, 1864, to April 30th, 1865, was 38,618.

HE VISITS UNION CAMPS

Governor Lewis gave special attention to the comfort and wants of Wisconsin soldiers in the field, repeatedly visiting camps and hospitals, and he once made a circuit of inspection, first at the east, then southward along the Atlantic coast and the Gulf, then up the Mississippi. He obtained from Surgeon General Barnes special orders for the transfer of all Wisconsin soldiers to hospitals in their own State, a privilege not before granted to any other governor.

THE HARVEY HOSPITAL AND OTHERS

The Harvey Hospital at Madison was enlarged, and the General Hospitals at Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien were established, through his instrumentality. He also aided in the establishment of the Soldiers' Orphan's Home in Madison. By his personal efforts mainly, he obtained from the General Government various credits for soldiers furnished, which had not before been acknowledged — at one time a credit of nearly 5,000. A revision of the enrollment procured by him, reduced the quota from 19,032 to 15,341. He was especially successful in securing claims of the State against the United States, — in all nearly $500,000. At that time Wisconsin had received payment of a larger proportion of its war claims than any other State, and on account of adjustments, the State tax for 1865 was reduced, it is said, several hundred thousand dollars. In a message to the legislature, January 1st, 1866, he states that he had not found occasion, during his administration, to use any part of the military contingent fund, and that, at his request, the previous legislature did not vote the usual appropriation of $5,000 as a general contingent fund for the use of the executive, — an evidence that he intended an economical use of the public funds.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

In February, 1865, he submitted to the legislature the proposed Constitutional Amendment, abolishing slavery in the United States, and in his message said: "Upon its adoption hangs the destiny of nearly four millions of human beings, and it may be, the destiny of the nation. I trust, and doubt not, the Legislature of Wisconsin will record its decision firmly, and I hope unanimously, in favor of the amendment. Let us wipe from our escutcheon the foul blot of human slavery, and show by our action that we are worthy the name of freemen."

DECLINES SECOND TERM

He early made announcement that he should not be a candidate for reelection, and the Union Nominating Convention of September, 1865, passed resolutions expressing their cordial approbation of his administration, complimenting him for his fidelity, zeal, economy, and untiring watchfulness in protecting the interests of the State, rendering their gratitude for his unremitting efforts to aid and cheer the soldiers in the field and in hospitals, and for his kindness to their families at home, and ernestly asserting his unwavering support of the National Administration in its efforts to put down the rebellion.

Governor Lewis was born in Clarendon, Orleans County, New York, October 30th, 1819. He received his academical education at Clarkson and Clinton, New York and read law with Governor Seldon, at Clarkson. He came to Wisconsin in July 1845, was admitted to the Supreme Court, and commenced the practice of law at Columbus, where he has since resided. He has held eight different public offices in the State, commencing with that of district attorney, and closing with that of governor. When elected Secretary of State, he received every vote cast in Columbus; when elected Governor, his majority was nearly 25,000 — the largest ever cast in Wisconsin fo rany person fo rthat office up to then. It is a noteworthy fact for youth, that James T. Lewis was first distinguished in the district school of his father's neighborhood; next his name spread to surrounding districts; then he was a prominent young man of the town, and soon of the county; thus he commenced his ascent very young, and went forward step by step, until he was governor of one of the States of this great American nation.

THE END, of the Civil War Story.

A LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Occasionally we receive a letter of appreciation, which we are glad to share with our readers. This one is from a former Columbus boy, Francis Mulligan, son of Mrs. Henry Mulligan, 118 N. Birdsey.

We sent four different installments of our Civil War series mentioning Andersonville Prison.

The Andersonville Prison Monument was erected, not the G.A.R., but by the Andersonville Monument Commission, appointed by Gov. Robert M. LaFollett, Governor of Wisconsin. The funds were provided by an appropriation from the state. Here is the letter.

29 April 1961

Dear Mr. Stare:

Having grown up in Columbus I have been interested in reading your "Story of Columbus" appearing in the paper. Since we lived for awhile in Virginia, Texas, and now West Virginia, I have been especially interested in the series regarding activity in the Civil War. However if you published an article dealing primarily with Andersonville Prison, I missed it.

About a month ago we were in Albany, Georgia and heading for Atlanta so we diverted the few necessary miles off our route to visit the site of the Andersonville prison and Andersonville National Cemetery.

We had no idea how well the site was maintained or what we would find there and were very pleasantly surprised to find the grounds very well maintained and marked.

A number of the states have erected monuments there and among them is one from Wisconsin which was erected in 1906. Although it did not say so on the monument I presume it was erected by the GAR. On one side it is marked "Known dead 378—To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die". Only two names appea ron the monument: C. H. Russel, Sec., Berlin. Wis. 1st Wis. Cavelry and L. Williams, Treas. Columbus. Wis. 1st Wis. Infantry. I assumed that they must have been state officers in the GAR at the time of erection.

It was quite a shock to see the Columbus, Wis. mentioned when we were not expecting it. It gave me a feeling of bring history much closer.

West Virginia was the locale of a great deal of activity during the early part of the war but since it generally was not on a very large scale not too much attention is normally paid to it. However since it was all generally over n the first year of the war I presume that few if any Wisconsin men were involved in any of the engagements in West Virginia.

Thanks again for your publishing the story of Columbus.

Very truly yours,
Francis Mulligan

PATENT MEDICINES AND FOLK REMEDIES
ODD BELIEFS, MOON PHASES, ETC.

In "This Week" Magazine of The Milwaukee Journal of December 18, 1960, there was a very interesting article, the title of which was "The Truth about Folk Medicine," by Dr. E. Vincent Askey, M.D., President, American Medical Association.

The writer of "The Story of Columbus", now 84 yrs. of age, was extremely interested, as he can recall many home remedies, as well as several patent medicines in general use, seventy-five years or more years ago.

NO DOCTOR

We lived in the little village of Sibley, Illinois, which is in Ford County about a hundred miles south of Chicago, and too small to have a resident doctor much of the time.

However, he had a drug store, well stocked with patent medicines, the names of a few he can recall such as: Doan's pills, Carters Little Liver Pills, Dr. Caldwell's Syrup of Pepsin, Lydia E. Pinkhams Vegetable Compound pink pills for pale people, Prof. Rae's Great Discovery for the Hair, Hollisters Rocky Mountain Tea, Halloways Ointment, Hamlin's Wizzard Oil and many others.

The druggist also filled perscriptions, as doctors from Gibson City, eight miles south, and Forrest twelve miles north, in addition to more or less regular half day trips once a week were subject to call by telegraph

HOMEOPATH OR ALLEOPATH

Some doctors were "Homeopath" and used sugar coated round pellets; others were "Alleopath" whose remedies were usually in liquid form and very bitter; still others were called "Botanic", doctors using herbs, roots, leaves, bark, blossoms, etc.

For example "sassafrass tea" made from the bark of the roots of the sassafrass tree, made an aromatic tea which was supposed to purify the blood. It was pleasant to the taste, and we were always glad when the time was right for it, our favorite "home remedy."

We were "Pennsylvania Dutch" on both sides and they had not only many remedies made from bark or roots but also from various weeds. They also were believers of in the power of "mind over matter" and the laying on of hands.

Certain magic words, audably expressed in the Dutch language, possibly from the scriptures, or possibly a "meaningless rhyme," accompanied by passing the hands over the injured part, as of a burned or scalded finger, was a sure cure, in our family, so great was our faith in father's ability to stop the pain.

Certain persons, usually elderly grandmothers were supposed to have the power to "lay a hex" on some one who had miss-treated, or spread scandal, and farmers painted signs and symbols on their barns to keep evil spirits away.

THE MEDICINE MAN

During the period of which we write, seventy to eighty years ago, our village would receive a visit from the "Medicine Man" in charge of the Kickapoo Indians, usually about three, one of whom was always a "Chief" White Cloud or some similar name. The Medicine Man, a white man, called "doctor" by the rest of the crew, would light up a gasoline torch, and to draw a crowd he would have the three Indians give their interpretation of several different kinds of dances, with accompanying sing song noises.

When a few dozen villagers, mostly boys, would have gathered the "doctor" would crack jokes, tell funny stories in dialect, for a while, awaiting more adults to join the groups, before he would begin to tell how "Chief White Cloud" had learned the secret of the wonderful Kickapoo Indians Sagwa, when he was a mere boy, and the wonderful cures that it possessed, and how the tribe was almost never sick, because of the many other remedies such as salves for sores, etc.

The "doctor" must have done well financially for he had a nice team and a wagon or two, and one or two helpers besides the Indians, to help hand out the Sagwa at a dollar per bottle.

They also had various remedies, salves, and Indian bead work.

Again referring to the "Truth about folk medicine" we quote. "Pepper poultices, copper nails, a knife under the bed — a hundred such cures are still widely practical today.

Some helped but others are dangerous superstitions."

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 499 **May 19, 1961**

TRUTH ABOUT FOLK MEDICINE
A NEW WAVE OF FASCINATION

"Once again our country is passing through a new wave of fascination for folk medicine, a revival of belief in some of the old-fashioned cures that Grandma used; and so once again people are being told that their rheumatism or indigestion, or headaches, will be helped by honey or yogert, or bee stingo, or whole-wheat bread, or whatever cure — all is currently popular.

Dr. Askey, goes on to say, "I believe it is high time to take a serious look at these recurrent fads in which so many people invest time and money. First, why do we doctors disbelieve in so many of them? You may have met someone for whom a home remedy actually appeared to work, and doesn't that show there is some value to it?

Not necessarily! Here, for example, is how one man became convinced of the efficiency of a very unlikely folk cure. The man suffered from chronic asthma.

Night after night he sat up, gasping for breath. Then a kind friend suggested to his wife that she apply to his chest a plaster made by spreading lard on flannel and sprinkling it liberally with black pepper. By chance he improved. Thus a folk remedy was born. Now, every doctor knows that black pepper and lard poultices do nothing for asthma. The man's recovery was a coincidence, yet his faith in this home remedy is unshakeable.

WALK IN THE SAND

A man with a wart on his foot takes a barefoot walk on the sands of a beach in Portugal; later his wart disappears. Would it be surprising if he considered his walk in the sand a curative procedure?

But folklore is not content to deal with cures; it deals also with preventatives. Many a man, a generation or so ago, carried a horse chestnut in his pocket to ward off rhuematism. A string of amber beads about the neck is supposed to protect against simple goiters. One wise physician, when asked if this were so, solemnly replied: "Indeed it is, if you also are sure to eat iodized salt or plenty of seafood."

Some folk medicine beliefs contain a germ of truth. Dr. Bruno Gebhard, director of The Cleveland Health Museum, in a paper entitled "Grandma Is Not Always Wrong," defined folklore and folk medicine as the accumulated experience of the race, in which there is more than a little virtue, if rightly interpreted.

GRANDMA WAS RIGHT — SOMETIMES

Grandma used to say that children ought to have the communicable diseases as soon as possible and get them out of the way. She was partly right, at least about some diseases. Of course, children were better off if they could escape entirely the more serious diseases—scarlet fever, diphtheria, meningitis, small pox and polio. And with measles older children fared better than the very young.

But Grandma was correct about mumps, which in childhood is a nuisance, but in adult life may be sterilizing in either sex, especially the male. Many physicians believe German measles in the first three months of pregnancy may cause malformation in the unborn, especially affecting the brain and the special sense organs, which are developing rapidly at that time. Grandma is not always wrong — but she isn't always right either."

This writer, and many readers of "The Story of Columbus", I am sure, can recall in the days of their youth, such things as "Boneset Tea" sometimes called thoroughwort from which came horehound candy, Peruvian bark is one of the sources from which came quinine, and how bitter it was, Burdock Roots, dried, then put into a bottle filled up with "spirits", for use as a blood purifier, catnip tea, and various others.

FROM JOHN SWARTHOUT'S CHARGE BOOK

In installment No. 213-214 published in this column July 28 and August 4, 1955, we picked out items for various people, in one of John Swarthout's charge book's (he being our first druggist) beginning in February 8, 1850. We quote items of medicinal nature sold to individuals other than doctor J. C. Axtel, our first physician who came here in 1845. The spelling is as it is in the charge book.

"Ipicek and James powders, 25c; 1 oz. Balsome Capavia, 15c; Ipicek & half pint brandy and bottle, 44c; ¼ oz. Tarter Emetic & 1 oz. Squills; Blister plaster, & Castor Oil. (prices obliberated where not shown)

1 oz. Rhubarb & 1 oz. Maguera, 25c; Calomel & Camphor, 28c; Rhubarb & Belladona, 18c; Blue Pills, 38c; Cod Liver Oil $1.00; Morphia & Ergot $1.00; Belladona & Fowler's Solution, 25c; 1 dram quine and aspa, $1.00 (evidently an abreviation of that evil smelling Asafetida); 1 dram Potassan 25c; 1 box Blue Mass, 25c; 1 box dandilion, 13c; 2 Poor Mans plasters 50c; 1 bottle Croton Oil, 50c.

ASAFETIDA

Speaking of Asafetida, we wonder how many of our elderly readers, during their childhood, had to wear a small muslin bag on their chest, suspended from the neck by a string, the bag holding some asafetida in gum form, right next to the skin, night and day, during certain seasons of the year, as did many of the children of the village. It was evil smelling stuff, far worse than garlic, and was supposed to be a preventative of something but we have forgotten what for.

It was also given by mouth, in liquid form called Tincture of Asafetida or in sugar coated pills that cost much more than tincture.



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 500 May 25, 1961

TRUTH ABOUT FOLK MEDICINE

TEXAS BOUND

Our family moved from Illinois to Texas about 1874 where father was engaged in buildings at the far end of the Texas and Pacific Railroad, depots, grain elevators, cotton compressors, etc., moving along as the rails were pushed farther along; frequently they were several miles away from a doctor, making it necessary to rely on home cures, or to own a "doctor book", with an accompanying git of Homeopatic sugar coated pellets. We still remember the names of some of them, Aconite, Belladonna, NoxVomica, and several others. The parents on both sides knew many home cures or folk medicine.

Having the only doctor book for miles, it was not at all uncommon, just plain good neighboring, that mother was frequently called upon to help others in need, to reduce fevers, to relieve stomach-ache; put salve on burns, and what not.

PRACTICE BY TRIAL AND ERROR

The writer can recall, reading a history of sanitation and the early practice of medicine, many years ago; here is an account or illustration of ho wthe primative doctors kept notes of treatment and the results obtained, back in the pioneer days when doctors, or at least some of them, lacked much formal medical training, and practiced by trial and error.

One such was called to attend a hard-working blacksmith, who had a powerful stomach-ache; he gave the patient a cathartic, told him to stay in bed and eat nothing for 24 hours, when he would return to see how the patient was progressing.

After the alloted time the doctor returned, only to learn that the patient had disregarded the doctors orders. The patient stated that he woke up the next morning early, and was very hungry. The only food he could find, without waking his wife, was some pickled herring, of which he ate his fill, went out to his shop and went to work. While the doctor was somewhat miffed at the patient, he had to admit that the patient was well, so the doctor made a memo in his book "Pickled Herring seems to be good for stomach-ache."

Shortly thereafter, he was called to attend the banker who had a terrible stomach-ache, for which he prescribed pickled herring, and the banker died.

So the doctor recorded it "pickled herring seems to be good for blacksmiths but not for bankers.

"Home remedies probably always will have a place

RETURNING TO DR. ASKEY'S ARTICLE, HE CONTINUED

in the treatment of mankind's aches and pains. Physicians do not expect and do not desire that patients shall dash to the doctor with every minor discomfort, every trifling injury, every small ache and pain. It is sensible to care for such things by simple, safe home means.

Folk medicine has to its credit many important contributions to scientific medicine. It will continue to have a strong appeal as long as gaps in our scientific knowledge exist. But folk medicine has potentialities for great harm.

Many serious illnesses have small beginnings. It is important to know when not to rely upon the traditional home remedies. While few of these are capable of doing direct harm, a great potential danger lies in relying upon them too much and too long, thus losing valuable time. The use of home remedies must be tempered with judgment, and in case of doubt, prompt resort to modern scientific care is the course of wisdom.

FAITH IS WORTHLESS PRODUCTS

One of the worst results of reliance on unscientific sources is "that many suffers place great faith in worthless products and then, when no relief comes, they become suspicious of all profferred help, even ethical medical care. Nearly 50 per cent of arthritis victims are without medical supervision because they believe that nothing can be done for them." (American Medical Association News, October 3, 1960)

The indebtedness of medical science to observations by lay persons has been acknowledged many times. One famous example is that of an old woman in Shropshire, brewing a tea from the leaves of the spendid foxgloves growing wild along the English lanes, who became noted for her "cures" of the "dropsy." A neighboring physician, Dr. William Withering, noting her successes, tried the method himself, and so began the knowledge of digitalis, one of the important specific drugs in the treatment of heart disease of certain types. The original observation came out of folklore—the development and refinement was the contribution of the scientists.

One could relate, in like manner, how the use of moldy bread for local poulticing of wounds to prevent infection was eventually justified by the emergence of the vast and growing number of antibiotics, of which penicilli, derived from Penicillium, the bread mold, is the prototype. The East Indian knowledge of the poisonous shrub Rauwolfia, used as arrow poison, was a forerunner of modern tranquilizers, a series of drugs widely used in the legitimate treatment of diseases, and presently widely abused.

MODERN MEDICINE FROM ANCIENT CHINA

The Chinese, who still adhere to a vast variety of herbal medicines, have contributed one very important drug to modern medicine from their herb, mahuang. Out of this has come ephedrine, useful in the treatment of asthmatic conditions, hay fever and other diseases with an allergic basis. Out of the Orient, too, has come knowledge of the potency of the juice of the poppy, from which is produced gum, opium, which in turn yields morphine and its derivatives, almost indispensible to medicine.

A classic erample of efficacious medication based on folklore is quinine, one of the few specific drugs for a specific disease in all the wide range of medical knowledge. The ancient Incas knew the virtues of Peruvian bark against the three-day and four-day fevers — tertian and quartan malaria, as we know them now.

Even in surgery there is indication of a debt to folk medicine. Ancient skulls show indications of trephining — opening the skull to release pressure on the brain. This was probably done for the purpose of releasing evil spirits, but it may have had the effect of relieving the symptoms of brain tumors or depressed skull fractures. Thus, as so often happens in folk medicine, they were right for the wrong reason.

To Be Continued

TRUTH ABOUT FOLK MEDICINE

Why should folk medicine have taken such a great hold on the minds of men, so that it persists into our enlightened age of science? The reasons are numerous. Folk medicine was closely linked with religion; medicine men and priests of pagan gods were often one and the same. Disease was regarded as a visitation of angry gods; anything that could ward off such disaster was indeed worth veneration.

Just a few generations ago man understood little about disease and its causes. Treatment then had to be hit or miss, but a certain percentage of patients recovered. Today we know that much disease is self-limited, and that treatment often only hastens recovery and enhances comfort rather than curing the disease. But primative man associated every recovery with the treatment which preceded it, and this misconception still persists. Coincidental recovery after using an ineffective treatment is deceptive, especially in the presence of strong wishful thinking.

Another reason for strong faith in folk medicine is that some of it was definitely effective in a percentage of cases—digitalis for "dropsy" due to heart weakness, quinine for malarial fever, citrus fruit juices to prevent scurvy, cowpox as a protection against smallpox, relief of asthma with mahuang.

THE "DOUBLE-BLIND" SYSTEM

Psychological factors are important, too. Perhaps no force is so persuasive in favor of folk medicine as the overwhelming desire of the normal person to get well. This colors his thinking so that when he does recover, he credits whatever procedure he thinks was responsible. This desire even carries over to the doctor, so that in testing modern scientific research it is considered necessary to use the "double-blind" system, where neither patient nor doctor knows what is being given, and thus is not influenced in the evaluation of results.

Psychology also works the other way. Neurotic personalities, "enjoying" poor health are constantly seeking new stimuli in new "remedies," each of which is acclaimed in turn as the long-sought cure. So they gravitate from remedy to remedy, and often from doctor to doctor, extrolling each new adventure while it lasts.

SELF DECEPTION

Folk medicine favors self-deception. This is especially true in certain chronic diseases for which there exists at this time no sure effective treatment. The sufferers from arthritis, paralysis due to strokes or injuries, currently incurable diseases such as multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, Parkinsonism, and a host of other conditions will probably harm themselves mainly in the pocketbook when they pursue such popular will-o'-the-wisps as royal jelly, vinegar, honey, and other popular novelties.

There is not one iota of scientific support for any virtues whatever in royal jelly as far as human medicine is concerned. Honey and vinegar are both useful in the kitchen — nothing more. Vinegar will not thin the blood. Honey is not good for diabetics. Garlic is a good spice; it has no value in the treatment of high blood pressure, as is commonly believed. Onions will not protect against colds; eating carrots will not correct eye defects other than those due to lack of vitamin A.

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT CHILDBIRTH

Natural interest in childbirth has multiplied the popular misconceptions surrounding this, the most dramatic event in human life. Expectant mothers used to be warned not to raise their arms above their heads, for fear of winding the child's umbilical cord around his neck. They were admonished to "eat for two", without the necessary qualifying advice that this meant, not quantity, but seelctive eating for better nutrition of mother and child. The premature baby born at the seventh month was given a better chance of survival than the eight month baby — pure nonsense! Birthmarks and malformations were attributed to shocking experiences suffered during pregnancy, "marking the baby" — not only without foundation but a physiological impossibility. The pains of childbirth were supposed to be cut in half by placing a sharp knife, edge up under the mother's bed. And so, on and on.

Many forms of self-deception in the realm of folklore are more amusing than important. Copper nails in the shoes will not "ground" the pain of arthritis, but they will do no harm. Going without a hat to encourage growth of hair is harmless if futile. Removing rubbers immediately upon entering the house to avoid harm to the eyes is silly enough, but has no dangerous possibilities.

Where danger begins is when folk medicine is relied upon in the presence of dangerous disease for which medical attention should be prompt and effective. Treating an ordinary sore throat with gargles, hot poultices and a laxative tea simply gives the family a comfortable sense of doing right by the patient, and probably neither helps nor hinders the recovery. But persisting in such treatment when the condition fails to improve poses the danger of overlooking a Streptococcus sore throat which subsequent rheumatic fever and maybe a damaged heart, or the possibility or diphtheria.

WATCH FOR DANGER SIGNS

Curing moles is a favorite pastime of the amateur medical advisor — who often burns them with caustic chemicals. This may indeed be courting death from cancer, to which some moles are especially prone. The wisest course with a mole is either to let it alone or have it removed by a physician; if it bleeds, grows or changes color, see a doctor and turn a deaf ear to recommendations of your dearest friends to try their pet remedy.

Whenever any pain persists or returns again and again, the time for home medication has passed. Headaches are perhaps the most common example. Most people suffer an occasional headache. If headaches persist or recur often, the time has come for a diagnostic search into causes, and effective professional therapy.

NO USE PRETENDING

The same advice applies to any persistent pain, to any inflammation not obviously temporary, to any lump or growing mass. It's no use pretending that these are not there, or that they will go away. It's no use trying this, that or the other home remedy, whether it comes from an Iroquois chieftain, from your own grandmother or from the latest fad. The more time you waste, the less your chances of recovery when, at last, you seek the treatment you should have sought to begin with.

No, your physician doesn't want you to seek his help for every little twinge of discomfort. He expects you to make judicious home use of heat or cold applied externally for sore muscles, to treat a common cold by taking to your bed for a day or so, to use the safe and simple drugs which relieve mild pain. But for your own good, he hopes that you will not trust home remedies and self-treatment too far. If your illness continues, returns often or becomes worse, turn to the 20th century medicine of scientific diagnosis and modern drugs for help. Antibiotics may not seem romantic as a hot poultice or herbal tea — but you are sure to find they're a lot more effective!"

LOCAL PAPERS

Returning to research in back numbers of Columbus Newspapers as far back as 1855, in the very first issue of The Republican-Journal in February we find two display advertisements of different wholesale Drug firms. H. Bosworth & Sons and S. Johnson, Jr. both in Milwaukee. Both stressed patent medicine of the day; Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Foreign and Domestic Drugs, Dyes, Window Glass and Glass Ware, perfumery and fancy goods. And in the same issue there are business cards of four different doctors as follows: Nelson Adams, Hoemopethic Physician, Office at residence, West Columbus.

R. W. Earll, Physician and Surgeon, office one door north of Coopers Store.

Dr. Tucker, Botanic Physician, No. 2 Broadway Columbus, office as his residence. Particular attention paid to diseases of women and children. Also obstetrics promptly attended to.

There is also a notice that Doctor N. Adams would lecture at the school house, on Sunday evening, March 11, at "early candle light," on the subject of spiritualism.

There is also a small "ad", "Drug Store, Silsbee and Swarthout, Dealers in Drugs and Medicine, Dye-Stuffs, Paints, Oils, Varnish, Glass, Glass-ware, Brushes, Perfumery, Soaps, Fancy Goods, etc. Also every variety of Patent Medicine, the Purest Wines for Medical Purposes, Shoulder Braces, Abdominal Supporters, Trusses, etc., for sale cheap."

HALLOWAY'S OINTMENT

There is a one column ad, eleven inches long about "A cure for all! Halloway's Ointment" an astonishing cure for bad legs, followed by a long letter of testimony.

Then another heading "An extraordinary cure of a bad breast, when nearly at the point of death," followed by a long letter of gratitude for saving his wife's life.

The wind up is a list of ailments quaranteed to cure them all is certain pills are taken conjointly with the ointment. Here is the list: Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Burns, Bunions, Chilblains, Chapped Hands, Contracted and Stiff Joints, Fistulas, Gout, Glandular Swelling, Lumbago, Piles, Rheumatism, Salt Rheum, Scalds, Sore Nipples, Sore Throats, Sinus Diseases, Scurvey, Sore Heads, Ulcers, Wounds. Put up in pots at 25 cents, 62½ cents, and one dollar," and a notation that there is a considerable saving by taking the larger size. N. B. Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each pot.

If any reader is interested, the address is Professor Halloway, 80 Maiden Lane, New York and all respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicine in the United States. But remember this ad apeared 106 years ago.

TO CURL YOUR HAIR

In the same paper there is another advertisement of a product called "Krollerion" for making your hair curl. The "Ad" reads "The receipt for making this Celebrated Compound, lately introduced into this country, will be sent by the subscriber to any person in the United States or Canada, for one dollar.

The Krollerion will curl or wave the hair in the most beautiful maner. Any person having the most coarse and uncouth looking hair, can have them transformed into the Most Beautiful, by the use of this article. The ingredients will not cost over 12 cents, and with this receipt any one can make it equally good in every respect, to that sold at $3 per bottle."

MRS. ALBERT'S DISCOVERY

Speaking of Hair Restorer, over a year ago Mrs. Glenn Alberts brought in an empty bottle found in the cupelo of the funeral home, empty and covered with dust of many years. Part of the label is still attached to the bottle.

The label reads "Hair Restorer" J. R. Barrett and Co., Price $1 per bottle. J. R. Barrett and Co. Pro'rs, Manchester N. H.

THE PEOPLES' CHOICE

Restores gray hair to its original color, prevents its falling off, causes new hair to grow on bald heads, cures all diseases of the scalp, completely cleanses the head from dandruff, and all other disorders injurious to growth. It has given hope and joy to thousands who supposed they must be bald or gray the remainder of their days. (Directions on other side).

The label "on the other side" was completely missing, except the name Barretts Vegetable Hair Restorer, and a four cent Revenue Stamp dated November 9, 1866.

The bottle, itself, is a splendid example of the hand made "blown" bottles of the period, that might be a collectors item.

Our guess as to "whose bottle" this was, is that it belonged to Billy Keefer, a barber. George Griswold, the oldest of the four Griswold brothers, and the first one to locate here, was the builder and first owner of what is better known as the Wm. Griswold home, which is now the Funeral Home.

George was almost totally blind, and engaged Billy Keefer, a barber, as a guide. He lived in the Griswold home, had his barber shop in the back room of Griswold's Law Office which stood on what is now the front yard of the Library. (See installments 46, 47, and 48, Story of Columbus.)

IN PENNSYLVANIA

As indicated earlier the writer can recall some of the home remedies used in the home of his parents. Most of the Pennsylvania relatives are no longer living, but there is one distant cousin, a widow in her eighties, still living in Illinois, to whom we wrote in an effort to find out more.

Her reply is from memory as she lives in a very small home with another widow, and with no room to store more than a few personal belongings, her cook books and recipes for remedies were all destroyed when she broke up her home.

However she says, "I got red pepper tea for sore throat when I was a child, and it always cured it. Peneroyal Tea, a mint tea was what my mother gave us a lot of for colds; we often had it at suppertime, we all liked it. It grows wild in the timber here. (Macon County, Illinois)

Dandelion greens are good kidney medicine, I use it every spring when the dandelions first come up. Cook till tender, then save the liquid and drink it. The greens are fine with salad dressing, with hard boiled eggs on top. Carrots are good for the eyes and celery is a nerve medicine. Gargle with salt and vinegar is a good remedy for sore throat."

She also is an advocate of following the signs of the moon, (as was also the writer's father.) Here is a clipping from John Baer's Almanac, of which she sent several pages some of which did not fit into this particular story.

(To be continued)

FROM MILWAUKEE JOURNAL
GONE ARE THE MEDICAL 'QUACKS'
WHO USED TO TRAVEL STATE

The changes of medical practice in our state are greater than many of us realize. An article in the Wisconsin Medical Journal recalls the great following that traveling doctors used to have.

Some were the products of medical schools. Others had a "degree" from a diploma mill or just assumed the title of "doctor." They would proclaim their coming visits far in advance, often blatantly.

A Dr. J. O. Brewester was particularly popular around southern Wisconsin some 60 years ago, according to the Wisconsin Medical Journal article. His advertisement in a Stoughton paper announced that he would be "at the Hutson House for one day only to cure all serious diseases as well as mild ones, such as skin eruptions and sores. I have 17,500 cases in my case book."

A former patient has told how Dr. Brewester quickly diagnosed his troubles as "consumption" that would soon be fatal without steady dosage with "Doctor Brewster's Consumptive Cure." A woman patient was told she suffered from 25 different diseases, and bought enough various pills from the doctor to "cover a table top."

The surgeons who visited small communities periodically were of many kinds, too, but in most cases had some qualms about their cutting. We remember one who made available his services monthly at the hotel in a northern Wisconsin village. He was such a heavy drinker that he'd have "the shakes" in the morning. So he would stand by the window, whiskey glass in one hand and scalpel in the other, downing one swig after another until he could see his hand was steady enough to operate.

Quackery and incompetence has by no means been eliminated from the treatment of the sick in Wisconsin, but certainly great progress has been made.

FROM READERS DIGEST FEBRUARY 1961

In Colonial Williamsburg, in the Apochicary shop you can see the elixirs, lotions, balms and ointments used by colonial doctors. The medical herbs, tabaico, aromatic spices and sassafras tea are still for sale.

The End

THE WINTER FAMILY

It has become increasingly difficult to find time to do the necessary research to produce family stories for this column.

However through the courtesy of Mrs. Virgil Obermeyer, corresponding with other members of the Winter family living elsewhere, to give some information in addition to a few items picked up from general reading of local papers of long ago.

An advertisement of long standing appeared in the local paper, referred to a hotel, inn or tavern, kept by a Mr. Winter and called Winter's place, but did not give his given name or initials.

Later, there were advertisements referring to 'Winter the Jeweler".

If one had unlimited time to read the back numbers for a period of years it might disclose more information but since the writer can no longer devote the necessary time, because of many other projects, he may have to, at least temporarily, discontinue research of general items, and confine his writing to specific facts, as for examples the centennial of the F. and M. Bank in September, 1961.

Mrs. Winter, wife of the hotel keeper and mother of a large family, was an older sister of Julius Krueger, who owned and operated a Hardware Store and Tin shop here years ago; Caroline Krueger and was married to Mathais Winter, who was a cooper by trade. They were probably married in Watertown.

The following family information was obtained by Mrs. Obermeyer or her mother, Mrs. Leo Winter, from a cousin, Mrs. Gimler now living in St. Paul, Minn. and typed by Mrs. Obermeyer. No doubt there are a number of people locally who will remember some of those mentioned.

"I will try and give you some of the facts as I know them about the Winter family.

Caroline Krueger came over from Germany with her parents, brothers and sisters landing in Quebec, Canada and working their way to Watertown, Wisconsin. Her parents are buried there. Julius Krueger the Hardware man of Columbus years ago was her youngest brother. She married **Mathais Winter,** I would imagine in Watertown, and if my memory is correct he was a cooper by trade.

I know their first child was born in Watertown. I am not sure about the second one, but the other 8 were born in Columbus. They must have moved to Columbus around 1860 or before. When Mr. Winter came to America I would not know.

I remember Mrs. Winter saying one came from Fulda and she also mentioned Schleswig-Holstein. Mr. Winter passed away before my mother (Tillie) was married. They did have a "saloon" and boarding house on James street and I believe had a fire around 1863. Mother cannot remember if her father passed away while the business was there or on Ludington St. where they later located. I do know that Mrs. Winter ran that business alone for some time selling the building and business to a person by the name of Voth, I think. I know it was after 1901 because that is the year we moved to Milwaukee and I remember my brother and myself going to visit our grandmother during summer vacation. I also remember going over to Wellers and playing with Clara. (Have often wondered what happed to her). There were ten childern born to Mr. and Mrs. Winter. Their home was the place of many a good time with the young folks of that time. The death dates are on the stones at the cemetery.

Francis, the oldest, was born I believe in 1855 in Watertown, Wis. Her girlhood was spent in Columbus and she met Jake Magenheimer who worked for the jeweler. They were married and moved to Jordan, Minn. where he opened a jewelry store. They had seven children, one having passed away in infancy, one at 12 years of age, and Carl in his 20's. After Mr. Magenheimer's death in the early 1900's Francis moved to St. Paul, Minn. with her family. Her daughter Caroline (Callie) passed away in 1957, age 78. She was married to Henry Duenwald who passed away in July, 1960. Her daughter Ella never married and passed away in May, 1960. Anna who married Harley Foote still lives in St. Paul, Minn. as does her brother Louis who married Beth Fehland and they have one daughter. Francis passed away in 1939.

To Be Continued

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By E. A. STARE

INSTALLMENT NO. 505 JUNE 29, 1961

THE WINTER FAMILY, continued

Charles learned the jewelry trade from H. M. Brown for whom he worked in Columbus. He went to visit his sister Frances in Jordon, Minn. where he met Kate Gehring whom he later married. They moved to River Falls where he engaged in the jewelry business until he passed away in 1938. They had two children, Otto who passed away during the flu epidemic of World War I



Mathais Winter



Mrs. Mathais Winter

and Coie who is married to Wilbur Ensign. They live in Minneapolis. They had one son Winter Ensign who is married and has two children living in St. Paul.

Anthony "Tony" had a harness business and married Bertha Haas from Mauston I believe. They had one son Arthur who lives in Reedsburg where his mother married Charles Borning. Arthur took over his step fathers butcher business from which he also is now retired and one of his sons is running it.

Louis, also a jeweler, had a business in New Richmond for a short time. He married Nellie Murdoch and they had one son that died in infancy. Nellie also passed away in New Richmond.

Lizzie, I believe her name was Elizabeth, was married first to Jul Linder. They had one son Carl who passed away at the age of 13 at his grandmother's home on Ludington street. I think he was going to the Lutheran school for confirmation classes. She married Henry



Tillie, Mrs. Louis Vick; Leo, Lizzie, Mrs. Henry Mauth and Minnie, Mrs. William Voss.

Mauth and lived on a farm in Columbus until Henry passed away in 1925. Lizzie died in 1935. They had three children, Ruth who is married to Christian Steinbach and Clarence and Louisa who are still on the homestead farm.

Mathilda (Tillie) spent her girlhood in Columbus as well as her early married years. She was born in Columbus in May, 1863, and still living at the age of 97 in good health but rather feeble. She can remember way back when but some things have slipped her mind. She talks about a picnic that the young folks had at Lost Lake and a storm came up and about picnics her father had in a grove he owned across from the depot. It usually was a 4th of July picnic with greased pig and all. The young folks would help make the ice cream. Also the girls had to get up very early to pack lunches for the railroad crew. Must have been putting in some tracks. Dinner or I suppose it was supper in those days was put on the table for 25c and all you could eat.

In November 1887 she married Louis A. Vick who boarded with her folks coming from Waterloo, Wisconsin where his folks lived and his father had the general store. Mr. Vick worked for Mirrow and Prien and the John Topp and Bros. Company store for many years. He was also assistant postmaster for a time under who I do not know. Two children were born to this union, Fred W. Vick who resides in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin with his wife, the former Elsa Kohl of Milwaukee. Their three children are Margaret married to Ed Frey (they have two children) Frederick living in Waukesha (he and his wife have one son) and Eunice married to Jack Gregory (three children) living near the parents. The daughter Elsa is married to Rudolph Gimler and lives in St. Paul, Minnesota with whom her mother Tillie now resides.

Elsa had three sons, Eugene married to Betty Ann Flesher, Richard married to Leona (Leanna) Nielson) they have one son and Robert married to Dorothy Morris an English girl. They have one son and all live in St. Paul, Minn.

Going back to Mr. and Mrs. Vick—they moved to Milwaukee in 1901 where Mr. Vick worked for several wholesale houses traveling salesman until his death in 1912. Mr. Vick is buried on the Winter lot at Hillside.

Albert was married. He was also a jeweler and lived in St. Paul, later going to Colorado where he died some years ago. They had one son, Lamont who resided in St. Paul. I do not know too much about Albert or his wife Minnie having met them only once while on vacation here in 1920.

Caroline (Lena) married Fred Geisel who was a tailor. He worked for A. M. Bellack and belonged to the band and was a fireman. After they were married they moved to Fort Atkinson where he opened a tailoring business. There were three children, Frieda who passed away a few years after her mother, Edward and Olga Geisel Johnson still live in the homestead in Fort Atkinson. Olga has two children, one of whom lives with her daughter. One son lives at Crandon and there are three grandchildren.

Wilhelmina (Minnie) married William Voss in Columbus and they farmed all their married life till old age overtook them and the last year was spent living with their daughter, Clara Lange. Both were natives of Columbus. There six children, one having died in infancy and Dorothy a few years ago. Clara Lange, Linda Schultz and George still live in Columbus. Both Minnie and Will as they were known to all, lived to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Leo A. was connected with the volunteer fire department, a runner with the hose cart. He was a stone cutter and worked for Turner and Blumenthal till the business closed up as far as I remember. He was first married to Cora Waddell and they had one daughter, Zelma who passed away. He then married Mabel Rasmussen who with three children survive. Mrs. Winter lives in Columbus as does her daughter, Glorida and son Russell. Her son Floyd with his family lives in Pewaukee. Many of the stones in surrounding cities and also Columbus cemeteries were cut and lettered by Mr. Winter.

I believe all the children had their schooling in Columbus. They were members of the Lutheran church. They never had a family picture taken as grandpa was sick for many years and died a year before my mother was married.

The End



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

April 5, 1962
Installment No. 515

After a necessary leave of absence, of some months, in an effort to finish two other writing projects, in addition to a sizeable job of research and writing the supplement of the Journal-Republican on the occasion of the observance of the 100th anniversary of the Farmers and Merchants Union Bank, and the brochure distributed by the bank at the "Open House" of the bank and the new addition, we have finally reached a point where we can begin to think about a resumption of this column.

OVER TEN YEARS

For more than ten years we have covered many phases of the settlement that began in 1839 when Major Elbert Dickason built the first cabin near the Crawfish across from the railroad tracks under the little grove of oak trees some of which still survive. Although it would be 25 years before the rails came by the site.

We have not confined our write ups of pioneers and their descendants, to Columbia County only, but have covered as many as possible in surrounding townships in Dodge and Dane counties.

BIOGRAPHIES AND EVENTS

Not only biographies, but almost every activity in a pioneer frontier, such as roads, bridges, agriculture, churches, lodges, plank roads, railroads, canals, etc., have been covered, including about sixty installments pertaining to the Civil War as it affected our area.

There is a greatly increased interest in the Civil War, as the whole country is only nicely started on the five year observance of the Centennial 1861-1865, and new books by the hundreds have and are being published.

MORE CIVIL WAR EVENTS

It will surely follow, that more Civil War sketches of Columbia County soldiers who have distinguished themselves in that great conflict, will be written.

But sooner or later, as the case may be, we will be inclined to skip a few decades and move up into the present century, covering "this and that," perhaps including some of the literature published in local papers, and many subjects perhaps more interesting to present day folks.

The coming of city water, sewerage, pavements, fire protection, industry, more and better schools, council proceedings and dozens of topics that could turn up.

In order to require less researching than here-to-fore, we will use as source material, what is easier to get from the columns of the local newspapers, as bound copies of the local paper, the Democrat are available. Unavailable, because they have not been bound, are copies of the Republican, in storage in a basement room of the library. But these last mentioned have all been microfilmed and are on file with the State Historical Society.

SAVE THE PAPERS

The last time the writer examined the Republicans, several boxes of them, under the porch of the library,they seemed to be in good condition. It is to be regretted that some existing organization, or some group organized for the express purpose, does not raise the money to have these papers bound in annual volumes, thus preserving them for posterity.

These papers belong to the Columbus Journal-Republican, they having acquired the back numbers of both the Republican and the Democrat when they purchased first one and then the other. The Democrats being bound in book form when acquired, it was perfectly logical that they kept them as was.

LOOKING FORWARD

When we found it necessary to drop, temporarily, "The Story of Columbus" we had some notes that had not been written up. We will probably put a few of these family sketches into presentable shape and use this material first, meanwhile concentrating on material developed after turning the hands of the clock forward from ninety years ago, up to 50-60 years ago.

MANY NATIONALITIES

When the writer first came to Columbus to make his future home in 1902, one of the first things he noticed was that most of the family names were different.

While he had lived in three communities in three different states prior to coming into Wisconsin, this change or difference in names had not been particularly noticeable. In Ford County, Illinois, in a village of about three hundred there were possibly not more than fifty families. There were two churches, a German and English. The German was probably Lutheran but it was known as the German church. The other was Methodist.

The family names were not unusual and could easily be classified as Germans, about one-third and English two-thirds, from the Western flow from the East Coast.

In central Iowa, in a county seat town of a few thousand, there were half a dozen churches, all English, and there were many foreign tongues. I was not exposed to them and probably gave no thought to a difference in family names.

When I (then 21 years of age) jumped from Iowa to Maine, where everything was readily different, even a special kind of down East language, with different sounding words where I was the foreigner and had to learn a lot of new things. Take the word Pierce in the mid-west we would call it just that, but in Maine Mr. Pierce would be Mr. Purse. This is a good illustration

A MELTING POT OF NAMES

Upon arrival in Wisconsin, I found a real melting pot of names, many of them brand new to me. Such names as Swarthout, Quickenden, Woltersdorf, Ludington, Dickason, VonBriesen, Birdsey, Vosberg, Blievernicht, just to mention a few, are names I had never heard.

OLD WORLD WISCONSIN

A very readable book "Old World Wisconsin" written some years ago by Fred L. Holmes is a good example of what I am trying to say. We found in this community many different nationalities, English, Scotch, Irish, Welsh, Norwegian, Swedes, Danes, Germans, Dutch, Swiss and others.

But it was not always thus. The earliest pioneers in Wisconsin in the eastern and southern part of the territory were from the New England States and the Middle States.

After achieving statehood in 1848, and with great unrest in Europe, the Germans in particular began coming in large numbers, and in the decade prior to the Civil War, Milwaukee and the lake shore areas, and some interior areas, particularly Watertown as a center, became predominantly German.

—Continued Next Week—

742



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

April 12, 1962
Installment No. 516

SWARTHOUT

While the writer never knew Mr. John Swarthout personally, he did become acquainted very shortly with his partner, Mr. James Quickenden, becoming a close friend up until the time of his death.

In previous research the name Swarthout appeared frequently, especially in the records of Fountain Prairie, and is one of the families I had marked to be written up.

In the first census, taken in June 1846, page 383, Columbia County History, published in 1880, appear the names of Jacob Swarthout, (7) indicating a household of seven and Thomas Swarthout (6) indicating a family of six.

However, this was only an enumeration of families and the number of inmates, and does not give section or township; but on page 747 we find a group of names of early arrivals, in which there are mentioned three different Swarthouts, John, Nelson, and Jacob.

When the Federal Government first opened the land east of the Wisconscin River to settlement, it was necessary for the settler desiring to purchase land, which was to be had at a cost of $50 per each 40 acres, to go to Green Bay to the Federal Land office, make his claim; pay his money, and get his title. There were no roads of consequence so it was necessary to walk or ride a pony.

Sometimes more than one person had his eye on the same parcels of land and it was first come first served.

COLUMBIA COUNTY HISTORY

Near the bottom of page 748 we find the following "There were frequently strifes among the early settlers for possession of choice pieces of land." On one occasion Mr. E. J. Smith and Jacob Swarthout, each desired the same tract, so one morning, unknown, as he thought, to any one, Mr. Smith started off to Green Bay to secure title to the land of his choice.

Mr. Swarthout was informed of the fact, during the day, and just before night he mounted an Indian pony and started for the same place. When about half way, he made a temporary exchange with an Indian for his pony and continued on his way without taking time to rest.

He arrived at his destination about six hours ahead of Mr. Smith, and so secured title to the land."

"During the first ten years of Fountain Prairie, it was settled by many men who turned out to be first class farmers and leading and able men, among whom might be mentioned John Brown, Henry C. Brace, Oliver Field, Stephen Field, William Proctor, Victor Brossard, Jacob Swarthout, Henry C. Field, John Q. Adams and others. Three or four of whom have been written up, or frequently mentioned, in The Story of Columbus.

FIRST TOWN MEETING

The first town meeting in Fountain Prairie was held April 3, 1849, at the store of A. A. Brayton in Fall River. Sixty-two names were on the list, all of whom are listed on page 749, Columbia County History (1880), one of whom was Jacob Swarthout.

At this meeting, officers were chosen, and the meeting voted to raise $125 for current expenses, $175 for school purposes, and $30 for bridge plank. They also assumed lawmaking power, and voted that to be legal, a fence must be not less than 4½ feet high and that "fence viewers" be named to look at all fences and determine whether each was legal or not.

HOME MADE LAWS

The meeting also enacted local laws about livestock running at large, for example no male swine to be permitted at large and were to be forfeited: that hogs shall not be permitted to be "free comoner," except in the months of October, November and December. These being the months when hogs found plenty of acorns, hazel nuts, hickory, etc. But "orderly" horses, cattle and sheep could run at large, except stallion horses and buck sheep, could not. A fine of $5.00 to be imposed on any person violating the foregoing laws.

A few years later, this by-law was put on the record.

FINDERS KEEPERS

"Moved and carried that hogs running at large shall not be considered as property, but shall become the property of any man who will take up and keep them confined.

The first highway located in Fountain Prairie, was a Territorial road from Fort Winnebago to Fort Atkinson, in 1844, by the way of Columbus and Waterloo. The route was approximately the same as Highway 16 from Columbus to Otsego as it was a few years ago.

SWARTHOUTS SERVE IN OFFICE

In 1851 John Swarthout was Town Treasurer, a year later Jacob Swarthout was a supervisor, and in 1855 Jacob was assessor.

On page 747 of Columbia County History, referring to 1844 we quote "During that summer and or in the next few years, a number of settlers came in among whom were: (there follows a list of twenty names) including John Swarthout, Nelson Swarthout and Jacob Swarthout. On page 708 we find "among those who were residents of the Town of Columbus in 1845 and 1846 (among a list of about 75 names) were John Swarthout, Thomas Swarthout and Jacob Swarthout.

This indicates that the several Swarthout farmers may have been located in both townships, Columbus and Fountain Prairie.

On page 1069 may be found twenty lines, giving sketch of Jacob Swarthout, in the section devoted to sketches of people living in Fountain Prairie.

JACOB SWARTHOUT

Jacob Swarthout, farmer, Sec. 28 P.O. Fall River; born in Chenango County, New York; son of Thomas and Mary (Schumaker) Swarthout of Pennsylvania; settled on the farm he now owns, in the fall of 1843.

He married at Dundee, Yates Co. New York by Elder Martin to Miss Rachel Smaully, September 20, 1834; had two children — Mary, born 1840 (who became wife of Linus Birdsey, of Columbus, Wisconsin) and Josephine, 1850, who became wife of William Couger, an engineer of Brookfield, Missouri, as of 1880.)

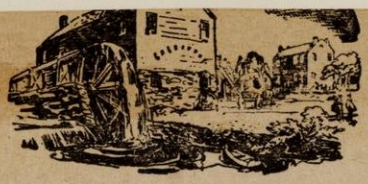
Jacob married for the second time, December 9, 1852, to Caroline A. daughter of Joseph and Mary (Ward) Mathews, by Elder Cyrus Rosencrans; six children were born to them, Andrew H. 1855; Ella 1857; Carrie 1859; Eddie M. 1861; John Jacob, 1862, and Willie, 1866.

Jacob Swarthout was a straight-out temperance man, a Republican in politics, a Methodist in religion and for several years had different offices including supervisors and treasurer.

His grandfather, John Swarthout, was New Jersey man and held a commission as captain under George Washington in the Revolutionary War.

His uncle, Daniel Swarthout, was a non-commissioned officer in the War of 1812.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

April 19, 1962
Insallment 517

Mr. Jacob Swarthout relates that soon after settling here, a severe wind took the roof off the house, carrying with it his sister Mary (who became the wife of Frank M. Clack, a Columbus carpenter.)

The high winds carried her about eighty rods into a grove of small timber. He, his mother and Willard Grant were in the lower part of the house and were uninjured except for a slight bruise on his mothers arm, which was struck by a falling joist. Mary received no permanent injury.

He also recalled a bad storm of 1858, completely divested some farms of their crops, buildings and fences, wrecking the dwellings of Mr. Hurd and Mr. Morey, and that a stranger stopping at the time with Mr. Morey, received injuries of which he later died.

Mr. Conger, the husband of Josephine Swarthout was a Union soldier in the Third Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry, for about 3 years.

Nothing in this biography indicates whether any of his land lay in the town of Columbus, but a map of 1890 shows forty acres in Section 28 and 76 in Section 27 in the name of J. Swarthout.

JOHN SWARTHOUT

On page 978 we find a brief biography of John Swarthout, a druggist in Columbus. He was born in Yates County, New York, in 1819. He migrated to Wisconsin (territory) in the fall of 1843 and located at Southport, (Kenosha) and a year later, 1844, he came to Columbus (then Portage County) and probably lived on a farm, possibly his own, or on that of Jacob. In September, 1848, he went back to Buffalo, New York. He returned to Columbus, bringing in the first stock of drugs brought into Columbia County.

He was elected the first Tax Collector in Columbia County, 1847-1848. He was appointed Post Master of Columbus, by President Grant in 1872 and continued by different re-appointment.

John was married to Miss Mary A., daughter of Hirman and Sarah Swift, a native of Vermont. Mrs. Swarthout was a member of the Universalist Church.

THOMAS AND MARY

John Swarthout's parents were Thomas and Mary Swarthout, both of whom are buried in what has long been called Hillside Cemetery in Columbus. Mary having passed away in 1859 aged 62 and Thomas in 1867, aged 71 years.

From the Columbus Republican-Journal of February 2, 1859, we take the following obituary. "Died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. F. M. Black, in this village, Wednesday, January 18, 1859, Mrs. Thomas (Mary) Swarthout aged 63 years, 6 months and 26 days. She was a member of the M.E. Church, Fall River. She had buried three children in infancy and three after they had arrived at maturity. She and her husband and family came to the Territory of Wisconsin and were among the early pioneers of Methodism in the township of Fountain Prairie." The figures above would indicate that she was born in 1796.

Information obtained by removing sod and grass from the top of their flat tomb stone shows Thomas died at the age of 71 years, six months and 21 days, therefore, he, too, was born in 1796.

Another stone adjoining shows the name Gilbert, born January 21, 1852, but other figures or words have eroded away. However in a write up of John Swarthout, which follows, shows that his brother Gilbert kept the store for him while he was among the "Gold Seekers" in California in 49-50.

JOHN F. (FAY) SWARTHOUT

Through the courtesy of the late Mrs. Dorothy Swarthout, and the kindness of Miss Mollie Swarthout, a high school teacher in White Fish Bay, Milwaukee, sister-in-law of Dorothy, we obtained helpful information in the Birdsey family story, as well as the address of John F. Swarthout, better known some years ago as "Fay," who once worked in the office of Columbus Canning Co.

Fay had held an important position as District traveling representative of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad (from which he retired in 1953) operating midwestern territory based at Denver, Colorado. On April 24, 1960, he suffered a stroke which left him paralyzed on the left side which requires the use of a wheel chair. He now resides at 7009 Nubbin Ridge Road, Knoxville, Texas.

In answer to a few questions we learn that Thomas Swarthout, father of John, the druggist, and Jacob Swarthout was great grandfather to Fay, or John F. Since Fay is not a descendent of John we assume that he is a grandson of Jacob. Although other given names are mentioned as having been found in Columbia County History. We here quote "My Great Grandfather lived on the road south of us, that goes East and West past Jay Waterworth's and the Rolf Haynes farm."

"When I was a boy there still was a depression in the ground which his house stood, a short distance east of the road coming south from Highway 16, past Dr. E. M. Poser's farm.

"He died twenty years before I was born, so I only know what my father told me. (or us)."

HAND MADE SHOES

"Thomas was a shoemaker. (It was the usual thing in those early days that the head of a family have a trade or occupation or profession at which he worked, such as carpenter, stone mason, blacksmith, wagon maker, minister, school master, tin smith, shoe maker, sawyer, etc., while the boys and girls did the work in the fields, the garden, the wood cutting, etc. Even doctors and lawyers frequently still lived on the farm and practiced their professions in the village.)

"At that period most shoes or boots, or any kind of foot wear was made by hand, as they were better made, more comfortable and less expensive. Many well to do families kept their own lasts, and shoemakers would make their rounds of customers.

Others placed their orders and left their lasts in possession of their favorite shoemaker, who also had several pairs of lasts of standard sizes for those who had none or needed new ones.

In Mrs. Imogene McCaffery's little brochure "Reminiscence of the Early Days of Columbus" she says, "Mr. Swarthout and sons, opened the first shoe shop; he was the father of our first druggist.

Fay writes, "When I was a boy we had a couple of barrels of wooden lasts at the farm. Most men wore boots rather than shoes, and all seams were sewn by hand, and the soles and heels fastened to the uppers with hard wood square pegs driven into holes made by an awl. Uppers were tacked to the last and stretched tight to keep its shape and size.

If by chance there are still some of these wooden lasts in existence, it would be nice if they were given to the Columbia County Historical Society.

(Continued Next Week)

GOLDEN WEDDING

In the Columbus Democrat of February 26, 1902, appeared the following article about the Golden Wedding Anniversary of John and Mary Swarthout.

Mr. and Mrs. John Swarthout, of this city married fifty years ago. Event celebrated yesterday. A few interesting facts regarding their early days in this city.

Yesterday, the 4th of March, 1902, marked the golden wedding anniversary of our long time residents and well beloved neighbors. Mr. and Mrs. John Swarthout, who were married in the suburbs of this city fifty years ago, on the 4th of March, by the Rev. C. E. Rosenkrans.

A few months prior to that, in 1851, Mr. Swarthout built the present home on James Street. He came here to that house with his bride in th spring of 1852, and with some alterations and improvements they have occupied this home uninterruptedly during the entire fifty years of their married life.

Here their only child, their daughter, Eva, was born, who lived to become a beautiful girl of 17 (according to her tomb stone at Hillside the dates are 1853-1873) passing away during her senior year in high school.

Of the guests now living who were present at the wedding, the names of the following seven are recalled. Mrs. Jenny Gary, sister of Mrs. Swarthout; Mrs. Mary Birdsey, niece of Mr. Swarthout; Mrs. Medbury, Mr. Harvey Loomis, all of this city, as well as Josiah Arnold of Janesville, Wisconsin; and Mr. Clinton Smith of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

JOHN AND MARY

John Swarthout and Mary Adelaide Swift, came to Wisconsin (territory) with their respective parents, from different points, and settling in different localities. Their acquaintance beginning some three or four years later.

Mrs. Swarthout's parents were Hiram and Sarah Swift, who lived at Shoreham, Vermont, at the time of her birth, in 1832. During her early childhood they removed from Vermont to Ft. Ann, New York, followed by removal to Wisconsin in 1843, settling on what was later known as the Robinson property (and still later as the Walter Johnson farm, and now a part of the Wisconsin Academy property) in Fountain Prairie, near Columbus, and where she was living at the time of her marriage.

HIRAM SWIFT

Hiram Swift, the father of Mrs. Swarthout, died on the Pacific Ocean, enroute to California, during the gold rush in 1850. Her mother died in the Swarthout home in Columbus in 1887.

Mr. Swarthout was born in Starkey, Yates County, New York. (Yates county is in middle New York State in the Finger Lakes section five counties east of Lake Erie and eight counties west of the Massachusetts and Vrmont line.)

Mr. Swarthout came to Kenosha (then called South Post) in 1843, and to the town of Fountain Prairie in 1846, where he soon formed the acquaintance of the Swift family, and the young girl then in her teens, who was destined six years later to become his wife.

OUR FIRST DRUGGIST

During 1846 he became a resident of Columbus; was tax collector in 1847 and 1848. He also started a drug store in 1848, and the following year he went to California, leaving his store interests under the temporary charge of his brother, Gilbert, until his return in 1851.

Mr. Swarthout's parents, Thomas and Mary, died here, and were laid to rest in the Columbus Cemetery. (Thomas died on January 11, 1867, at age 71 years, 6 months, and 21 days; his wife Mary had passed away in 1859 at the age of 62 years, 6 months and 26 days).

The style of the first drug firm in Columbus was Swarthout and Axtell, and occupied a small frame building where is now (1902) the Peters Restaurant. Later for a while it was Swarthout and Silsbee, (his first partner was Dr. James C. Axtell, first doctor in Columbus, who lost his life in the Civil War, shortly thereafter Mr. Silsbee joined him.)

The second location and the third were buildings across James Street from first location. His last move was in 1868 into a new brick store he built, which is the present Sharrow Drug Store and until recently the second floor was for about 60 years the offices of the Doctors Poser. The style of the firm was Swarthout and Quickenden, where as of 1902, Mr. Swarthout still came to the store at the ripe old age of 83.

It is likely that he is the oldest man active in the Wisconsin drug trade, and it is perhaps quite safe to claim that his record of 54 years (as of 1902) as a druggist in one place is hardly to be matched, in Wisconsin at least.

HE WAS A REPUBLICAN

In politics Mr. Swarthout is a thorough Republican, and while active in the local affairs of his party, had never sought or held elective office, though he was postmaster for 17 years, holding commissions under Grant, Hayes, Garfield and Arthur. This long term of office will illustrate the popularity of the man in his own community.

His friends are limited only by the list of his acquaintances, and there is no more widely known man in this and surrounding township than John Swarthout, his name is a synonym of candor, of kindness, of strict commercial honor and exalted personal integrity.

So it is that among all who love him there are none more steadfast than the old time advertisers who have crossed swords with him in the clash of party warfare, and who eagerly join hands and hearts with all of us today in bringing congratulations and well wishes to neighbor John and his kindly wife, as in health and happiness they are rounding up fifty years of idyllic wedded life.

OF REVOLUTIONARY DESCENT

Mrs. Swarthout, like her husband, is of Revolutionary descent, each of their paternal grandfathers, Jirah Swift and Johanus Swarthout, being officers in the American army.

The Swarthout family was founded in New York State by Thomas and his son Roeloff, from Holland in 1662. The Swift family came from England in 1630. William Swift was the first of Mrs. Swarthout's American ancestors. The early Swifts were "Cape Cod folks" of the Puritan settlement.

In character, Mrs. Swarthout has preserved some traits of her Puritan liveage, as evidenced by the unaffected simplicity of her daily life, by her unsavoring loyalty and interest in the religious life of the community and her unostentatious charity, and her dislike of shame and pretense.

But expecting perhaps her quiet composure of manner there is little exterior reminder of the Puritan matron in the personality of this broadminded, s u r v e y hearted woman, whose inherent graciousness at once unites our friendliness and compells our deference.

Mrs. Swarthout is a woman of liberal education and wide reading, a woman of culture not only in the outward graces which mark the person of refinement and gentle living, but in the higher qualities of mind and heart. She has not allowed advancing years to prevent her keeping pace with the social and literary development of the times or keeping well in touch with the current affairs of the world.

Mrs. Swarthout enjoys the society of younger people, so often in the old home are gathered the Swift and Swarthout clans of loving nieces and nephews ever to the second and third degree, who know that days of study, of toil and endeavor, are made lighter and easier by an occasional pilgrimage to "Aunt Molly's" tranquil realm. But it is not alone the bidden guests who have been cheered by her kindly thoughtfulness. Many a poor and lowly one, ill in body, or in material distress, has known the charm of her soothing presence, or been sustained by her quiet and timely benefactions.

Mr. and Mrs. Swarthout have lived to see Columbus develop from a cluster of struggling houses to a beautiful little city.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

May 3, 1962
Installment No. 519

They were married three years before we had a railroad. (wrong, it was May, 1857 when the first train ran to Columbus, or five years after the wedding.) Freight was brought by teams from Milwaukee, before the railroad built in. They have seen the transaction from the tallow dip to the arc light, from the plank road to the trolly line, from the weekly post to the abiding telephone, from the well sweep to the water tower; from traceless woods and prairie to a network of roads from farms to city.

Many of the old settlers who came with them to endure the privations and discomforts of a new land, are still with us. We of today are enjoying the fruits of their labors, of their strength and sacrifices.

So to our dear neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. John Swarthout, who lived and labored and wrought in those strenuous days, and are permitted to be with us, hale and hearty on their golden wedding day, we bring our tribute of love, and thoughtfulness and affection and with it all, our hearty congratulations, that the fiftieth year of their married life finds them spared to each other and to their many friends here and elsewhere, with whom we join in wishing them the measure of the happiness they have brought to others, and praying that, undivided and undisturbed, the placid current of their gracious lives may flow on for many years to come."

(We have no way of knowing who the writer of this tribute may have been; surely it was someone who knew them long and well. To shorten the tribute because of space limitation, we have omitted about one fourth, without losing any pertinent facts. The article is 2½ columns in length. The Editors at the time were Weiler and Thomson).

OBITUARY OF MRS. MARY A. SWARTHOUT (MRS. JOHN SWARTHOUT)

Died Friday, June 30, 1911, at her home on James Street, (next to the library.) Rev. Olympis Brown (Mrs. Willis) of Racine an old friend officiating.

Mary A. Swift, daughter of Hiram B. and Sarah R. Swift, was born at Shoreheim, Vermont, May 13, 1832.

She with her parents, came to Columbus in the early pioneer days. (H. B. Swift with a family of six appears on first family census of Columbia County, Wisconsin Territory, taken in June 1846, page 383 Columbia County History.)

(They settled on what was, as of 1911, called the Walter Johnson farm, which is now a part of Wisconsin Academy property.)

On March 4, 1852, she was married to John Swarthout, (who was the first druggest to open a store in this county) and they moved from the prairie to Columbus, and have occupied the house (where their deaths occurred,) ever since they moved in.

They had only one child, a daughter Eva Mary, born 1853, November 16, who died May 14, 1873.

Mrs. Swarthout had one sister surviving, Mrs. Jenn Gray and two nieces, Mrs. W. G. Mack and Mrs. J .T Trenery.

Her husband John died in 1904. There were two honorary pall bearers, John Hasey, Capt. Martin Hobart, Lewis J. Sawyer, George W. Shepard, John Jackson, Evan D. Evans, G. S. Dodge, J. R. Goff, D. S. Fuller and Dr. E. Churchill. They with their wives are a part of the long youth of Columbus, along with these and other friends were Frank Higgins, an early drug store competitor, Silas Axtel, early merchant and brother of Dr. James Axtel, first physician, Lucien Drake, Dr. Smith, A. G. Good and wife, Dr. Earll and wife, Harvey Brown and his sister who became Mrs. Hodge, Willard Scott and wife and many others.

All these and many more were want to gather at the Swarthout home, the hospitality of which was proverbial and make merry after the days work was done.

(END OF SWARTHOUT STORY)

JOSEPH BAILEY

Among Columbia County volunteers in the Civil War, who greatly distinguished themselves, was Joseph Bailey who was a resident of what was then called Kilbourn City, now Wisconsin Dells.

In Love's "Wisconsin in the War of the Rebellion" written by Wm. DeLoss Love, and published in 1866 by Church and Goodman, Chicago. Capt. Bailey is mentioned frequently, as well as a biographical sketch of some length, about five pages.

Also a splendid condensation appears in the 1880 Columbia County History by Butterfield, which is no doubt better and shorter than this writer could do. It begins on page 522.

"Joseph Bailey was born in May, 1827, in Ashtabula, Ohio. Five years later in 1832 he moved with his parents and family to Livingston, Fulton County, Illinois and received his education at Quincy, which is on the Mississippi River.

He spent much of his early life in the lead mines near Galena, and in exploring for minerals in Kansas and Missouri (which by inference might mean that he had only an elementary or village school education.)

HE CAME TO COLUMBIA COUNTY

In 1850 (when he would have been about twenty-three years of age) he took up residence in Columbia County, Wisconsin, and in conjunction with Jonathan Bowman, founded the village of Newport on the Wisconsin River a few miles below what is now Wisconsin Dells, before which it was known as Kilbourn City. Should anyone care to read more about the town and the village of Newport, he will be amply rewarded by turning to pages 802 to 832 in the above mentioned history, a most interesting story of that portion of Columbia County.

MR. BOWMAN

Joseph Bailey laid claim to a quarter section of land on section 15, Township 13 North, Range 6. Mr. Bailey at that time was a young man with considerable energy and brilliant ideas, but with very little money. Mr. Bowman, in 1851 had just graduated from Law School in New York, and must have had money or was in touch with people who did.

Mr. Bailey proposed to Mr. Bowman, that if he would furnish the cash, to build a small warehouse, and pay for the land he had selected, he would give him an undivided half interest, and the two partners would have it surveyed, and plotted for a village. The proposition was accepted, and the plan was carried out.

CIVIL WAR

When the rebellion broke out, Bailey was engaged in the real estate business, logging and lumbering, and contracting of public works.

He immediately proceeded to raise a company of loggers and lumbermen, and tendered it to Gov. Randall who accepted the company. He was commissioned Captain, and his company known as the Columbia Rifles, Company D was assigned to the Fourth Regiment of Infantry under Col. Paine, and was sent east with his regiment to Baltimore.

Here Capt. Bailey's experience as a logger, lumbering, and construction contractor and being in command of a company, most of whom were skilled men, was brought into use.

FORT DIX

While stationed at Relay House, he superintended the construction of Fort Dix, a small but powerful work, which commanded the viaduct at that point. After this, he was in command in the construction of barracks for the regiment, in Patterson Park, Baltimore, and in 28 days completed a building 1550 feet long by 28 wide, with quartermaster and commissary buildings, and officers quarters.

Capt. Bailey accompanied the movements of the Fourth Wisconsin to Ship Island, New Orleans, and up the Mississippi to Vicksburg. Here, with six of his men, he went reconnoitering in the rear of the city for three days, ascertaining that the enemy had eight guns in position. After reporting and returning with the second expedition, Capt. Bailey was placed in command of the "working details" on the famous Gen. Benj. Bueter canal or "cutoff".

The work was engineered by a Polish Engineer and proved to be a failure. Continuing with the Fourth iWsconsin until September, 1862, Capt. Bailey was detached by Gen. Butler, to superintend the construction of Government levies. In October, he was ordered to construct a fortification on the right of Fort Parapet, and also a strong fort on the west side of the river. These works occupied his attention during the winter of 1862-63.

CHIEF ENGINEER FOR GENERAL SHERMAN

About this time, he was appointed Chief Engineer on Gen. W. T. Sherman's staff, and was subsequently employed in erecting heavy fortifications at Pass Manchac.

MAJOR BAILEY

Capt. Bailey was promoted to Major of the Fourth Wisconsin, in March, 1863, but still retained his position on the staff of General Sherman.

In the investment of Port Hudson, in May, it was found necessary to plant a battery on a ridge, which was commanded by a direct and enfilading fire of the enemy's artillery and musketry. The project was pronounced impracticable, except of great loss of life, by the Chief Engineer, and his subordinates, except Major Bailey, who thought it might be accomplished and urged his opinion with such pertinacity that the commanding General consented that the Major should make the attempt at its construction.

(CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment 520
May 10, 1962

HE DOES THE IMPOSSIBLE

Furnished with a detail of men from the Engineer Corps, and a regiment of infantry as supports, with characteristic energy the Major commenced his work, and, not withstanding the doubts and sneers of educated engineers, which were plentifully bestowed, in seventy-two hours he astonished the enemy by unmasking within 320 yards of their strongest work, a powerful battery of eighteen, nine-inch guns, which completely silenced, and kept silent, the enemy in his front.

Major Bailey also constructed a mine under one of the principal works of the enemy, by running a drift to a point in front of the water-side of the citadel, a distance of over four hundred yards. From the drift (tunnel) he approached by a series of parallels to the base of the enemy's works, under which he excavated a horizontal shaft, 180 feet in length, and at their terminus deposited twelve barrels of powder, and was nearly ready to explode the mine, on the fourth of July, when the place was surrendered.

COLONEL BAILEY

For his services during the siege (of Vicksburg) he was highly complimented by General Banks, who issued an order promoting him to the colonelcy of the Fourth Wisconsin Regiment. He at once took command of the regiment, but the authority of Gen. Banks to promote in the field was not recognized by the War Department, and Col. Boardman was placed in command of the Regiment. Major Bailey however was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, patriotically acquiesing to the decision of his superiors.

During the winter of 1863-64. Lieutenant Colonel Bailey was detached to engage in recruiting in Wisconsin. and in February 1864 he returned to the regiment with recruits sufficient to fill the Fourth Wisconsin to the maximum as a cavalry regiment, having been changed to a cavalry unit in the meantime.

On the 4th of March, 1864, Lieutenant Col. Bailey was again detached from the Fourth, to serve as Chief Engineer on the staff of General Franklin, who was commanding the Ninteenth Corps, and accompanied the Corps on the famous Red River expedition.

Returning with the army of Gen. Banks to Alexandria, it was found, because of a long dry spell, the water in the Red River had dropped so low that the fleet of gunboats and transports were entrapped and could not proceed down stream past the lower falls.

With the entire corps dispirited, a powerful force of the enemy threatening an attack hourly, commissary supplies nearly exhausted, with the fleet of gunboats and transports thus helpless and useless, every expedient to relieve them was abandoned as hopeless by those who had made military engineering a life study.

BAILEY DOES IT AGAIN

It was left for an obscure lumberman from Columbia County, Wisconsin, to put into practice that experience which, on a smaller scale, had enabled him and his brother-raftsmen to get their rafts off the river sand-bars and obstructions common to the streams on which they ply their trade.

Col. Bailey suggested the building of a dam, 640 feet long, to raise the water on the rapids, to enable the imprisoned vessels to pass over the rocks. The proposed plan was scoffed at by the educated engineers, but Col. Bailey received permission and at once went to work, and within eleven days had the dam completed, and after a little delay to raise the water high enough to raise the water level seven or eight feet the entire fleet was passed over the obstructions, and the army started upon its return rejoicing.

HIS CROWNING GLORY

This was the crowning glory in the military career of Col. Bailey. He received from all sides compliments for his skill and ingenuity. Commander Porter thanked him in a public letter and Congress passed the following note of thanks:

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, in Congress assembled, That the thanks of Congress be and are hereby tendered Lieutenant Col. Joseph Bailey, of the Fourth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers Acting Engineer of the Nineteenth Army Corps, for distinguished services in recent campaigns on Red River, by which the gunboat flotilla, under Rear Admiral David D. Porter, was rescued from iminent peril. And be it further resolved that the President of the United States be requested to cause a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Lieut. Col. Bailey."

The rank of Brevit Brigadier General was also conferred upon him, as a slight acknowledgment for his important services."

A BRIDGE OF BOATS

In the passage of the army across the Atchafalaya River. At Simonsport, the ingenuity of Col. Bailey, constructed a bridge of the transports of the fleet, which permitted the entire army to pass over safely, and in twelve minutes after the last wagon had crossed, the fleet of boats which had constituted the bridge was steaming rapidly toward the Mississippi.

(It has been stated that the value of the fleet saved, was not less than two million dollars, plus saving the lives of thousands of men).

On the 10th of June, 1864, Col. Bailey was brevetted Brigadier General, as previously stated, was given command of a Brigade, and was stationed on the Mississippi at the junction of the White and was subsequently assigned to the command of all the besieging forces operating against Fort Morgan, in Mobile Bay, and took the place.

After which he and his brigade were sent to Pensacola, Florida, took command of the district and was successful in three minor engagements.

FULL BRIGADIER

On November 10, 1864, he received a commission of full Brigadier General, and was sent to Baton Rouge, and commanded the First Division of Gen. Davidson's Corps of cavalry, on his raid through Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi. Returning to Baton Rouge, with his division, he was put in command of the Northern District, but in March 1865 he was ordered to join Gen. Canby, on Mobile Bay, in command of all engineer forces, consisting of a division and detachments of the army which finally took Mobile.

COMMANDS A CAVALRY BRIGADE

After the fall of Mobile, Gen. Bailey was placed in command of a Cavalry division, and moved to Baton Rouge, by land, with orders to look for Confederate President Jeff Davis, who was reported to be trying to leave the country.

(CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment 521
May 17, 1962

RETURNS TO CIVIL LIFE

As the war was practically over, this was the last assignment given Gen. Bailey, who then resigned his commission and returned to civil life in Kilbourn, Wisconsin. During his military career, he was several times wounded, but not severly enough to detain him more than a day or two.

Joseph Bailey was married in 1846 when he was about 19 years of age, to Miss Mary Spaulding, by whom he had seven children. Shortly after returning from the war, he moved to Vernon County, Missouri, where he was elected Sheriff of the County, and during the performance of his duties, was killed by two brothers named Pixley on March 25, 1867. The murderers escaped and were never captured, nothwithstanding a reward of $5,000, was offered by the county and every effort made for their apprehension.

The widow and the five younger children were left to mourn his loss.

General Bailey was highly respected by all who knew him, being brave and generous to a fault. He was very fond of his family and never so happy as when with them.

He was a member of the Masonic Fraternity and was buried with Masonic "honors."

GEN. JIM DAN HILL

The writer had the pleasure, some years ago, of hearing Gen. Jim Dan Hill, President of Wisconsin Normal School, Superior, Wisconsin, when he spoke before the State Historical Society, on the subject of the Red River Expedition, a most thrilling account of resourcefulness performed by a man with limited education, but through personal experience, and backed by many skilled woodsmen from his own Company D was able to do what his superiors thought was utterly impossible.

So far as this writer knows Joseph Bailey, was the only Columbia County soldier who was honored by Congressional Resolution for his skillful performance which saved an army and a fleet valued at upwards of $2,000,000.

(End of Joseph Bailey Story)

VILLAGE LIFE

When the writer was a young boy of seven up to 17 in 1893 he lived in a small village of about 300 people. Most families kept at least one cow, a pig or two, sometimes more, and chickens, and most had at least one horse but more likely two.

There were two or three pastures where you could turn your cow or cows to grass for a dollar a head per month; some did their milking at the pasture, some would open the gate and let out the family cow and follow it home.

All children of five or six had specific chores to do, the girls helped with the house work and the flower garden; the boys tended the garden, did the milking, fed and watered the stock, carried out the ashes, cut the grass, white washed the barn and outer buildings, etc.

There was very little money in circulation, but every one ate well, bartered "this for that", helped each other, borrowed a cup of sugar, or butter, milk or eggs, if out; and always returned when they had some to spare.

Evenings were spent at home: when supper was over, dishes washed and put away, all would gather round the table, which had a coal oil hanging lamp. School work came first, then reading aloud either by the older children (for practice) or by the mother or father. This would be something from the Bible, the Christian Advocate, the Youth's Companion, the weekly paper, the Chicago Record Herald, and the jokes from the almanac.

Our village had a three room school, primary, intermediate and grammar. There were no high schools except perhaps in the county seat, or in a town of about 2000 and up.

But it was a good school, there was no problem of discipline. Sometimes if a bad snow storm blew in there was some tardiness, and in case of sickness there was some absentism. Children from the country walked from as far as two or three miles and all those from the country brought their "dinner" in tin pails.

We had no school band, no baseball team, no "gym", but we had "opening exercises," with singing and almost every Friday afternoon after recess, we had parliamentary procedure, spell-downs, debates, declamations, recitations, dialogues, singing and a bit of play acting.

At recess we had running games like "Run Sheep Run", "Two Old Cat" and the like.

Animals, unless we except chickens, were not grazing all over the place. but were in fenced lots back of the house and horse lots were connected with the barn.

In reviewing the old back numbers of the Columbus Democrat, we frequently find interesting articles.

In the volume of 1872, we find about three-fourths of a column having to do with village ordinance, No. XIX and the repeal of two other ordinances XII and XVI concerning animals, at large.

Stripped of a lot of unnecessary words, boiled down in effect. Sec. 1 says "No owner, or person having charge of horses, cattle, sheep and goats, mules, jackasses, hogs, or any other animals, or geese, shall permit any of the above to run at large within the limits of the village of Columbus, except cows between the first day of April and December; and the owner, lessee or any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be liable to a penalty of not less than one dollar for each such animal, and thirty-five cents for every such goose, so permitted to run at large.

Sec. 2: In order to carry out the provisions of their ordinances, and to provide a place for the keeping of such animals or geese, there shall be established, under the authority of the president and the board of trustees, and at the expense of the village, a pound, to be under the charge of the president and the board and to be kept by some person appointed by them.

Sec. 3: Gives the duties of the pound keeper, is to secure and confine in said pound, all such animals and geese found running at large within the village limits, and to give up to the owner, calling for same upon payment by him to the keeper of the pound, the fees described in Sec. 8 of the ordinance.

Sec. 4: It shall be lawful for any person finding any of the above named animals or geese, to secure and deliver them to the keeper of the pound, and the keeper to receive them; and pay the person delivering them, the sum of twenty-fve cents for each animal and ten cents for each goose, and to enter the date of impounding and a description of all such animals and fowls impounded, in a register to be kept by him.

Sec 5: Any impounded animal or foul not redeemed within ten days, may be sold at public auction, at the pound gate, after giving three days notice. But no pound keeper or village officer shall be a purchaser at such sale.

Sec. 6: Provides that if after paying the fine, prescribed in Article Six, and the expenses of keeping such animals or geese, should there be any left over it is to be turned over to the village treasurer.

Sec. 7: Provides a fine not less than two or more than ten dollars for each and every willful obstruction or prevention of impounding.

Sec. 8: The pound master shall be entitled to demand and receive from the claimnt, of any proprty distrained under the provisions of this chapter, or to retain out of the proceeds of sale, the following fees and charges, in addition to the amount of the fine.

Each head of horses, asses, mules, cattle and swine (excepting sows having litter of pigs) 50 cents.

Distraining each sow having a litter of pigs with her, 50 cents for distraining each goose, 20 cents; for distraining each head of sheep or goats, 25 cents.

For keeping each horse, ass or mule, per day 75c.

For keepng each head of cattle per day 50 cents.

For keeping each head of sheep or goats.

For keeping each head of swine, except sows having litter of pigs with them, per day, 50 cents.

For keeping each pig in each litter, per day, ten cents.

For posting each notice of sale, 15 cents. For each adjournment of sale; 15 cents.

For notices printed in a newspaper, the amount fixed by law for the publication of legal notices.

For making sale and report thereof $1.00.

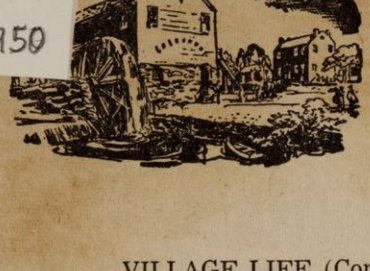
Sec. 9: If any person breaks into the pound in this village, or tear down or damage the same in any way whatsoever, or unlawfully release therefrom any animal therein impounded, or rescue any animals from the custody of the pound keeper, he shall, on conviction, thereof, be fined for each and every offense, a sum not less than five dollars, in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 10: Ordinances No. 12 and 16 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 11: This ordinance shall take effect and be put in force, from and after its passage, and publication. Passed February 20, 1872. J. S. Manning, President. Attest Chas. L. Dering, Village Clerk. (J. S. Manning owned the Mill, and built the house, corner of Ludington and Prairie, now occupied by Aty. Lloyd Paust. Chas. L. Dering, Village Clerk, was a practicing attorney, who later moved to Portage where he practiced law for years)

(To Be Continued)

750



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

May 24, 1962
Installment 522

VILLAGE LIFE (Continued)

Local weekly newspapers of the period 1855 up to well into the present century, had many columns of state and national news, considerable European news, literature, poetry, jokes, and what not.

They were a combination of local news, sermons, speeches on various subjects, religion, political, advertising, local and farther away, especially of patent medicines, agricultural, garden notes.

Newspapers in smaller places, bought the paper ready cut to their particular size, and the inside pages, usually called "patent insides", already printed. Local news, correspondence, local advertisements, church notices, obituaries, county items, etc., were printed in their own shop.

Frequently the Editor was also the reporter, typesetter, publisher, collector, all in one and the same person. The writer when about 1895-96, was a "printers devil", reporter, typesetter, etc. which included sweeping out, type distributor, etc. The latter was, cleaning the type faces after the paper was printed, unlocking the "forms" and distributing the type into their respective compartments. He has seen country town newspaper owners composing his story, without writing it, a short circuit from brains to finger tips picking up each single type, putting it in place in his "stick", transferring 6-8- or ten lines from "stick to column on the composing stone."

As a sample, the following from the patent inside of Columbus Democrat of May 10, 1872, entitled "Margery's First day at School," written by Mrs. M. E. Miller, is quoted.

"A chubby, sweet-faced child came into our "Millbrook school house one morning, as a visitor, conducted with trembling eagerness to my desk by Ernest and Bessie Clapp, who introduced her as their sister, and promised that she would not disturb the school. She did, however, as much as any other bluebird would have done, and just as innocently, so that I could only smile with the children, and long for the time to come when I could count her among my little flock.

"She wore a bright blue dress and cloak, which perhaps, as well as her song, won her the name bluebird, that day.

"A dozen times she forgot where she was, and broke out in little melodies, sometimes without words, so truly musical, that I raised my finger to check Bessie as she was about to interrupt her.

"After a few moments she would look up and forget her song, in surprise at seeing so many children around her.

"After the first class, I called her to me and asked her name. "Named after DWANMAMMA," she answered quickly and so comically that the children laughed in spite of my uplifted finger.

"And what is grandmama's name "MARGERWY SMIFF." "Then you are Margery Smith." "Yes I is." "Did you want to come to school to see what Bessie does here every day?" "Yes, and to DROW BID LITE Bessie."

"What will your mama do today without you? I asked." "WORT, I guess, TWY, may be." "I TISSED her DOODBY, for fear I shouldn't know her tonight."

Her straight-forward answers amused the children so much that I shortened the interview, asking if she had a little lesson to say like Bessie.

"Oh yes, here's the newest one Aunt TATE did teach me 'TAUSE I TUT OFF MY TURL." Folding her dimpled hands she said:

"Dere was a little DIRL,
who had a little TURL
That hung down on her FURRID.
When she was DOOD, she was very DOOD indeed.
And when she was bad she was horrid.

Her emphasis was funny to hear, her attitude and expression funny to me. I dismissed her with a picture card that made her blue eyes twinkle.

At recess no one wanted to play away from Margery, and I was almost jealous, wanting to have the little pet to myself awhile.

I asked her to tell me a story, which she did in her own crooked little speech, which I translated to the following:

"Two little eyes, loving bright eyes
shining as bright and blue as the skies.
Two little ears to hear all the news,
Two little feet to wear the new shoes,
Two little hands, busy all day,
One little body to get in the way,
One little mouth to give kisses so sweet.
Mamma's little lady, dainty and neat
With ten little fingers and ten little toes
And what she'll be good for — nobody knows.

How did those yellow locks get bobbed off so unevenly on her forehead, some one asked.

Oh she did that her own self, answered Bessie. Last Saturday Ernest was going to mill in the big wagon with father, and Margery wanted to go too. To tease her, father said it was too cold for little girls. Could she go if she was a boy? she asked mother, and mother said she supposed so. She was awful busy baking, and never gave another thought to it for awhile.

When she called Margery to come and get her little cake out of the oven, only Margery's voice came, so smothered that we ran to find her, and there she was, under mother's bed, with the shears haggaling her pretty hair. "To make me a boy so I TAN DO anywhere with papa," she said.

In the afternoon spelling class a tedious little fellow was draggling along a line of words of three letters. Margery was standing by my side, followed his words with the pictures, accompanying each word. When he came to U-R-N, urn, she said quickly, "I ain't Erne, I am Margery, Ernes my BRUZZER.

Then I could hardly keep order, and bethought me of the teacher who "turned out 'Mary's Little lamb'."

When school was out, I sincerely begged the little guest to come again, and I guess she will, she had been so well entertained with the routine of the school room."

To give a fuller idea of the contents of one page, here are th subjcets of each article running from a few column inches to articles of twelve column inches.

The First Love; A Poem; Taxidermy; Powder explosion in a Blacksmith Shop; A Souvenir of Abraham Lincoln; Farm and Garden; Hints for the Housewife; the wedding of two seas, a description of a 400 mile canal to connect the Black Sea and the Caspean Sea; Sam Hildebrand's Death Confirmed (a Missouri Outlaw); A British Iron-Clad, A Happy Woman, Interesting to children; Women; A French View of Railway Accidents; The Texas Cattle Herder; Master and Man in Japan; and the following three lines: Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has a baby with two heads, four arms, four legs, and one body. It is dead.

(To Be Continued)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment 523
May 31, 1962

(Also from the Democrat of May 10, 1872)

VILLAGE LIFE Con't.

The Democrat gives credit to the Cincinnati Engineer for the story of the discovery of the Great Salt Lake in the winter of 1824-5, which, obviously is an extract from a longer account, possibly from a book or magazine.

"The party of beaver trappers who had ascended the Missouri River, with Henry and Ashley, found themselves in pursuit of their occupation on Bear River in Cache (or Willow) Valley, where they wintered in winter of 1824-5 and in discussing the course which Bear River ran, a bet was made between two of the party and James Bridger, who is still alive (as of 1872) was seletedc to follow the course of the river and determine the bet.

This took him to where the river passes through the mountains, and he discovered the Great Salt Lake. He went to its margins and tasted the water and on his return reported the discovery.

The fact of the water, induced the belief that it was an arm of the Pacific Ocean. In the spring of 1826, four men boated around it to discover if any streams containing beaver were to be found emptying into it, but returned with indifferent success."

In the same issue there are about 2½ columns about the great and well known New York publisher Horace Greely, who had just been nominated for the presidency on the Democratic ticket.

There is over a column about "The Proposed Railroad to Lodi," and nearly a column clipped from The Cleveland Leader on the subject of baseball.

THE NEW METHODIST CHURCH

The following items should be of special interest to members of the Methodist church, as it covers the services of the laying of the corner stone of the second building erected by that denomination in Columbus.

The first church built by the Methodists in Columbus was a wooden building built on the corner of Birdsey and Mill streets in 1858, dedicated in February 1859, on land donated by A. P. Birdsey. In ten or twelve years the congregation outgrew the building. At the quarterly conference in September 1871 it was voted to buy two lots on Broadway, now Dickason.

The construction of the new church (the present one) began in the spring of 1872 under the pastorate of Rev. G. E. Reynolds, and was finished under the pastorate of Rev. C. E. Carpenter in 1873 and dedicated October 26, 1873.

We are quoting from a booklet issued in 1947 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the local Methodist society: We cannot vouch for complete accuracy, for there are many inaccuracies perpetuated, obviously based on hearsay, and not in agreement with actual facts based on documentary proof. For example the booklet says the brick were hauled by team from Watertown, which is not likely as we had the railroad since May, 1857.

LAYING THE CORNER STONE OF THE M.E. CHURCH
May 17, 1872

"A goodly number of our own residents, and a considerable number of other people from other localities, witnssed the laying of the corner stone of the new Methodist church on Broadway (now Dickason Blvd.) last Wednesday evening."

The ceremony was commenced by the singing of the familiar hymn "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing." It was read by Rev. J. T. Suffron of Horicon, and being accompanied instrumentally, sounded pleasantly and impressively in the open air temple, which was soon to give place to the material church. In the remaining ceremonies the following order of exercises was observed:

Reading of church discipline, by Rev. W. G. Bancroft, of Fox Lake; Responsive reading of the 132 Psalm, led by Rev. J. E. Grout of Fall River; Prayer by Rev. Dr. Window, of Waupun; Reading of the 3rd Chapter of the 1st Corinthians, by Rev. C. E. Carpenter, of Sheboygan Falls; Singing of hymn 959, read by Rev. E. P. Beecher, of Beaver Dam; Address by Rev. A. Moore of Watertown.

Singing by the German Ministers present; address by Rev. E. S. Grumley; Items placed in the hollowed out corner stone by the Pastor Rev. G. E. Reynolds; Actual laying of the corner stone by Rev. E. S. Grumley former pastor; singing of the hymn 963, read by Rev. H. A. Miner, former Congregational minister in Columbus; benediction by Rev. Hendrickson, Congregational minister of Columbus.

LIST OF CONTENTS

Subjoined is a complete list of the records placed in the hollow stone: Copy of the Holy Bible; Copy of the Methodist Discipline; Minutes of the Western Conference 1871; Copy of Methodist Christian Advocate; Christian Statesman; Temperance Worker; Milwaukee Sentinel; Columbus Democrat: Columbus Republican; Sunday School statistics of the church; Names of the Trustees; Building committee; Architect; Former pastors of the church; Present pastors of other churches in the village; The church records: List of the Delegates to the General Conference; a $10 Confederate note; and a check on the Farmers Bank of Beaver Dam for 1862, furnished by John Williams; A quantity of coins furnished by Postmaster Swarthout; Extracts from latest report of Columbus schools furnished by Mrs. I. Smith.

FORMER PASTORS

The repository contains also a brief history of the charge, as follows: Previous to 1859 the charge was connected with the Fall River circuit. The names of the pastors since then have been Rev. Messrs. Henry Coleman 1859; Hnry Drew, 1860-61; S. W. Ford, 1862; E. S. Grumley 1863-4-5; C. C. Symms, 1866; R. Blackburn, 1867; R. W. Bosworth, 1868-9 and three quarters of 1870; J. E. Cole, one quarter of 1870; G. F. Reynolds, 1871-72.

The new church will be a very commodious and handsome brick structure. Its main portion will be 75 feet by 45 feet in dimensions. There will be a recess 12 feet in depth for the choir. The total length, including the corner tower will be 93 feet by a width of 52 feet.

The basement (ground level) will be 11 feet between joints (?) and the audience room will be 20 ft. high. The heights of the tower will be 140 ft. and the estimated cost of the edifice is $15,000. The basement will be used for worship this fall."

INTERESTING NOTES PICKED UP

The late James Quickenden, who had a remarkably good memory, and lived to be only a week or two short of 100 years, has supplied many of the facts used by the writer in his column. The Story of Columbus, which ran for a little over ten years. After a temporary leave of absence has only recently resumed the writing of his column. Some of the notes about to be used in this narrative, pertaining to the Methodist church, have already been published in the story of James Quickenden — "this is your life."

Jim's parents came from England in 1850 and to Columbus early in 1854. His father was a carpenter. Jim was born in the red brick house on February 22, 1855, now 419 South Ludington, built by his father a few years before. His family was Methodist and his father, Robert, helped to build the wooden church at the corner of Mill and Birdsey Streets.

Jim was seventeen years old when the big brick church was beginning to be built. His father and another English carpenter named Butler, both worked for the contractors, Robert and John Williams who lived in Cambria or Randolph.

Jim and his close friend Charles Butler had both finished school, took the job of doing the lathing, and put on every single, solitary lath in the entire structure.

Jim thinks he was the last man still living (at the time he was giving us the facts about the church) to climb up the interior of the tall steeple that used to rise up from the tower, to a height of 160 feet.

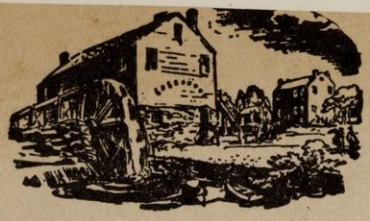
In the fall of 1890 the steeple was struck by lightning, which set fire to the upper part. During the fire the bell dropped to the ground and was completely demolished. The tall steeple was never replaced, and in its stead, the present bell tower was built to hold a new bell.

When Jim was asked if he could remember the names of any of his Sunday School teachers, he smiled that cherubic smile of his and said "No I don't, for I only went to Sunday School once and I didn't like it so I never went back."

However, it is a known fact that Jim (a bachelor for most of his life) was a financial supporter of the Methodist church, of which the family were members, and he could always be counted on to be cashier at church suppers or any social occasion where tickets were required.

We have heard it said that some years after the present Bell Tower was built, a bad storm with violent wind, damaged the roof of the bell tower so badly it had to be rebuilt, but we have found no published word of it.

THE END OF VILLAGE LIFE STORY



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment 524
June 7, 1962

A LETTER FROM DISTANT PAST

Extracts from a letter written to Lester Rockwell, who had recently come from Bainbridge, New York, to join with his older brothers, John and LeGrand, in their activities in Milwaukee, Elkhorn and Oconomowoc.

The letter was dated June 18, 1837, on folded foolscap paper, which when the writing was complete, was folded in such a way as to form an envelope, which would be as much of a novelty now as an envelope would have been then.

Many of the words are "worn out" from the creases constituting folding up of the paper, and frequent unfolding and folding back again, and its present brittleness is very apparent.

When folded, the front is about 5½ inches long and 3½ wide.
wide. There is no stamp, but in the upper right hand corner there is a figure 25, indicating the charge for handling the letter from Bainbridge to Milwaukee.

It is written on both sides of the paper, about equal in area to a present day legal sheet. The letter is addressed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin Territory (equivalent to General Delivery to be called for)

The contents covers many subjects, but primarily is concerned with hard times and how impossible it is to collect anything on the accounts and debts owing to Mr. Rockwell, which his friend is trying to collect. The friends name is Willard, but the rest of his name has worn away.

Occasional words cannot be decifered, others are worn out, others are dim and faded. Here are a few extracts. Where a dash appears it indicates a word cannot be made out.

"Friend Lester according to your request on leaving old Jerico with the regard to my writing to you and stating what has taken place in this county that will be interesting. In answer I will say there has nothing taken place since you left worth noting, unless you wish to hear of hard times, if so, I can give you a few words on that subject.

"I have never known such hard times in old Bainbridge. As to money, there is none, I can get none on debts. When I ask a man for money on my debts or yours he replies "Sir, I have none," cocks his hat and walks on.

"I have not collected on the notes you left with me. Newell has not paid his a/c. I have asked him a good many times; he expects money from Corbin, he says he will pay then.

As to Speche, we have none. Our merchants will not change a five dollar bill unless you will take half of it in goods. This is our better currency. Good Times, these, I have had enough to eat as yet. Paid $12 for a barrel of "flower" yesterday.

"Has LeGrand received his money from J. C. C——, if he has not, tell him he is in a fair way to get it, for it is rumored in Otsego, that Mr. J. C. is behind the gates in Philadelphia or in the state of Pennsylvania. Shaped up for debt, there is nothing said here about the matter. I heard such news but will not vouch for the truth of it, but should think there was some truth in the story. Your friends in the village are all well. The ladies are well except Mrs. Nemo. She is very sick, please tell this to LeGrand in as mild a way as possible. We have no hors back rides as in the days of yore. We all go without ladie we prefer a stag team. Our ways are past searchi out and your old friend Owens has been —— at Nemo

Owens hired one of Nemo's teams at Kattskill an loaded his goods on. They were —— about the matte when the word liar was given Owens, and he drawed upo N. with the intention (so he says) of Knocking the olde man down but altered his mind and did not strike ha What good Christians we have here.

The story is going the round that I am going to tak wife; what it will amount to remains to be told. The are determined to have me married. They must wait m time.

Win Mead has taken this school again, I fear he wi not get West. Some people in this county are determine to have all you Western specul tors fail.

They make out there was no land nor anything else i the West. Now Rockwell write and let me know what yo think of going West to make money, tell me all ab matters, is there any chance for a poor devil like me. What operation can I go into make my ——? I will arrange matters and come on, some times hence, could I be convinced it was for the best.

Perhaps I shall remain in old Bainbridge and Grope out my salvation with fear and trembling.

This is a strange world, the best way you can fix it. Should there be any faier one left in this town, some dear girl that you have left behind, please write in your letter what I shall say to them for you.

Anything I can do shall be done with the utmost haste after I have received your order. Tell LeGrand his letters are like angels visits, few and far between. By the by do you play whist any now days. I wish you and LeGrand were here to take a hand with us. We have given playing since you left. This village is dull at present, or rather the people in it.

Have you seen anything of Mr. Chas. Rockwell of Richifeld. I understand he plundered LocLathrop, went off with pockets full of money and left his partner to pay about $1500 in N. York. It is thought he had money — any rate they say he would get drunk. So goes the times, all kinds of people to make a world. The story is that Lothrup has filled the store by my father. Alfred is counter jumper.

Your friends Major Nichols is the same old fellow, goes out among the ladies but very little. Thomas, the son of Jo is here collecting money, is quite a ladies man. He keeps himself at the Judges a great deal and now Friend Lester, I have told you all the news. I fear you will be dissappointed.

Since writing the above, Mr. Winthrop Fairchild ha been to see your books. He says there was a mistake i settlement an dhe wants pay for 10 bushels corn, de livered to you in the winter of 1835 by Mosiss Stockwe which has not been paid for .Write me on the subject, I shall not pay for it without your order. Yours respe fully, Willard

Editor's note. A sequel to the letter, is the story of the Rockwell family which appeared in these columns in March and April, 1957, installments 297 - 298. Since relatively few of our readers keep scrap books, we reproduce portions of the Rockwell story herewith.

In the Journal-Republican of November 5, 1862, appeared the following notice. "The business heretofore carried on under the name of John S. Rockwell or Rockwell & Co., will hereafter be carried on under the name and style of Hopkins & Sawyer."

It was a general store carrying Dry Goods, Groceries Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, etc. and was located near the Union Bank. (Apparently having removed from the Old Farnham Red Block.)

The building while G. T. Dodge occupied the building, stood where the Columbus House Furnishings, Inc. now stands.

While we have not examined the abstract of title, to ascertain who previous owners may have been, we feel quite sure it is the building referred to as "located near the Union Bank."

It is also our belief that it was in the left hand, narrow portion of this same building that Mr. John Wheeler opened up the "Union" Bank in September 1861.

An uncle of John S., a much younger brother of Ard S. Rockwell, named Anson resided in Columbus briefly as he was financially interested here in the firm of Rockwell & Abell, who owned and oprated a Plaining Mill, manufacturing Sash, Doors, Window blinds, etc.

Research shows that Mr. R. A. Abell was a son-in-law of Anson Rockwell, having married a daughter Lucinda.

An advertisement first appeared in the local paper in August 1858 calling attention to the new machinery that had been installed in a portion of the Buxton wagon and plow factory (located on Water St. corner of James).

The last advertisement found was in the issue of August 31st, 1859. In later research in 1884 we find that Mr. and Mrs. Anson Rockwell of Delavan, Wis. were visitors "at the home of the L. R. Rockwell," who will be our subject shortly.

This indicates that not only most of the family of Ard S. Rockwell, at but least one of his brothers and Ard and his wife Betsey Shaw had followed their children to Wisconsin at a later date.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment 525
June 14, 1962

LESTER R. ROCKWELL

Lester R. Rockwell, born July 17th, 1816 at Butternuts, N. Y. was fourth child and third son of Ard S. and Betsey Shaw Rockwell.

In 1837 he emigrated to the territory of Wisconsin. It is not clear but most references indicate that his older brothers, John S., about whom we have written and Le Grande, who became one of the earliest settlers and was in on the founding of Elkhorn, came in 1836, both settling in Milwaukee.

We do know that Lester was in Milwaukee prior to June, 1837 for we have a letter, three pages of hand written legal cap size, addressed to him at Milwaukee, Wisconsin territory, from a man who signs himself Willard, written and mailed from Bainbridge, N.Y., dated in June, 1837.

His obituary in the local paper in Jan., 1884 states that "he came to Milwaukee in the year 1837, (but gives no specific date) and together with his brothers John S. and Le Grande was engaged in the sale of dry goods in that city."

He evidently did not immediately go to Oconomowoc with John S. or to Elkhorn with Le Grande, for his obit states that in 1844 he went to Oconomowoc to join his brother in constructing and operating a mill, thus at least inferring that he had remained in the store in Milwaukee.

DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL

In 1845 his brother John S. was appointed United States Marshal for the territory in Wisconsin, and Lester R. himself was named his deputy and assigned to the Lead Mining Region in the southwestern part of the territory. For some years he resided at Platteville, Grant County. While there he became acquainted, and later fell in love with Miss Maria Page, teacher of music in Platteville Academy, the predecessor of Platteville School of Mines, now Platteville Normal School or Teachers College.

BECOMES A BANKER

Lester R. Rockwell and Maria Page were married in 1857 and removed to Elkhorn, where he joined with his brother Le Grande and brother-in-law, John R. Wheeler in organizing a new bank, called Rockwell & Co. and later known as Rockwells Bank. LeGrande, with others had formed the Bank of Elkhorn at an earlier date, but on August 5, 1857, he sold his interest in the Bank of Elkhorn to be free to join with his brother and Mr. Wheeler in starting a second bank. Mr. Wheeler, however, did not become active, and move to Elkhorn until a couple of years later.

While Lester was in Platteville, and the southwestern part of the state he was very busy, evidently handling estates, selling real estate, loaning and collcting money. He held power of attorney from Daniel Wells of Milwaukee to buy and sell land for him in Iowa and Green counties. Correspondence we have seen indicates that he knew Nelson Dewey intimately, and was well known and had many friends in that area.

He remained in the bank at Elkhorn until 1863 when he moved to Oconomowoc to settle the estate of his brother, John S. who died May 26, of that year; retaining his interest in the Elkhorn bank.

COMES TO COLUMBUS

Apparently it took nearly three years to close the estate for he remained in Oconomowoc until April, 1866 when he moved to Columbus to become associated with his brother-in-law, John R. Wheeler, owner, who had started the Union Bank here in Sept. 1861.

Another brother-in-law, Mr. Amasa G. Cook, a pioneer lawyer in Columbus, sold Lester Rockwell a white frame house that stood where the city hall is, in April 1866. This house had been built by Harrison S. Haskill, who sold it to Mr. Cook October 20th, 1852 when Haskill moved to Portage, having been elected county treasurer, which necessitated his moving to the newly designated county seat from Columbus which had been county seat for four or five years.

The house was the Rockwell family home, including later, Mr. Rockwell's sister, a widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Rockwell Austin, and his mother, Mrs. Betsey Shaw Rockwell. However the record shows that Mr. Rockwell sold that white frame house to Mr. A. D. Bond in August, 1872 when he acquired the Bond house, 157 N. Lewis St.) which then became known as the Rockwell house for a long, long time.

HE BUYS THE UNION BANK

The banking relationship between Mr. John R. Wheeler and Mr. Lester R. Rockwell continued until 1872 when Mr. Wheeler sold his interests in the Union Bank of Columbus to Mr. Rockwell when he went to Colorado Springs and bought a substantial interest in and became president of the First National Bank of Colorado Springs, Colo. which was about the same time that Mr. Rockwell and Mr. Bond exchanged houses.

HE BUYS ANOTHER HOME

Mr. Rockwell soon afterward built the larger, taller front part of the house as it now appears, it having been successively the home of Dr. B. F. Bellack, J. R. Wheeler, Elton Morrison, Dr. A. J. Fredrick, and Mrs. Carroll Evans.

Mr. Rockwell owned and operated the Union Bank until the time of his death January 18th, 1884 when according to the law governing private banks, it was necessary to close it for about a week so that a special administrator with banking experience could make an inventory and appraisal of the resources and liabilities, and make plans for a re-organization of the bank.

J. E. WHEELER APPOINTED

Mr. John E. Wheeler of LaCrosse, son of John R. and father of J. R. Wheeler was appointed special administrator, whose report stated "After careful and thorough examination of the affairs of the Union Bank of Columbus, I find that the assets are more than sufficient to meet all liabilities."

The new bank opened for business February 4, 1884 under the name of Farmers and Merchants Union Bank with A. G. Cook president, F. H. Rockwell, second son of John S. Rockwell vice president, J. E. Wheeler, cashier, Ruggles S. Rockwell, assistant cashier.

Th affairs of the Union Bank were wound up in due course, the depositors paid in full, and a substantial surplus left over, into the estate of Mr. L. R. Rockwell. Mr. J. E. Wheeler remained until Ruggles Rockwell was fully qualified to take over the managment of the Farmers & Merchants Union Bank, with the guidance of Mr. G. W. Sheppard, permitting Mr. Wheeler to return to LaCrosse and resume his connection with the Exchange State Bank, of which he became president in 1886.

The children of Lester R. and Maria Page Rockwell were Mary Shaw, usually called Mamie, born in 1858 and died in 1892 unmarried; Lestrina Page, born in 1861 and died in 1906. Lestrina was married to Dr. B. F. Bellack, of this city; there were no children.

RUGGLES S. ROCKWELL

Their third child and only son was Ruggles S. born in 1862 who died in 1923.

Ruggles was four years old when his parents moved to Columbus, and was therefore educated in the schools of this city. After graduating from the high school he had two years at the University at Madison and then he entered his father's bank to learn the business, only shortly before his father's death.

Upon the re-organization and change of name of the bank to Farmers & Merchants Union Bank in 1884, Ruggles had further good training under John E. Wheeler for a short time, plus the several years of experience of Mr. George W. Sheppard, so when he had attained the necessary experience Ruggles was advanced to cashier, with Mr. Sheppard remaining as clerk and advisor.

In 1896, the bank came back into the Wheeler family as will be noted in the story of the Wheeler family to follow shortly.

ACTIVE IN CIVIC AFFAIRS

Ruggles S. Rockwell was always active in civic and social affairs, and remained an eligible bachelor until after he left Columbus.

A part of the following items about him were supplied by his second cousin J. R. Wheeler.

"Ruggles Rockwell had one of the finest tenor voices I ever heard off the stage. The year I came to Columbus (1896) before my marriage I roomed and boarded with Lessie and Bonnie (Dr. Bellack) and Ruggles and as I was familiar with the piano I could play his accompaniments and we sure had an enjoyable time. He had a fine personality and all the young people of his age were particularly fond of him and he was held in great respect by the people of the community. He loved to hunt and was a very intimate associate of Guy Dering. At one time when I came to Columbus on a visit he had a portion of the yard screened off for a dog pen and at the same time I was there he had about twenty pointers. When he came home from the bank at noon he would open the gate and let the dogs out. Like a flash they all disappeared roaming in every direction until he blew the whistle and then it seemed to rain dogs. How every one of them got back so soon I could not understand until I observed that they were getting their food in the pen. He finally had to get rid of his dogs for altho they never molested chickens they frightened them when they tore through Aunt Jennie Cook's yard. He was very fond of her altho she did not complain he sensed her distress and abandoned his dog enterprise.

Ruggles was also very fond of horses and had some registered trotting colts. He was a great friend of the Roys Bros. and as you know they bred the great Wheatland Onward".

(To be continued)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment 526
June 21, 1962

The Scottish Sport of Curling

When the writer first came to Columbus in 1902, there was a sizeable frame structure that stood on land between the mill pond and the buildings facing James Street, which would place it about back of the present Chevrolet garage.

Upon inquiry he learned that it was a Curling Rink. It is quite difficult to build up a background of accurate information without some documentary proof.

A perspective map of Columbus, printed in 1893 does not show this building and neither does a city plat of 1890, so we have evidence that the building was built later than the above dates. The Atlas map of 1890 shows an "out lot" running from the creek that comes into the mill pond from the south clear across to the present mill, shows Mr. R. W. Chadbourn as the owner and at that time there is shown one building that has been identified as the wagon maker shop and blacksmith shop belonging to Mr. William Thiede and Mr. Griff D. Roberts.

The depth of the lots facing James street from the north are 100 feet.

After interviewing several people and putting their recollections together, supported by a photograph in the possession of Mr. Alfred K. Holtz with himself and George Eichberg, each or both of whom were on a hand sled, and were possibly seven or eight years old, we can state that the rink stood a little over 100 feet back from James street, or behind the Chevrolet garage and was built sometime between 1893 and 1900.

Guy Dering was known unquestionably as the "king" or most active exponent of curling. Others mentioned as active in curling were Dr. T. S. Maxwell, Frank Birdsey, Ruggles Rockwell, Bill Schultz, Rudy Topp, Henry Seipp, William Gruhn, Carl Gruhn, Henry Lueders or practically all those regardless of nationality origin, who enjoyed outdoor sports.

Before the rink was built by the curling club, the playing was on the mill pond. When it snowed, playing could not be done until the snow was removed to the bare ice, the ice flooded to get a perfectly smooth or pebbled sheet of ice.

High winds interferred with control and severe below zero weather affected players and spectators alike.

Therefore the construction of a rink was inevitable. It was approximately 32 to 42 by 80 to 100 in size, with walls possible eight or ten feet high .The ridge was perhaps twenty to twenty four feet high and two ventilating roofed over shafts show in the picture. The floor was of sand, to permit the melting ice to get away quickly.

In the end nearest James street there was a room partitioned off and heated with a stove, and windows facing the ice surface for spectators and or players awaiting their turn.

The photograph, taken from quite a distance, shows, the front, the roof and the east side, but too dark to show



windows for presumably there must have been windows for day time playing, as well as artificial lights of some sort.

One informant said that during the summer, since there was no park at that time, other than a few small plats of grass under oak trees, the general public frequently made use of the building and surrounding grounds and the mill pond for picnics and other outdoor gatherings.

There were a few row boats and at one time a small steamer made trips up river and back.

Al Holtz recalled that neighboring boys used to play inside the building because the sand was much cooler on their bare feet, than out doors in the sun. He also said, in answer to questions during the curling season, when games for the day were over, adult skaters of either or the time it was necessary to spray or flood the ice during both sexes, were permitted to use the ice for skating up to the night before the next curling match. He said that as a boy he used to "help" Carl Gruhn the custodian, who permitted him to hold the hose and play it over the ice when flooding.

Curling is a Scottish outdoor sport somewhat like bowling, except that instead of a heavy wooden ball, rolled in a forward direction, the intent being to knock down as many as possible of ten heavy maplewood "pins", which game sometimes called "tenpins" was played indoors, at any time of the year; whereas curling was played on the ice, and limited to a few winter months; and instead of rolling a ball, the moving projectile was a granite stone shaped not unlike a tea kettle, and was slid forward with considerable force intending to have the stone stop as close to the center of the target as possible.

Another player on the same side was armed with a broom, and slithering backward toward the circular target, marked on the ice, was vigorously sweeping the surface of the ice to remove any shavings of frosty ice, real or imaginary, that might impede the progress of the stone or to sweep ice shavings in front to slow down the progress of the stone.

I cannot recall that I ever witnessed a curling match, or bonspeil in the Columbus rink, but it seemed to be a popular game on the ice, far less strenuous than "shinny", or hockey.

However I had my fill of watching a bonspeil, which came about in this manner, possibly about 1920.

Business had taken me to several cities in Minnesota and the Dakotas one of which was Fargo, N.D. where I was snow bound for several hours because of train service being interrupted. There was no way to pass the time except to sit and read in the hotel or the railway station.

Learning that a "very exciting" curling match was in progress not far from either the hotel or the depot, I spent a few hours in the small heated room with windows facing the rink ice. Knowing nothing about the game, nor any of those who were participating, I could not find much to get excited about.

The curling rink in Columbus has long been gone; when it began, or when it ceased to be used, the writer has no positive knowledge. There may be any number of "stones" in basements or attics, but the only ones I have knowledge of are several that used to line the driveway to Sam Marcus' junk yard. Sam had removed the brass handles for junk, and left the smooth highly polished stones in a nicely curved line "to keep off the grass" adjoining the driveway. They may still be there for all I know.

In the town and cities in the western and northern part of Columbia and other counties there are still curling clubs, as noted in news items, from Lodi, Poynette, Pardeeville, Portage and pictures of "lads and lassies" in kilts of plaids, with their brooms have shown up in Sunday supplements, frequently, and the game seems to be more popular than ever.



There used to be, and perhaps still is a club owned cu ing rink along the east bank of the Yahara River in Ma son south of East Johnson Street.

From Wm. Pietzner, now past ninety, we gained co siderable information. While curling is generally consi ered a Scottish game, it was once a very popular gam in Columbus, in spite of the fact that there were relativ ly few people of Scottish origin here.

He says that for years before the rink was built, t game was played on the ice of the mill pond, which h some inconveniences, such as heavy snow falls, hi winds, low temperatures, with only wood fires in the op to furnish a little warmth.

So, came the curling rinks, with a sand floor. The was usually one room with a stove and a few chairs benches and windows on the side next to the ice.

(To Be Continued)



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment 527
June 28, 1962

CURLING (Con't.)

If the ice got rough and worn, it was flooded, and froze over night. Presumably the rink was lighted by kerosene or gasoline lamps.

Asked if he had played the game, he said to a limited extent, but he had but limited spare time for pleasure.

His son can remember watching the games, and was fascinated with the sweeping.

Others interviewed were Walter Bock, who remembers watching others but could add no details and suggested Wm. Schultz whom he was sure was one of the players. This was a good suggestion. Bill contributed the following. He is quite sure the building was built about 1900 or earlier and was torn down about the beginning of World War I. He was one of the early members, and curled as long as there were teams still curling. As to size, he said the width was wide enough for three rinks which were each about 9 ft. wide with a little space between. His guess is that the building was about 32 to 36 ft. in width and almost 100 ft. long and there was a heated room, maybe 12 to 26 ft. wide across the front, with windows facing the ice.

The largest number of playing members was eight teams of four men each, or 32 persons, plus some beginners who practiced but were not skilled players. But as older men dropped out, some by death, and for other reasons, mostly there were six teams. Like Alfred Holtz, he believes the World War I took so many younger men, there were not enough older persons left to continue to keep the rink going.

Lumber was scarce and used lumber met with ready sale. The rink building was sold, taken down, and used for building a house. He cannot be sure, but thinks it was sold to Ferdinand Berkholtz, a brick and stone mason, who built a house not far away, possibly on Udey Street. (A city map in 1916 Atlas, shows the property as of then was owned by F. Berkholtz.) Mr. Schultz, who will soon be 82, has an excellent memory.

John Albright, presently mayor of Columbus, recalls that both he and the late Harry Eichberg, were persuaded by Guy Dering to take up curling, using stones belonging to Mr. Dering. They did take it up, but curling died here before they became proficient.

In an effort to find a more or less positive time the rink was built, the writer spent several hours, going backward in Columbus newspapers.

Under date of December 28, 1898, we found "Curling" The Lodi Curlers were unable to be here Monday, but two rinks (8 players) are expected today. Games have been arranged for this afternoon and evening.

A turkey lunch will be served at the rink at the conclusion of the evening games.

Four games were played by our curlers Monday. In the afternoon Fowlers defeated Maxwells; Eatons turned Topps down; and in the evening Maxwells and Rockwells played a tie game; while Dr. Bllacks triumphed over Eatons. Coffee was served after the evening games.

Another account in January 18 issue, entitled "Jolly Curlers from Portage" and in the issues of January 25 was the following notice. "Portage Curlers to have a Bonspiel next month." The heading in February 8 was "Waupaca - Portage Bonspeils."

February 15 we find "Columbus Curlers at Portage." Dr. Bellack and C. C. Eaton (Editor Columbus Democrat) went to Portage yesterday afternoon to take part in the Bonspeil. In the draws Maxwell was pitted against J. E. Jones (Editor Portage paper) the latter winning by the score of 20 to 10.

Dr. Bellack player J. E. Wells and lost by a single point, the score being 7 to 8. Eaton played Kleinert and also submitted to defeat, the score being 7 to 12. All the games were played on outside ice, and it was snowing, a situation that worked to the disadvantage of our teams on account of the snowing, the wind and our stones being new ones.

All the teams will play again today, when it is hoped better luck will attend them. The paper of the 22nd said: Our curlers made a very good showing at the Portage Bonspiel last week. Dr. Bellacks team winning three games, one was from Robertsons rink from Arlington, one of the strongest teams in the northwest and Dr. Maxwells, securing one of their three games.

Roberts vs Eatons was the only game of the meeting in which an extra end was required to decide the contest, and the last stone was also required to decide the contest, the score being 11 to 10 in favor of Roberts. Our curlers had to play against some of the strongest rinks in this section and although defeated in most of the games, no apology is necessary for their playing.

Nothing farther was found in preceeding papers, and reference to "new stones" sounds like 1898 may have been the first year for the Inside Rink and possibly a lapse of a year or two since playing in the open.

From the DEMOCRAT of Wed., November 22, 1899

Rink Association Meeting

There was a fair representation of stockholders at the adjourned annual meeting of the Rink Association held in the court room, last Wednesday evening. Pres. C. E. Fowler called the meeting to order and after consideration of reports, announced that the election of officers was next in order. The result of the balloting re-elected the following:

President, C. H. Williams; Vice President, A. H. Whitney; Secretary, A. M. Bellack; Treasurer, J. R. Wheeler; Director for three years, T. S. Maxwell. It was decided to issue coupon tickets good for 15 admissions at $1.00, and the rink building will be at the service of skaters Friday evening and Saturday afternoon and evening, during the winter. A movement is on foot to raise a fund to light the rink with electricity. $35, having already been subscribed to the project. Other contributions will be solicited by Messrs. P. D. Durant and F. G. Holtz. Here is proof that the rink was in existance for at least during 1898.

From page 483 of Butterfields History of Columbia County, published in 1880, we take the following.

"The game of curling is so identified with the land of Scott and Burns and with the magic name of Scotland, that apart from its real merits, its mention is always winsome.

It is associated with the brae and burn, craig and lock, and with the natural scenery of a country as romantic as any on the globe.

It is indeed one of the heartiest and most exhilarating of sports and binds to lovers of a genial devotion that makes them for the time "brithers a". It is pre-eminently a healthy and manly game, and rewards its followers with pure blood and good digestion.

Though its practice is on the increase, it is far from being a universal game, and outside of bonnie Scotland, it would be difficult to find a locality where more interest is felt in it than in Columbia County.



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment 528
July 12, 1962

CURLING (Con't.)

Portage for years has had a well organized club. There are many skilled players about Poynette and in Caledonia, and Otsego now has a good club.

Considerable obscurity hangs over the origin of the game. Some contend that it is merely Scottish and others that it was imported from abroad. It is certain that the amusement is not known to have been practiced, until a comparatively recent period, anywhere out of Scotland, and further, that the old curling stones that have been preserved or discovered, indicate a mode of play so very crude and primative as greatly to favor the notion of its indigenous origin. On the other hand, etymology favors the idea that the continent of Europe was its original home.

Pennant, who made his celebrated tour through Scotland in 1771, thus speaks of the game "Of all the sports in this part, and is played upon the ice by sliding from one mark to another great stones from forty to seventy pounds in weight, of hemispherical form, with a wooden or iron handle at the top.

The object of the player is to place the stone as near the mark as possible and guard that of his partner which has been well laid before, or to strike off that of his antagonist.

This is so far not an incorrect description of the popular Scottish sport as it must have presented itself to the observant eye of the Welsh naturalist, one hundred years ago (1771).

The progress of curling in Scotland, since the beginning of this century, has been very marked. Still in many of the more purely highland districts, it is even to this day (1880) almost as unknown as it is in England. Indeed to a comparatively recent period, the great bulk of the Scottish curlers were to be found south of the Forth (river).

The Royal Caledonian Curling Club, which was established in 1838, has done much to introduce the game further northward, as the northern men are proverbally loyal, and now we believe there are few parishes, except, of course, in the highlands, without a curling club.

In this country, the love of the game is fast spreading (1880) over the length and breath of the land, and the Grand National Curling Club is nobly doing its duty toward fostering the spread of a knowledge of the game.

Before the Reformation in Scotland, curling was generally practiced on Sundays; and in former and more feudal days, when the nobility were principally resident on their estates, it was customary for one baron and his tenantry to challenge another. Year after year, the friendly fued was waged on the "icy board" with somewhat of the ancient hereditary keenness.

Now, however it is parish vs. parish, or district vs. district, for a "boll" of meal or coals for the poor of the parish or the district. Toward the close of the old or the opening of the new year, the curlers began to look out for his sport. Frost in some seasons sets in as ea as Christmas, and continues through the months of J uary or February. How anxiously the aspects of the and the direction of the wind are watched when the has been fixed for some important bonspiel.

And how gladly is the brisk, keen, frosty air of eventful morning welcomed by the expected combatan

Three days hard frost is required to fit the ice playing. Artificial curling ponds exist in some plac and have the advantage that a single night's frost them for use, while a fresh coating of the ice may secured each morning. These ponds, however, requ considerable outlay to keep them up, and are, necessa ily, of limited extent, and, though excellent for priva games, are unfit for the ordinary bonspeils, where co siderable numbers are engaged.

During some of the calm days of severe winter weat er where the hills are snow covered and every lea let and blade of grass is crisp to the footfall: wh the sun perchance begins to look through the cool bra ing air, and to shed its beaming warmth on the smoo mirror of the frozen loch, it is a joy to engage in game of curling.

The recollections of such days, with their memor of batter and victory and, perhaps, the inspiration a of the festive gatherings when the play is over, prompted many a local poet curler to sing in honor his beloved pastime, and many pleasing ditties are result of such inspiration.

No sport is productive of sociality and good feeling that of curling. It binds class to class: all distinction rank and social position vanish before the all-absor interest of the game. On the icy fields may be s either as spectator, or eagerly engaged in the conte

"The tennant with his jolly laird,
The pastor and his flock."

The Scottish poet, Graham, the author of the " bath," in the true spirit of the curler, thus describes crisis of the game of curling.

"Keen, keener still, as life itself were staked,
Kindles the friendly strife. One points the line
To him, who, poising, aims and aims again;
Another runs and sweeps where nothing lies,
Success alternately, from side to side,
Changes, and quick the hours unnoted fly,
Till light begins to fail, and deep below,
Till player, as he stoops to lift his stone,
Sees, half-incredulous, the rising moon,
But now the final, the decisions, spell
Begins. Near and more near, the sounding stones
Come winding in, and some, bearing straight along,
Crowd jostling all around the mark, with one
Just slightly touching. Victory depends
Upon the final aim; long swings the stone—
Then, with full force, careening, furiously
Rattling, it strikes aside both friend and foe,
Maintains its force and takes the victors place."

(End of "CURLING" Story)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

July 19, 1962
Installment No. 529

When we recently resumed writing this column, we timated that that instead of combining our research d writing chronologically that is, beginning in the ginning (over a hundred years ago) and proceeding ar to year, we would work on a hit or miss basis. mething like popping corn, never knowing what is ming next.

So do not be surprised if we make some long jumps rward, or backward, according to what, of interest we d.

It has been our privilege, over the years, to hear many od speakers from the College of Agriculture who have rked so closely with the food canning industry begin- g as far back as 1894 when Dean Henry sent youthful . H. L. Russell up to Manitowoc, to try to find the use of heavy spoilage in canned peas, in which he was ccessful, and laid the foundation of what is now one the largest industries in the United States, up to the esent time.

The many eminent research people, we have known rsonally, and worked with, would make a long list. ving retired from industrial activity fifteen years ago, no longer have the close contact we once had, but en now, after so long a time, the writer still attends few of the research meetings, and knows personally, me of the college staff as well as the dean.

Among them one whom we do not know personally, but om we have listened to a few times is Prof. H. L. Ahl- en. In February 1962 he spoke before a large group, in- rested in food. I was not present, but a copy of Prof. lgrens, address, "The Blessings of Our Abundance," s sent to me. It is so full of factual information, that want to share it with our readers. Hence this jump m 1894 to 1962.

H. L. Ahlgren
February, 1962

The Blessings of Our Abundance

Introduction

You will never know what America is, until you have en where America isn't.

I speak to you today as a representative of the farm economy— J segment of our economy—a representative who is proud to be a part of agriculture—and who is proud of the achievements and accomplishments of the farm people of this country.

I speak to you too, with some sadness in my heart because we have a "bad" press which is creating a public image that represents us as:

1) A great free-loader.
2) A slave holding master of migrants.
3) A reactionary opponent of progress relative to reapportionment.
4) Being responsible for the high cost of food.

III. Let's Look at the Record.

It is most appropriate that we do so because this .

It is most appropriate that we do so because this year we are celebrating the centennial of the establishment of the United States Department of Agriculture and our Land-Grant Institutions. President Lincoln signed the Morrill Act into law in 1862. It made these institutions possible and got them underway. It determined that the common man was entitled to the same educational opportunities as others and that we would not have a "peasant-type of agriculture in this country. If I were to take my text from the Bible at this point it would be: "Let There Be Light And There Was Light."

IV. The Road We Have Come.

1) The period from the time of first settlement to World War I.
   a) We increased production by increasing the number of units of production.
2) The period from World War I to World War II.
   a) Mechanical power replaced horsepower.
   b) Research was just barely able to keep pace with the natural decline in soil fertilization as a result of cropping.
3) The period from World War II to the present.
   a) Explosion of science and technology on our farms has resulted in an agricultural revolution.
   b) We have increased production by increasing production per unit. The net effect has been:
      1. Labor saving
      2. Output increasing
      3. Capital using
   c) Today no phase of American life is changing more rapidly than farming.

V. Changes that have occurred during the period of our agricultural history.

1) An agricultural to an industrial economy.
2) A situation where 90% of our population were farmers (1790) to one in which more than 90% are non-farmers.
3) From a majority to a minority group.
4) A time when the double bit axe, cross-cut saw, hoe and pitchfork were the most important tools of our trade to automation and mechanization.
5) A time when we measured the success of man by how hard and how long he worked to a situation in which the measure of success is determined by managerial ability.
6) An art to a science, and finally
7) A way of living to a way of making a living.

(To Be Continued)

Installment 530
July 26, 1962

"THE BLESSINGS OF OUR ABUNDANCE"
CONTINUATION OF A. L. AHLGREN'S ADDRESS

VI. What The Record Shows.

1) I would like to begin by pointing out that throughout history, food has been man's most important problem. Clothing, housing, education and amusement have always had a lower priority rating than food. Man's history has always been a race between food supplies and the number of mouths to be fed. **There has never been enough for everybody.** I would also like to point out that the borderline between good behavior and universal stampede is very thin indeed. I believe that history has proven time and time again that "when food does not cross borders armies will." At the present time, **two-thirds** of the world's population of **three billion** people go to bed hungry every night.

2) And now for ourselves — let's see what the record has to show for us:

a) Never in our history have we had to go to bed hungry for lack of food. Hunger is unknown to us.

b) We have the best and most efficient agriculture the world has ever known.

I think it is most significant that we have about the same number of farm people now as we had 100 years ago when President Lincoln signed the Morrill Act. (15,635,000) especially when we bear in mind that our total poulation has increased from 52,000,000 to about 185,-000,000 during this period.

1. Production of food and fiber per farm worker in the United States.

1910—each farm worker produced enough for himself and six others.

1940—each farm worker produced enough for himself and ten others.

1960—each farm worker produced enough for himself and twenty-five others.

c) There is plenty of food for everybody.

d) We have an excellent variety of food.

e) The quality of food is excellent.

f) Food is cheap. We spend less of our income proportionately for food in this country than the people of any other country in the world.

United States 20% of disposable income for food
Japan .... 42% of disposable income for food
West Germany .. 45% of disposable income for food
Russia .... 56% of disposable income for food
Developing nations—up 80%

To accomplish all of this we have spent $5.8 billion for agriculture research during the past 100 years. For every dollar invested in this research there has been a return of $2.00. In fact, if the cost of food had risen as much in the last eight years as everything else has, our food bill would be $13 billion larger than it is today.

I submit to you that the story of American Agriculture is "America's Horatio Alger Story." As no where else in the world, that portion of the Lord' Prayer which says—"Give us this day our daily bread"—has been answered here.

I would paraphrase by saying: "Never have so many owed so much to so few"—and I would submit — using the words of an old Chinese proverb to make my point for our agriculture — "No man who catches big fish need go home through the alley."

VII. Yes, I would submit to you that American Agriculture has been a magnificent, unbelieveable success. It is truly "America's Horatio Alger story."

Today:

A. Most of the people of the world are farmers. In fact 80% of them are so classified.
1. United States—less than 10%.
2. Russia—45%.

B. The average American works only one day a week to buy food for his family.

The average Russian works three and one-half days just to eat.

The Russians have a labor force of 106,000,000, the United States has 69,000,000. In Russia, 64,000,000 are needed on the farms. Consequently, 5,000,000 more are available here for non-agricultural work than in Russia.

C. The one weapon that Kruschchev can't match is the productivity of American Agriculture. Kruschchev has said: "We will bury you — your grandchildren will be communists." The best weapon we have pointed against him is our over abundance of food.

VII. The Blessings of our abundance — what it really means to us.

A. Food is cheap, of high quality, good variety and most of all—abundant.
1. Annually we produce 6% more than we need. If we produced 6% less than we need food prices would increase by 50%.

B. Farmers are actually subsidizing consumers. The farmer now receives about 37% of the consumer's food dollar. Although farmers make up 9% of our total population, they receive only about 4% of the national income. The average factory worker earns about $2.30 an hour. The average farm worker earns about $.85 an hour.

C. The efficiency of farm people is such that most of our population can be released to develop other phases of our economy. Actually, efficiency of production on the farm has been increasing at the rate of 6% per year or double that of industry.

In closing — and as we reflect upon the many blessings which are ours—including the abundance of our food — I would suggest that we all:

"Look back and give thanks
Look forward and take courage
Look around and serve
Look up and rejoice."

IX. The Sources of our Food Supply.

A. From the land areas of the world—99.5%
From the water areas of the world—0.5%
70% water
30% land

B. The land area of the world
Total—35,700,000,000 acres—to 1,000 Wisconsin's
Cropland — 2,600,000,000 to 3,570,000,000 acres — 100 Wisconsin's
289,000,000 acres are under irrigation. They provide food for 1/3 to ½ of the world's population.

C. The population
1. World.
3 billion now.
6 billion 40 years from now.
2. The United States.
185 million now.
370 million 40 years from now.

Our population is now increasing at an average daily rate of 8,200 - - a monthly rate of 250,000 — an annual rate of 3,000,000 — enough new people to populate another state of Wisconsin every 15 months.

Each person needs about 1,500 pounds of food a year to live.

In view of the international situation, it might be of interest to know that Russia, India, and the United States have 50% of the acreage of the world's cropland abotu equally divided between them.



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

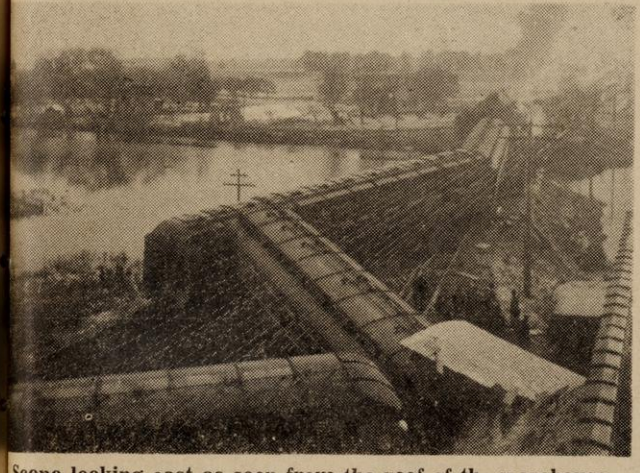
Installment 531
August 2, 1962

"THE WRECK OF THE PIONEER LIMITED"

A year or so ago Miss Dora Von Briesen of Milwaukee, e younger daughter in the Columbus family named n Briesen, sent to us a few clippings and other items rtaining to the Columbus of years ago.

Among these mementos were five photographs of the oneer Limited, west bound, which was wrecked many ars ago near the Dodge County line just east of the awfish River, strewing the forward part of the train, me five or six mail cars, baggage cars and some pas-ger coaches, all the way from the bridge westward midway of the Columbus Canning Company's big plant. There are plenty of Columbus residents still living o will remember the wreck and at least one, Father omas Myles, who was in the wreck. Also the late Mil-ukee Attorney Ernst Von Briesen, elder brother of ra, was in the wreck, and whose pictures of the wreck ar his signature.

Ever since the receipt of the pictures I have wanted find time to write the story of the wreck, but could t spare the time to do the laborous research of local pers, for neither myself or any of the many persons ntacted, could give a definite date, even the year, cept to agree that it was a long time ago.



Scene looking east as seen from the roof of the warehouse. ar lowest in the picture was the last of several baggage d mail cars not seen. Next up is the first passenger coach hich bored through the coal house, tore a hole through e brick wall, the top of which shows at the extreme right. his is the coach through which the passengers unloaded in e boiler house.

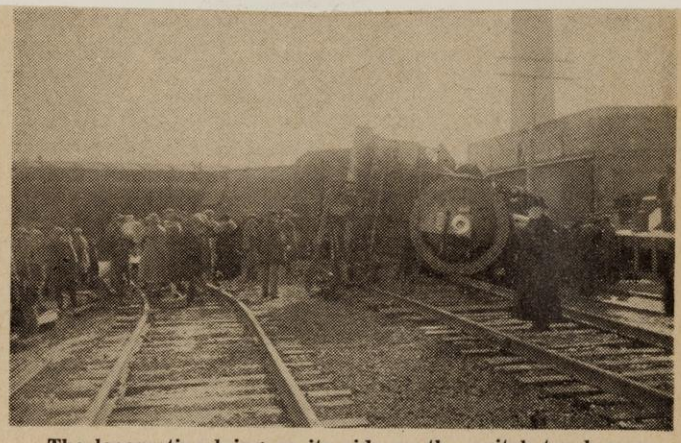
Third car. in the center of the picture, is another passen-er coach. It is believed that passengers in this coach un-aded from the front vestibule onto the tracks.

The fourth coach is not quite off the bridge, it is the car own in picture No. 4 shortly before the big hook dragged back on the rails and took it back east.

So as a starter, I began to write my own recollections, h the hope that some one might be found who knew the proximate date.

Some thirty or more years ago I was awakened by ringing of the telephone, and promptly recognized voice of Tom Twomey, the night-watch at the factory o yelled "come down as quick as God will let you" en I asked him what the trouble was, he replied "No. as just run into the Boiler House."

I told him to call the fire department and to ask "cen-l" to call the doctors.



The locomotive lying on its side on the switch track serving the loading track. Back of the locomotive in the center is the rear end of the first coach, the front end of which is on the boiler house floor just in front of the boiler. The third car, at the left, is the same coach seen as car number 3.

The woman in front of the locomotive is standing on the east bound track, and behind her can be seen the loading platform and its side track.

In a few minutes I was on the scene, and was assured by the train men that there were no serious injuries except the fireman who had had steam burns, and was just then being taken out of the cab of the locomotive which was on its side and had sheared off the posts supporting the loading platform for forty or fifty feet beyond the coal house.

Several of the forward cars were strewn across the tracks and down the embankment, the far ends being down on the lower part of the right of way.

The passengers in the first coaches were being moved forward, and unloaded through the front vestibule of the first coach which, fortunately, had stopped with the front end only a few inches from the iron fronts of the factory boilers.

I remember there was considerable chill to the night air, and something had to be done to take care of the passengers.

Several factory employees had arrived and were set to work in the wide aisles and empty spaces in the warehouse. We provided what few chairs there were, and plenty of wooden shipping boxes.

We had plenty of cotton blankets, fresh from the dry cleaners, after the close of the corn pack. We had no ready to eat food such as doughnuts, but there was plenty of coffee and hot water and being inside the warehouse was not in the outside night air.

The people were more scared than hurt, and made the best of it. Some days later we received a nice letter of thanks from the then Supt. Frick, Portage, for doing what he called, "such a fine job" in taking care of the people.



A close up of the train conductor in front of the locomotive and car No. 3 out of focus at the left.

My recollection is that when the wrecking crews came, one from each direction, the sleepers east of the bridge, were pulled back to Milwaukee or Watertown or some place where they could continue on their way west.

The coach passengers were picked up by a coach train backing in from Portage. When the "Big Hook" got to work there was a constantly watching audience, as shown by some of the pictures. It was a miracle that no deaths or serious injuries occurred, and that none of the cars went into the river, or crashed into the bridge. The sleepers, always on the rear end of a train did not leave the rails. Some of the sleeper passengers did not know the train had been wrecked.

My recollection of the cause of the wreck was something like this. An east bound freight train in which there were several empty freight cars, had passed the depot only minutes before Number one was due. A mile or so east, on the big curve, a car door or a grain door rattled itself to the open door of an empty grain car and and bounced in such a way that it finally landed on the south rai lof the west bound track, only minutes or seconds before it came into the curve.



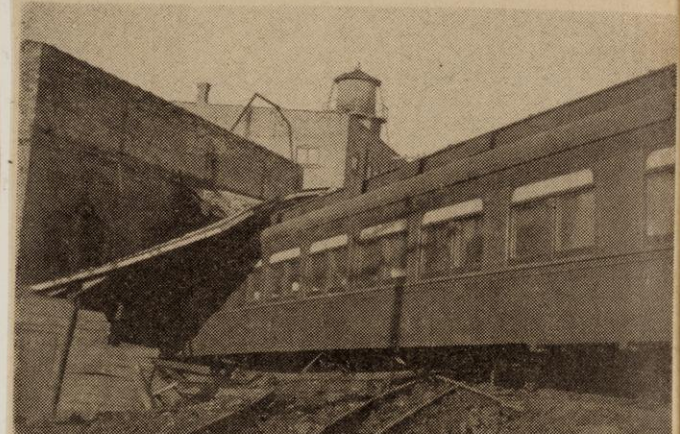
At the left, between two telegraph poles is coach No. 1 slanting down the embankment, nosed down below the roof of the coal house with front end of car almost touching the boiler fronts and from which the passengers emerged.

The two forward pilot wheels, those under the "cow catcher", hit the wooden grain door and jumped the track, but fortunately kept going in a forward direction, keeping in a groove, so to speak until after crossing the bridge.

Man at the left, wearing a light felt hat is believed to be Steve Murphy.

The remainder of my recollections, are the captions beneath the five pictures.

Recently the search was brought forth early in July. Mrs. Ervin Alff called to say that she had a clue, and after a little search of their books at Derings they called and gave the date the train hit the canning factory as October 29, 1926.



Taken from the east side of the river, showing the big hook on the center of the bridge about ready to operate on car described elsewhere as car No. 4.

A close up of coach No. 1 which up lifted the coal house roof, plowed through the coal, knocked a big hole in the brick wall and came to rest only inches away from the boiler.

The bound volume number 58 of the back papers on file at the Journal-Republican, confirmed the date as correct. We greatly appreciate the assistance of both Mr. and Mrs. Alff, in making it possible to complete the story, which is in most respects very similar to my own recollections, written some time ago, and before the date had been found.

1899 WAS A BUSY YEAR

In reviewing the bound volumes of the Democrat trying to run down the elusive date of the building of the curling rink we also made notes of other happenings, worthy of mention.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS

Beginning in the latter part of 1898 there were several items pertaining to hopes for an electric light and power plant for Columbus. This was during the term of service of Attorney Wm. C. Leitsch as Mayor.

As is usual in such cases, it requires considerable time, for the public to become sufficiently informed to vote intelligently.

There were more articles, none long, from time to time during the winter of 1898-9 culminating in over one column, of summing up the reasons for and against the project, in the issue of March 29, 1899 under the heading "Why Not", that being the week before the spring election early in April; and in the issue April 6. The head lines were "Over 3 to 1" in favor of a Municiply Owned Electric Light plant.

Columbus had put in a city owned water system a few years earlier, located as far as the artesian wells and steam pumping station is concerned, on the south of the railroad tracks, at the end of N. Water street and the tower and reserve tank on the ridge near St. Jeromes cemetery, where it still is.

The next public improvement, already being advocated, was a sanitary sewerage system, to be followed by paving of the streets in the business area.

RURAL FREE DELIVERY

The issue of June 14, 1899 announced that certain officials from the post office department of the Federal Government had been here to examine an area for a rural free delivery service, the need for which had been set forth in a petition. The announcement reads as follows: "Special Agent Casson, accompanied by Postmaster Stephen Manning, inspected the free delivery route which residents of Hampden have petitioned the government to establish, and, so we were told, decided to recommend favorably, that the request be approved.

As every recommendation of this character which Mr. Casson has thus far made has been approved, so his decision in this instance is equivalent to adoption of the route, and it is expected that a carrier will be started out July 1st next.

The route will extend west over the section-line road to the town house of Hampden, and return via the regular Hampden route (County Trunk K, perhaps), a route of about 22 miles, on which is located 140 families, and a population of 700 persons.

The service is to be daily, except Sundays and Legal holidays. The carrier will leave Columbus in the morning, returning in the afternoon. He will deliver (place) mail in boxes erected on the roadside by farmers, will pick up outgoing mail and sell postage stamps. The boxes should have owners names on the side.

Colonel Casson, who was a caller at the Democrat office, says the route is a good one, and although it is not exactly that which the Hampendites had petitioned for, it is, nevertheless satisfactory to them.

MAIL CARRIER CHOSEN

The issue of June 28 said, "Wm. A. Amrein has been appointed mail carrier for the proposed Hampden free delivery route at a salary of $400.00 per annum, and David Williams will be his substitute. It is expected the service will begin July 1, although there may be a few days delay.

The issue of August 16 says, "The first daily free delivery of rural mail was made yesterday morning by Wm. A. Amrein. The carrier serves a population of about 600 and covers about twenty miles. This free delivery is greatly appreciated by the farmers, and an increase of subscriptions for daily papers is noticeable.

(Frank Bell told the writer only recently that the Hampden route was the second in the United States, the other being in one of the Eastern states. Nothing in our research mentions this. In fact the remarks above about Mr. Casson having never been turned down, is directly to the contrary.)

FIREMEN'S TOURNAMENT

The issue of June 21, in a big spread, announces the annual Fireman's Tournament, a two day affair, usually bringing out departments and part of the equipment.

The event always, weather permitting, is replete with all kinds of contests, racing, etc., from as many as a dozen different fire departments, with prizes galore.

"The year the great "United States Band" under the direction of Frederick Phinney was a great drawing card. He received nearly half column of publicity, but none of it said where this band was from. They were billed for a free concert at 11 a.m., June 22 at which time a program of choice classical and popular selections will be rendered.

The band is one of the finest musical organizations in the state, and the opportunity to hear it is seldom the privilege of cities this size. (By inference they were from Milwaukee.)

In the afternoon the band will play during the tournament events at Roy's race track and will add pleasure to all who go to see the exciting races.

Besides this band, Columbus will also have during the tournament some of the best interior town bands, in the state, including Beaver Dam, Jefferson, Lake Mills, Edgerton, Oconomowoc and our own Columbus band.

These bands will consolidate for a grand concert Wednesday evening.

The issue of June 28, 1899 devoted 2½ columns describing what the headlines proclaimed "Best Tournament Held in the State."

It was events like this that ultimately brought into being the famous Columbus Fireman's Park. But that will be another story.

The issue of February 1, 1899 told about the 22nd annual meeting of the Columbus Library Association, which figuring backward means that organization came into being the year the writer was born. We shall do our best to trace its course.

August 2, 1899 records a pick up street baseball game's score being 16 to 22; the names seem to be businessmen, and playing was on the Hayden grounds. We are vainly searching for the period when the famous Kurth Brewery team was famous. When we find out we will write a story about them.

A list of electors in the city of Columbus, prepared and published December 1, 1898, should prove to be interesting.

There were 220 names in the first ward; 172 in the second ward and 166 in the third ward. A total of 558 registered voters, all presumably men as none are listed as Miss or Mrs., or for that matter more as Mr.

Even though the writer came to Columbus in 1902, he was amazed that he knew the majority of those on the list of electors that follows.

As you read them over, if you have lived here fifty adult years, or more, you too, will remember many, and what the business or profession they were in.

Through the thoughtfulness of Mr. S. L. McNamara of this city, we now can say that Woman's Sufferage, the 19th Amendment passed Congress in May or June 1919 and was accepted by the state legislature the same year, becoming the first state-wide authorization permitting women to vote in general elections. True to our motto, "Forward" we can be proud that our state was the first to ratify.

But even more surprising is the fact that the Rev. Olympia Brown, the pastor of the Good Shepard Unitarian church of Racine, in 1887, insisted on voting in a school election. The case was taken to the Wisconsin Supreme Court, and her right to vote was upheld; so women had a voting privilege in school affairs long before they were able to vote for other governmental offices.

(To Be Continued)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment 532
August 9, 1962

PIONEER TRAIN WRECK (Con't.)

FROM THE COLUMBUS DEMOCRAT OF NOV. 3, 1926

"Train No. 1 in Bad Wreck Here — Pioneer Limited wrecked here Monday night. Fireman Injured."

One of the most spectacular passenger wrecks ever occurring in this section, took place Monday night at 11:20, when the Pioneer Limited piled up five of its cars and the engine at the Columbus Canning Company Plant here.

Thomas Twomey, night watchman, and canning company fireman, had just finished tending the boilers about 11:20 when he heard the whistle of the night train. He walked over to the watchman's clock and punched it, then went to the shipping room door and stepped out onto the platform to watch the train go past, which had long been his custom.

This time it did not roar past. He stepped out just in time to see the locomotive come pounding along on the ties, to hear the grinding of brakes and to see the big engine topple over and roll with several coaches piling up behind it. The impact tore away part of the loading platform on which he was standing.

Alvin Nitz of Portage was the fireman, and the only person severly injured, his injuries consisting of a fractured wrist and severe cuts and bad bruises. The full extent of his injuries are not yet determined. He was taken to St. Mary's hospital here, where is recovering.

Nitz, it is reported, shouted a warning to the engineer, Ed Donahue, of Milwaukee, after sighting a box car door on the track about a half mile east of where the wreck occurred.

The door was not in plain sight of the engineer as it lay partly on the left side of the tracks (on the left rail).

The front end of the engine jumped off the rails and when it came down the front wheels were off the track and rode the ties for approximately eighty rods, just clearing the river bridge before the engine completely left the rails.

The engine, with the first five cars of the train crashed into the loading platform (wrong as shown in the pictures) one car going through the wall of the canning factory, (Boiler House) and coming to a stop against the big boilers.

A view of the wreck shows that a gruesome tragedy was narrowly averted, for, had the sleepers toppled into the river at the bridge, where the water was about twenty feet deep, the passengers would have been trapped.

Many passengers who were sleeping in that part of the train that remained on the east side of the bridge did not know that there had been a wreck, until information reached them from other passengers after it was all over.

The right of way was sufficiently cleared by Tuesday night to allow trains to pass.

The big wrecking crane began operations this morning and it is expected that most of the wreckage will be cleared away by night.

The wrecked train was in charge of Conductor C. H. Curtis of Portage.

Columbus fire apparatus was called to the scene of the mishap immediately after the crash, and local firemen were in readiness to aid in rescue work had the occasion demanded.

FROM THE ISSUE OF NOV. 10

Three pictures of the wreck were shown, through the courtesy of the Capitol Times, the pictures having been taken for the Times by C. C. Miller, Columbus photographer.

There are a few paragraphs of additional items concerning the wreck, as follows under the headline "Sidelights on the wreck."

Mr. E. F. Kohlhaas, operator on duty at the depot, and George Hasey were on the depot platform, watching the train as it came towards them.

Mr. Kohlhaas noticed sparks flying from the rails as the front wheels, which had been thrown off by the car door, bumped over the ties (and knocking against the rails.)

They saw the headlight sway from side to side as the engine left the rails, and then suddenly lurch to one side as the engine tipped over on its side and the light went out.

They both rushed to the scene, about two blocks away thinking the train had gone off the bridge into the river.

After taking a hasty look, Mr. Kohlhaas hurried back to the depot to notify the train dispatcher, and to call the doctors of the city.

The fire alarm was sounded to arouse the people as it was thought there must be many injured, if not killed.

Such was not the case, however, as the only one to receive serious injury was the fireman Alvin Nitz, of Portage, who is improving nicely at St. Mary's Hospital and is expected to be able to return to his home the latter part of the week.

The sounding of the fire siren aroused a man in one of the sleepers, who had not been awakened by the crash and jolts of the wreck, and he became rather excited as he thought he had missed his truck. He was a member of the Minneapolis Fire Department.

Rev. Thomas Myles, Mrs. Alfred Thorman, Billy Row, a former Columbus banker, and Ernst Von Briesen, Milwaukee lawyer, a former resident of Columbus, were passengers, all of whom "unloaded" from the first passenger coach which plowed its way through several cars of coal and knocked a big hole in the brick wall of the boiler house.

THE END

In the same issue an advertisement of A. H. Pro who at that time was the Ford Dealer "Sales and vice" in which he called attention to Fords in the following language. "Yet, in spite of that good quality workmanship, the Ford is still the lowest price, and greatest value in America.

The prices quoted in the advertisement were the Fordor Sedan $545; Tudor Sedan $495; Coupe $485; T ing Car $380; Runabout $360; all prices F.O.B. Det

Starter, demountable rims, and balloon tires are st ard equipment on all models listed above.

766



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

REGISTER OF ELECTORS, October 26, 1898

Installment 532
September 13, 1962

FIRST WARD

lic Adams, H. O. Anderson, Henry Annis, S. W. Anws, James W. Austin, Ole Anderson, A. T. Austin, ed Altschwager, E. 7. Brigham, D. A. Briggs, H. M. menthal, Ed. J. Brossard, John Biebow, Fred Birkz, Gerhard Briese, Frank Beckwith, Herman Bertn, W. G. Bresee, Lewis Bardoll, Elmer Berdoll, Louis ssard, Albert Baerwald, Albert Birkhauser, Ray Bath, C. Boelte, Gust Bergner, C. Christensen, F. C. Coop- A. D. Coopman, J. E. Churchill, James Crombie, Lawce Callahan;

T. Dodge, J. R. Decker, Elisha Davis, H. O. Deyroth, W. W. Drake, James Davis, Elmer Davis, C. C. on, Theron Edwards, W. J. Edwards, G. C. Etcheid, E. Evans, Melvin Edwards, T. B. Elmer, Harvey Edds, John Erb, Emrick Peter, Erdman Theodore, er, Geo. Fritz, Geo. Fritz, Jr., John Ford, Joe Fick, s. W. Everson, Wolf. Edelstein, H. J. Ferris, Lucius er, D. S. Fuller, Mark Fuller, John Fick, E. C. Farton, C. E. Farrington, William Fritz, John Fisher, rge Fritz, George Fritz, Jr., John Ford, Joseph Fick; Griffiths, W. R. Giles, Danie Gcrady, J. R. Goff, ris Griffiths, C. W. Hackett, Chas. Hoton, Fred Howe, s Hicks, Samuel Hasey, Fred Hicks, Andrew Hers, Herman Haase, James Heins, F. M. Hicks, Hugh l, August Haunaman, Fred Huebner, George Hard A. W. Ingalsbe, J. Jackson, Thomas James, Moses es, Samuel W. Jones, Hugh J. Jones, R. E. Jones, is Kettlehohn, Fred King, A. W. Knaak, Julius Krue- Chris Kurth, John Kurth, August Krueger, Guy V fer, William Klatt, W. C. Leitch, H. A. Lueders, R. ders;

wis Leith, Fred Logeman, James T. Lewis, Fred pke, A. M. Laub, George Linck, R. M. Lough, T. S. well, John Meyers, J. S. Merriam, James Montgom- W. F. Meyers, Robert McNulty, John McNulty, Geor- Meyers, Griffith Roberts, Reese Roberts, William Ra- e, William Radtke, Ed Roys, William Reels, John be, Chas. Roske, W. S. Ralph, A. S. Ralph, August thert, William Ninnman, Amos A. Nobles, Frank man, William D. Owens, C. F. Priem, John Preim, s. Propp, William Pagel, C. F. Pieper, E. M. Poser, n Peters, William Pietzner, Leo Pieper;

C. Schultz, Gus Schlief, Heman Sherman, John mm, O. A. Stexton, John Swarthout, Emil Schur, Aug- Schur, H. A. Scheidler, Carl Schultz, Bert Sherman, iam Schur, Chris St. John, Alex Scholer, Fred Schur, n Streich, William Schultz, John Selk, Fred Schmidt, ust Schlief, L. A. Stamm, H. E. Sutton, J. J. Sutton, A. Sparks, Wm. Schoenback, August Steindorf, Fred ltz, C. Steinback, W. T. Schroeder, Jessie St. John, d Schmidt, E. E. Spooner, W. R. Turner, Carl Tause, n Topp, H. J. Topp, R. F. Topp, H. F. Turner, Philo ey, O. A. Trowbridge;

R. Taylor, J. T. Toynton, T. J. Thomas, Oscar Ulm, D. Vosburg, G. W. Vossburg, E. C. Whitcomb, E. P. do, John Williams, C. H. Williams, A. S. Waldo, Fred ner, John Wiler, Fred Weiland, B. J. Weaver, Lance iams, Ira Williams, O. Wiseman, Albert Watkins, is Williams, O. H. Williams, William Wetzel, L. A. ght, Oscar Weiner, Scott Williams;

as. Youman, Wm. Zuhlsdorf, Nicholas Ziegler, A. arth, John Zeigler, John Ziebarth, Jr., Chas. Zeig-

tal in first ward 220.

SECOND WARD

William Amerin, Henry Altschwager, Jos. Altschwager, August Boness, Rudolph Berghauer, William E. Butler, G. A. Burkman, A. C. Bonnett, Fred Briese, L. Borden, M. Bartz, John Brill, sr., John Brill, Jr., Geo. Brill, L. Becker, L. Bassler, Ed. Blaske, John Brandt, H. Bensted, Elon Cripps, Theo. Cludius, Fred Chadourn, Thomas Everson, Julius Engel;

F. C. Francis, Frank Fueling, J. H. Foley, August Frederick, John Frendel, E. S. Griswold, Frank Gruhn, David Griffiths, George A. Guenther, Edward Grout, Alfred Gruhn, John Hasey, Albert Hasey, Wm. Hanniman, G. Hoffenstein, John F. Haun, William Haun, Thomas Hughes, J. J. Howard, Fred Hedbrak, F. L. Henning, Ed. H. Harris, H. C. Hobart, Frank Helm, C. W. Johnson, Harry Johnson, Walter Johnson, M. H. Jackson, William J. Jones, Pat Joyce, William Jackman, August Krause, Gustav Klatt, A. H. Koblitz, Otto Krause, William Keefer, Henry Kitzerow, Fred Kettlehohn, Frank Karrow, Conrad Koblitz, John Koch, William Klavis, Patrick Kane, Hugh Kane, Frank Klatt, Gustav Klavis, Fred Knoll, Christ Kettlehohn, Gustav Knaak, A. Keeler, Herman Klabunde, O. T. Kubits;

Andrew Langsdorf,& Michael Lowerey, Fred Lipkey, C. A. Langford, J. F. Langford, W. H. Manley, Frank Muth, George Mohring, J. S. Manning, S. Manning, Samuel McGounell, John Mielenz, David J. Mclarty, William Montague, M. McLarty, Eugene Mead, Christ Miller, Wm. C. Nueman, Frank Neniman, E. C. Oviatt, Gottfried Pagel, C. W. Peters, Louis Pietzner, Frank Pietzner, Henry Pietzner, Edward Pine, Clark Peck, George Peck, R. D. Peck, Thomas Powers, James Quickenden. A. C. Quentmeyer, N. K. Richards, Frank Roberts, Harvey Rowell, L. Heiboltz, E. A. Rudolph, G. A. Rudolph, Oscar Roth, William Ranger, Chas. Ranger, G. A. Ranger, C. Reiter, W. J. Reidner, J. Robinson, Jos. Seidlinger, G. W. Stephens, C. D. Stiles, Jesse Smith, H. C. Smith, Geo. Strache, Emmett Smith, Lewis Siedschlag,

George Schultz, Ferdinand Schultz, Edward L. Schultz, August Strauch, John Sanderson, George Stoffle, John C. Schultz, Carl Schultz, D. Schoenbeck, A. F. Schmaling, Fred Thiede, sr., Edward Thomas, August Tetzlaff, William Thiede, Chas. Ulm, W. M. Upham, M. G. Udy, L. A. Vick, A. L. Vanderpool, H. B. Vanderpool, Ferdinand Voth, Carl Wilske, F. F. Wilske, Harvey Wood, Oliver Wood;

Christ Weston, H. J. Wideman, Paul Witthuhn, Henry Wrede, Fred Walter, Herman Wolc, John Warning, Carl Zastrow, Gustav Zemple.

Total in second ward 172.

THIRD WARD

Gustav Alff, August Alff, James Anthony, A. M. Bellack, F. L. Birdsey, George Barry, Ludwig Briese, William Berg, Gustav Greuning, A. Barraclough, B. F. Bellack, August Blumenthal, Fran Burgenger, John Brokopp, Matt Brandt, G. W. Bullow, John Blanchard, Peter Brauchle, A. C. Berg, Thaddeus Bieglow, John S. Bull, Anton Baumgartner, C. A. Briese, Henry Cook, H. R. Cook, Paul D. Durant, O. M. Dering, G. V. Dering, Jacob Doehring, Julius Engelke, William Eichberg, J. A. Erhardt, W. O. Engel, Thomas Evans, Louis Eggersglus, Chas. E. Fowler, H. P. Fiehler, Valentine Fox, John Feuling, Julius Giese, M. A. Groening, Fred Grei, John P. Goodwin, Herman Henning, John Hunter, H. J. Hunter, Jacob Hirshfeldt, Benj. Hughes, John Holtz, sr., Arthur Hunter, John Hartzinger, Edward Hecht, William Ibisch;

D. A. Jones, David Jones, William Jahnke, J. D. Jones, Fred Jahnke, John A. Jones, August Yuds, Charles Jones, George Holtz, Frank Hart, Herman Hoehne, Wm. Hannemann, Michael Hurley, Martin Heidke, Charles Hiller, Henry Hiller, Herman Hiller, Fred Holtz, H. F. Kruse, Rudolph Kopplin, William Kirbis, Albert Klatt, Charles Kelsey, O. H. Koch, Wm. F. Krueger, John Kitzerow, William Killian, William Karrow, David Kelsey, Gustav Klaver, Frederick Luke, Milford Loomis, Herman Lange, G. N. Loomis, H. Loomis, A. Lange, Jos. Maack, C. Moll, H. R. Murphy, Max Marcus, Gustav Mueller, Michael Mohring, Harvey McCafferty, James McConnell, Charles Mueller, William Milz, Frank Marody, Charles Miller, Thomas McCann, C. Morrison, August Northhelfer, William Nix, Anthony Nix, D. B. Owens, D. R. Owens, Edward Oppelt, Ferdenand Pierer, Charles Pietzner,

H. C. Peck, Edwin Pietzner, Fred J. Pieper, R. S Rockwell, O. J. Recher, Josh Roberts, Joseph Strange, Rinehardt Schendel, G. W. Sheppard, August Seidschlag, Whit. E. Smith, Otto Salzwedel, Emil Schleif, John Stade, Daniel Starks, William Schael, William Seffen, Lewis Sawyer, Henry Seippe, Alex Strand, O. W. Traynor, Phillip Traynor, Charles Tabbet, Stephen Tobin, John Tobin, F. G. Thiede, Frank Thiede, Charles Topp, James Tobin, Warren Thompson;

Henry Vick, R. D. Vanaken, sr., R. D. Vanaken, jr., N. F. Vogl, Joe Vogl, Herman Voth, A. H. Whitney, Frank Wolc, Jr., Frederick Wilake, J. R. Wheeler, Otto Weller, Frank Wolc, sr., Fred Weisenberg, William Weller, D. W. illiams, Fred Weideman, Frank Wilske, Leo Winter, David Williams, Christ Winche, John Wissenberg, John Yauman, Harvey Yule, Hobart Yule, Benjamine Yule, Louis Zick, August Zucker.

Total in third ward 134.

Total registration 558.

(To Be Continued)

Installment 533
August 23, 1962

CEMETERY

The Cemetery: First burial — Number of burials, Unknown graves — The new purchase.

The above are the headlines of a column length article appearing in the Columbus Democrat of Friday, May 24, 1872.

Except for an occasional brief comment, tying the past to the present, the article is almost ver batum.

"The City of the Dead, in our midst, has a pleasant seat. It is apart from the living, and their hurrying to and fro.

Only the murmer of their doings reach it upon the quiet hill. Yet the village from which its increase comes is stretched in full view at its feet and from its height, even the Crawfish looks almost picturesque. The population of this silent city has been increasing as the years have come and gone.

Its people never change their sad abode, and now its lanes are all tenanted. Death is the emperor whose realms are always widening, and he claims more territory of us.

The upper portion of the present cemetery, to the area of two acres was laid out 26 years ago (1846). The land was given to the township by Mr. Lewis Ludington, and was surveyed for its purpose by Mr. James T. Lewis (later Governor of Wisconsin) and Squire Topplif (who was then a licensed surveyor, living on his farm in the township of Hampden) and was also county surveyor.

At that time, Lewis Street had not been platted, and the Fox Lake Road, ran parallel with and much closer to the river. Some years later (1854), Lewis Street was laid out in its present location, (and the strip of land between Lewis Street and the river location (and the strip of land between Lewis Street and the river was laid out by A. P. Birdsey which was called Birdsey's second addition, lying on both sides of the river, and also on the west side of Lewis street from Church street to the cemetery and up to the top of the ride to the St. Joseph's cemetery.

Previous to its platting there had been one or more interments. Squire Allen was buried there in 1845 and his bones were the first that were laid to rest on the hill-top.

We find that A. W. Close and wife were placed there in the autumn of 1846, within one month of each other; and there are doubtless other slumberers of that year.

MANY UN-MARKED GRAVES

A close inspection leads to the belief that there are (at least) a thousand graves now in the cemetery (1872) and that there are possibly half of them unnamed. The older ground is clearly and irregularly crowded with the dead. "Here, each in his narrow cell, forever laid. The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep."

(The writer recalls that when it was necessary for him to acquire a grave site in 1912, Mrs. Alice Harris, then secretary of Hillside Cemetery told him, in effect, that only one lot remained in that portion served by the third driveway, was available, and that the association could not guarantee that there might not be an unknown grave on that lot, for that portion of the cemetery was an overflow from the original two acres given by Lewis Ludington.)

As in the cities of the living, the earlier habitations were not laid out by rule. Many graves are now shapeless heaps; others are sunk below the surface, and still others are not to be discerned from the intervening turf.

The names and years of but a few sleepers are still told. Utter neglect and forgetfulness are the mossy inscriptions that oftenest appear. The fires of life burned out, and those who were warmed thereby forgot the sources of heat.

Ancestry and the ties of kindred thrown away in the race for bread and money. No epitaph is so full of voice, or pleads so with humanity for recognition and remembrance, as the nameless and deserted grave.

DUST TO DUST

Yet it is ever so in the round of dust to dust. Our cemetery (still a township cemetery as of 1872) is exceptional, in the care which is now bestowed upon it, particularly in the newer portion. The story of many mortals are carved on handsome tablets, and well proportioned monuments gleam through the trees in all directions.

Flowers are living their beautiful lives on every hand and the birds have made the place, their home.

It is engroved in rare shrubbery and native growth and it, as it should be, a resort, not a terror.

THE FIRST REAL MONUMENTS

The first monument (not head-stone) erected was in memory of Thomas and Robert Monarch, "Natives of Scotland," who died in 1857 and 1859. The next is to Mrs. G. I. Dodge in 1864. The next is Sanford Drake, and then Mrs. John Hasey, senior.

MORE LAND ACQUIRED

On Saturday of last week, May 18, 1872, the town supervisors purchased about 8 acres of Dr. Earll, as an enlargement of the cemetery. The purchase extends 31½ rods nearly east along the Fox Lake Road (Lewis Street) and 45 rods nearly north (up hill) at right angle to the road, and thence back to the north-east corner of the old cemetery by an angling boundary.

The price paid was $1800. The tract is a wooded slope, reaching over the hill (ridge), and to its foot on the other side. This annexation gives the whole cemetery an area of almost eleven acres in the form of a square, on three sides.

The purchase extends to a line beyond Dr. Earlls farm house, which the town officials agree to remove. This field is not to be platted at present, but the remainder (pasture) is to be divided at once into lots of suitable size.

The configuration and location of the ground is exceedingly well adopted to its purpose and it would be very difficult to find other land so suitable (for its purpose).

Death is one of the most important events that can befall a person. It effects not him alone, but others, and is frequently a fact which determines the right to property, etc.

RECORDS SUGGESTED

It is suggested, therefore, that some cemetery record ought to be kept, of the name, place and date of birth, and date of death and burial, of all who are here interned.

It has also been suggested that the town would do a very proper act by having a vault upon the cemetery grounds, for temporary occupancy of the dead (as for example in the dead of winter, or inclement weather).

We cannot help but add a few words.

The writer does not recall all of that beautiful poem entitled Grey's elegy in a country church yard, but he does recall the concluding stanza,

"The Boast of Hearldry, the Pomp and Power,
And all that Beauty and Wealth ere gave
Awaits the inevitable hour
The paths of glory, lead but to the grave."

When Editor, H. D. Bath of the Columbus Democrat penned the article "The Cemetery" in the May 24th issue 1872 he closed by suggesting that a vault be erected in the cemetery, a very proper thing to do; which may have been the seed, lying dormant for many years, but the facts are that some years subsequently the Hillside Cemetery Association was formed, for among other things, to provide perpetual care of all graves and to maintain a high standard of excellence in the up keep of grounds and compiling of suitable records.

(Continued)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 533
September 20, 1962

LOCAL ENTERPRISES

In this day and age, when every town and small city is spending time and money trying to "woo" new industries to locate in their midst, for which there are good reasons, it might be a good idea to look backwards and see what things were like in the dim and distant past.

LOOKING BACKWARD

Without being painfully correct as to exact dates, Columbus, like other small places, has several blacksmith shops, which usually also did horse shoeing.

WHEELS

And there were also just as many wagon shops which were usually hooked up with a blacksmith shop, as the two kinds of skill seemed to go together, as for example take wagon and buggy wheels.

Spokes and fellows (the rim of a wheel) needed replaceing or repairing, tires had to be shrunk by heating, or even cutting out a small piece and rewelding.

Wagon making, strange as it may seem to us now, was frequently done right on the farm, as for example, John Holtz, father of the late George Holtz and grandfather of Alfred was a wagon maker by trade, and a farmer as a way of life, doing the farming in season, while in the winter he did repairing, not only for his own operations but for neighbors; and usually found time to make two or three hand made brand new wagons, either on order for a specific person, or for sale to anyone.

BOB SLEDS

Bob sleds were just as important to make as they replaced wagon and buggy wheels through the winter, as there was no snow removal equipment, but a good team in front, and a sober driver did not have to stick to the road, but went over or through the fence and traveled in the fields as well as on the roads.

There were, in Columbus, at least two buggy factories, which also made graceful looking "Cutters", usually pulled by a single horse, but for doctors and vets, as well as affluent individuals there were usually two horses.

There were shoe makers as well as shoe repairing shops, and always there was one or more machinists, or "fix it" men like Harvey Rowell, a gun smith, principally, but pumps, clocks, specticals, or what have you, never deterred them.

Carpenters, stone and brick layers, painters, lumber yards, and merchants, grain elevators, meat markets, all of whom employed one or more helpers.

IN 1855

The Columbus Republican of February, 1855, contained an article on "Columbus as it is from which we quote portions. "Population claimed 800 inhabitants. It already had in the 15 years since it started, 7 stores with two or three more expected to open in the spring. There was one drug store, one flour mill, one saw mill, two wagon shops, one of which made a hundred wagons, and the other made fifty, during the year. There were three grocery stores, and provision stores, two hotels, four blacksmith shops, three boot and shoe shops and stores, three tailor shops, one jewelry store, and one harness shop.

As to business done, the editor said that during the preceeding four months 35,000 bushels of wheat, and 147 tons of pork had been bought and shipped (by team, as the railroad did not reach us until 1857.)

The article referred to the high prices paid to producers and the low prices to which competition had reduced goods, and refers to the advancing value of real estate, the good policy of immediately securing good locations.

We have omitted names of owners thus far but individuals, and professional men are being named, R. W. Chadbourn, land agent, private money loaner, and justice of the peace; H. A. Whitney, livery stable and hauling of supplies from Milwaukee; J. P. Atwood, cooper, O. H. Hammond, daguerrean artist; Isaac Robinson, land agent and real estate; Earl Sampson, oyster saloon; Dr. Earll and Axtell, physicians and surgeons; Dr. Tucker, botanic physician; Nelson Adams, homepathic.

All this goes to show, that although many were self employed, many others were clerks or helpers. Many younger men and boys were learning trades of their own, which working as apprentices.

INDUSTRY

There seems to have been no crying need for large industry, but on page 685, Columbia County History there is a drawing, full page of an establishment of considerable size with a sign, " F. H. Boelte and Co. Machine Shop and Foundry," turning out wagons, plows, cultivators, Eureka Windmills, corn shellers, "Economist" churn, feed grinders, and also one run of stones on which feed was ground on a custom basis, all run by a sixty horse power steam engine.

1869

It was started by Hall and Caswell in 1869, and acquired by Boelte and Eckoff in 1879; several years later it burned and was not rebuilt.

As of 1870 there was a small machine shop, in connection with an Agricultural Implement Business of Mr. S. Hutchinson who had a 10 H.P. steam engine, turning lathe and planing machine to manufacture pumps and did general repairing, mostly on agricultural machinery.

COOPERATIVE CREAMERY

A cooperative creamery was organized and presumably made but butter and cheese. After about a year the patrons began looking for some one who could sell the stored up years supply of their products. They had a nice amount coming from their respective shares if and when they could find a buyer. We have not followed through to see what happened as time went on.

FALL RIVER

In 1856 Dr. Hanson Hurd started a match factory in Fall River, which he ran for two years, when he sold out to M. and E. H. Bronson who successfully continued the business until 1860 when they disposed of it to Prime and Randall, who hung on for two years, selling in 1862 to Folsom and Grout. The latter firm, due to the hard times brought on by the Civil War, suspended for a time, the factory employed from ten to twenty "hands".

(Continued Next Week)

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August 23, 1962
Installment No. 534

CEMETERY CONTINUED
THE WHITNEY CHAPEL

It remained for Mr. Alonza H. Whitney to build the ng awaited vault, suggested in 1872. The following is uoted from the "Story of Columbus" October 6, 1960: "But his outstanding gift was the Whitney Memorial hapel at Hillside cemetery.

While some of his intimate friends had been told under pledge of keeping the gift confidential, the announce- ent was made in both local papers in the last week March, 1921.

Mr. Whitney had engaged a Milwaukee Architect, Mr. Class, who designed for him an exact duplicate of old English chapel, a building 22 x 34 feet in size, e chapel proper, with an altar, and seating capacity possibly 40 people, and in the rear, a Mausoleum, with ne cripts, each of size sufficient to hold one casket.

The purpose of the chapel being intended for the use small funerals especially in inclement weather, dur- g the winter months, or heavy rainfall, the casket ould be placed temporarily in one of the cripts, until e weather would be more propitious for opening a ave, or holding outside graveside interments.

The building was built of Flemish red brick, laid in an usual Flemish Bond".

The building was to be built by Hasenfus and Ibisch and as to be furnished before winter.

The minutes in the book of the cemetery secretary cords show that the building was completed on sched- e.

Heating was done by stove, as it would be used only casionally.

John Brokopp, who was custodian of Hillside cemetery r a great many years states that there had been a few nes, in long stretches of bitter cold weather and heavy ows that all nine cripts were in use.

Mr. Whitney's passing was sudden. He was at the table conversation. One minute he was talking and the next was "in that peaceful sleep that follows death." A rrior had fallen dead.

Rev. L. C. Partch, his friend and pastor conducted the neral at the home, and the winter being severe, the mains were placed temporarily in one of the cripts of e Memorial Chapel. There were a dozen or more hon- ary pall bearers, mostly lifelong friends and associates d the active bearers, all from fellow officers and em- oyees of the Canning Co.

Interments for 1899:

Roseline Krueger, Jacob Swarthout, Christ Nehis, D. Evans, Fred Karrow, Carl N. F. Steindorf, Fred Nie- eyer, child of A. Hanneman, Fred Schultz, Jacob Gans, Stiles, child of F. Pieper, Nelson Sawyer, Caroline veless, Jacob Seipp, Mrs. Sarah Butterfield, Mrs. E. Stephens, Mrs. Maria Harding, J. Whiting, Caroline , Israel Smith, L. Birdsey, Bertha Reise, Mrs. H. D. nes, Albert Mueller, Bertha E. Loomis, August Berg, na Weiland, H. C. Cooper, George Smith, William row, Mrs. Fred Weiland, William M. Griswold, Christ itsch, Mrs. Mina Baker, Sophia Briermeister, Joel nch, Mrs. Nancy Smith, Mrs. Louisa Winch, A. W. uson, John Laskey.

End of Cemetery Story

WHAT PRICE AMERICA

The following composition was written by the late John Dixon, who for a period of several years, back many years ago, was Superintendent of Schools at Columbus and later for several years was on the faculty of East Side High School in Madison.

It has been in possession of the writer of this column for many years. Whether it is an essay or a short chapter of a magazine article or what, we do not recall.

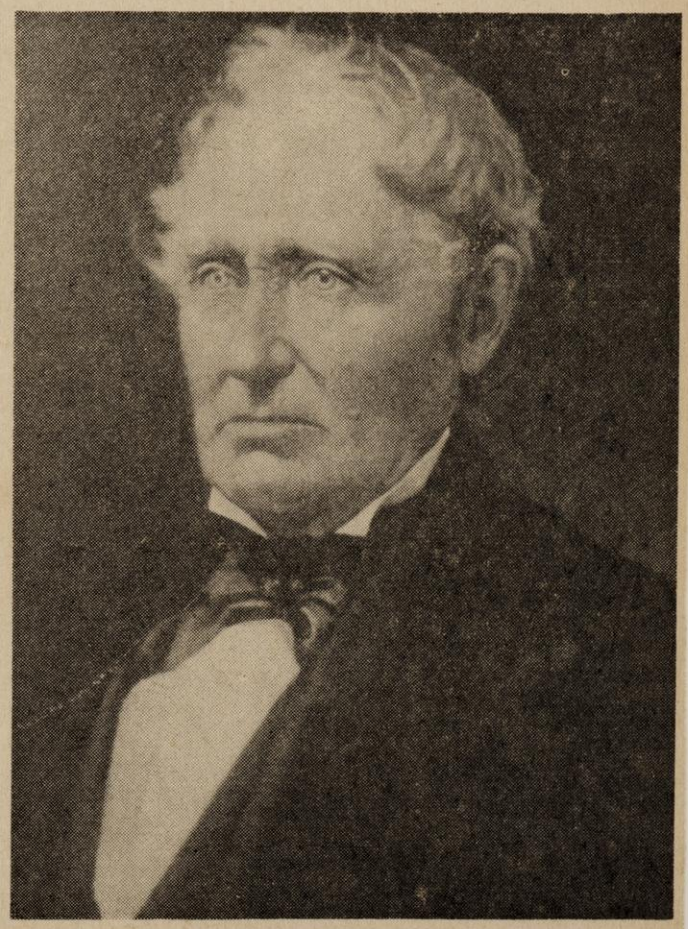
But the decision to run it in the Story of Columbus, is because that the last heroine mentioned, Sybel Ludington, has a direct connection with Columbus for her father Colonel Henry Ludington was the grandfather of Lewis Ludington who laid out the first plat of Columbus on part of several hundred acres that he and his son in law, John Hustis, had acquired.

In the early days of the publication of this column, there has appeared a great deal about the Ludington family. I made a special side trip several years ago while touring the East and have stood in amazement in the cemetery at Carmel, New York before an oblisk, forty feet high on the Ludington lot, an unusually large plat with many graves.

Furthermore I have read quite a few road markers on all highways leading into Carmel calling attention to the fact that "This is a part of the route traveled by Sybil Ludington on her famous fifty mile ride to call the militia of which her father was commanding officer."

I have seen the Ludington mill and the store and many other places of interest having to do with the Revolutionary War.

I have read a sizeable book, a history of the Ludington family. James Ludington was the founder of Ludington, Michigan; Harrison Ludington was a Governor of Wisconsin and Harrison street in Columbus was named for him.



Lewis Ludington

Owner who started the village after first settler Major Dickason went broke shortly after 1840.

Ludington Street; James St.; Harrison St.; Lewis St., were named after different members of the Ludington family.

HEROINES OF OUR EARLY AMERICA

One of the first to inscribe her name and fame on the pages of our history was an original American, an Indian Princess, the cherished daughter of a great Virginia Chieftain, Powhatan, who ruled over a league of forty tribes. When asked her name, her father said it was "Pocahontas", the Indian term for tomboy, for she was agile and full of action.

The first permanent English colony in what is now the United States was made at Jamestown on the James river in Virginia in the year 1607. A young man of many adventures soon came to be the leader of the colony. His name was John Smith. In an exploring expedition into the interior he was captured and taken to Powhatan. Legend has it that he was condemned to die and that Pocahantas, then a girl of ten or eleven through her pleas to her father saved the captives life. In any case she became a loyal friend to both John Smith and the Jamestown Colony.

Often she would go with some attendants carrying corn and venison to the starving colonists. She hid a messenger whom the savages planned to kill; she saved the life of a captured English boy; three times she made her way through the forest to Jamestown and at the risk of her life warned the settlers of impending attacks. And a second time she saved the life of Captain John Smith when a trap was laid for him. But, when after two years John Smith left the colony for England, Pocohantas made no more visits to Jamestown.

(Continued Next Week)

Installment No. 534
September 27, 1962

(Continued from last week)

CIGAR MANUFACTURING

C. Palmer started in 1860, the manufacture of cigars, but continued for only a short time, disposing of the business to D. Robbins, who soon after, suspended because of Civil War hard times.

In 1872 Charles Taylor commenced to manufacture, continuing for about a year, when Z. B. Russell engaged in the work. The latter has had fair success in building up a trade. In 1879 he employed one hand, and worked at the bench himself.

CHEESE MANUFACTURING

In 1873 Mr. O. B. Prime commenced the manufacture of chees in the village, making about 80,000 pounds the first year. The quantity was increased each year until 1878 when it reachel 166,000 pounds.

In 1879 a lesser amount was made because of the scarcity of milk. An average of $12,000 per year from 1873 to 1879, inclusive, was distributed among the farmers of the neighborhood from this one industry alone.

MOVE ON

This should be enough background to indicate what was a general condition in hundreds of the smaller villages, towns and small cities in the period of about 1850 to 1900.

WHAT IS A PROMOTER?

In the closing decade of 1890 to 1900 a few manufacturers of the equipment usually found in creameries and cheese factories, when times were very hard, money scarce and difficult to come by, a firm named Davis and Rankin, Chicago and perhaps, other similar firms as well, found business not "so good" and conceived the idea to branch out and include the promotion of small canning factories for sweet corn, tomatoes, string beans, pumpkins, etc. (leaving out peas) for the time being for reasons that will be shown later.)

Those mentioned required a minimum of machinery and furnish the maximum of hand labor which was a strong talking point as to why a small canning factory would not only provide good cash crops for the growers thereof but also provide work for many willing hands to do.

"A well known old time canner who was also the inventor of some of the primitive canning machinery and equipment used when the writer was only a boy, in writing to a friend said among other things:

"Have you noted the part played in the development of canning factories in the gay nineties by promoters? Davis and Rankin who were manufacturers of creamery apparatus, figured that there were far too few canning plants in the country and started out to remedy the condition.

"They bought a lot of lumber from the Old World's Columbian Fair Buildings in Chicago and erected a large shop near by. They promoted and built small canning factories, all over the middle west and furnished experienced men (so called) to operate them.

The experienced men were usually men who may have worked as a laborer in a small tomato plant in Indiana or southern Illinois, or helped to build one of the small plants, the firm had sold to many communities in the mid west.

The warehouses were usually very small and when some stockholder questioned the size it was explained that the finished product would be labeled up and shipped as soon as made. The only need of a warehouse was some place to store temporarily while the cars were switched out and others in.

Appropus of Davis and Rankin, a Canning Journal of November 21, 1895 said "The recent failure of Davis and Rankin in which some canners had more than a passing interest is again attracting attention from the fact that the principal managers of that concern are again in the field and intend to continue the business under the name of C. E. Stubbs and Company.

The whole effect of the failure is that it repudiates a lot of old troublesome debts. It is said that the entanglement grows deeper every day. And creditors have abandoned all hope of ever having their accounts taken care of.

For the past year it has been claimed that much of the depression in the canned foods market was due to promotional activity used by this company through which canning factories were organized and built by misrepresentation, in localities where thev could accomplish nothing but demoralize the market."

In a canners association convention held in Indianapolis, May 5, 1897, the President, Geeorge Moore, of Baltimore, Maryland said about the depressed condition of the industry "the large number of persons out of employment, larger packs, smaller profits or losses, lower prices, the present unsatisfactory showing for the years work is clearly a case of over production."

"Nor have we been relieved of the ever present promoter to still swell the number of canners, nor have the consequent failures done away with.

21 FACTORIES

The first three commercial factories to operate in Wisconsin were in 1887-1890-1890; none of which were "promotor" plants.

By the end of 1899 there was a total of twenty one, of which fourteen were promoted plants of which seven had failed and quit business after trying to operate for a couple of years without experience or working capital. Most if not all of the seven had been promoted on the "cooperative plan" where what was left after paying for cans, boxes, labor, labels, coal, etc. was to be divided among the growers.

More often than not there was little, if anything to divide.

Now we know what a promoter of sixty to seventy years ago was.

The End of "Local Enterprises"

A FEW 1861 WAR TIME ITEMS

April 18, 1861

A Despicable Act. Some person, who wears the form of a man, has spiked the cannon that was purchased by our citizens last year for the use of the town.

Stars and Stripes. For the past few days the Stars and Stripes have been floating from Farnham's Hall and the Journal building. It is a cheering sign in these times to see the glorious old banner floating over our heads and while it cheers the hearts of our loyal citizens it is an eye sore to the traitors that we have in our midst.

April 25, 1861

Columbus Volunteers. A company of volunteers, numbering about fifty, have beeen enrolled in this village; they are drilling every afternoon and evening. The volunteers are all able bodied and true men and if called upon to defend the flag of their country will do credit to the country of their homes.

In the same issue a half column of proceeding of the meeting to raise funds for the support of the families of volunteers. A dozen or more leading citizens, whose names were mentioned made remarks of patriotic nature. A. Topliff was chairman and Dr. H. Pulcifer, secretary.

There was also a third of a column headed war news including the following "By Telegraph." Our advices today indicate that the Union men of Baltimore have put down the seccesion mob. The Secretary of War has very properly intimated to the President of the Baltimore and Ohio RR that if he transports Virginia Troops over his road, he will be quilty of treason, which is punishable with death.

(To Be Continued)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 535
August 30, 1962

HEROINES OF EARLY AMERICA (Con't.)

Some years later, however, when she had developed into a young woman, a crafty Englishman kidnapped her and took her to Jamestown. Here, however, she became a general favorite, was treated with honor and respect, and learned to like the life in the colony. Through her Powhatan was led to live at peace with the White men. Then, when she was about 18 she fell in love with a young Englishman, John Rolfe, and was married to him in the little Jamestown church.

When she was 20, she, her husband, and their infant son visited England. She was presented to the King and Queen and was visited and honored by the most noted men and women of England. John Smith went to see her, and, for a time she was so overcome that she could not speak. At last she said, **"They told me you were dead."**

But she became weary of crowded London and homesick for her native Virginia. And then, just as she, her husband and little son were about to sail, and when she was only 23 years old, she suddenly sickened and died.

This princess daughter of a Chief in the American wilderness was intelligent, beautiful and brave and **in her brief span of life saved the Virginia Colony from extinction.**

Through the period of our early settlemnts, through savage Indian wars, through the Revolution that created our nation, and all the way along the march of our frontier across the Continent, women have accompanied, dared and endured with their men. In slow ships challenging the storms of the Atlantic, in wilderness landings on strange shores, in covered wagons crossing mountain barriers, in exposed and lonely forest cabins, in prairie dugouts, in mining shacks and in isolated military posts they have aided mightily to bring into being OUR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Some records of individual instances of women's daring and service have come down to us. **One thrilling example** is that of Jemima Johnson, mother of five children, who in the absence of her husband saved a frontier Kentucky settlement called Bryan's Station from destruction by savages. Bryan's Station consisted of 40 cabins connected by strong Palisades. It was located on a hill in the midst of a clearing and was surrounded by forests on all sides. There was one serious disadvantage in the location which was that the total water supply came from a spring at the foot of the hill and at the edge of the forest some sixty yards outside the stockade.

One hot August morning a small group of savages was seen just out of rifle range. It was a ruse to bring the settlers from the fort to attack them while the main savage assault would be staged on the other side of the fort. Then there would follow a siege. The settlers knew that they could not hold out for long in the hot August weather without water. The fort seemed doomed as the woods about the spring were undoubtedly filled with savages.

Captain Craig, in charge, thought of one desperate chance. If the women of the fort should go to the spring in the usual way the savages might refuse to attack them because that would reveal their strategy. He called the women and older children together and told them his plan. Who would volunteer? **If the Captain's guess proved to be wrong it would mean capture and slow death by torture for those who went to the spring.**

Instantly Jemima Johnson volunteered, and others followed. Armed with wooden dippers and carrying buckets 12 women and 16 children went out. Mrs. Johnson instructed them to laugh and talk and not to hurry as they tramped down the hill to the spring, and also that no one must start back until all buckets were filled. It took considerable time to dip up the water as the spring was not large enough to permit them to dip the buckets into the water. And all the time savage eyes were watching them from the woods but a few yards away. But the scheme worked and they got back to the fort with their buckets of precious water.

Then 13 men were sent out to engage the Indians while the rest of the men were stationed at the loopholes at the rear of the fort. The mass of the Indians as planned attacked the fort at the back, but to their surprise met a withering fire. They continued the siege, destroyed all crops and cattle around the fort and finally went away. And so Jemima Johnson and the brave women and children who accompanied her in their desperate venture saved the lives of all the settlement. It wa sa chance in a hundred to one.

A somewhat similar case was that of Betty Zane. The defenders of a fort against the Indians ran out of powder. There was one keg of powder in a cabin some 60 yards outside the fort, but the entire distance was exposed to enemy fire. Betty Zane, an 18-year-old girl said that her life was worth less than that of a man in defense of the fort, so she would see if she could bring the powder. She slipped out of the Fort, crossed the open space to the cabin, got the keg of powder and in a fusillade of bullets made her way back to the fort. With this powder supply the settlers held off the savages until reinforcements arrived.

A famous name in our Revolutionary history is that of Molly Pitcher. Her real name was Mary Ladwig, but she was named "Molly Pitcher" by the soldiers at the battle of Monmouth. She was a farmer's daughter, used to heavy work on the farm and was very strong. After the battle of Princeton she picked up a wounded soldier bodily and carried him two miles to a farmhouse and nursed him back to health. At 16 she married a young man by the name of John Hays. When the Revolution came and John Hays announced that he would go, "Molly's reply was "I'm proud to be a soldier's wife: I'll stand by you." Hays enlisted as a gunner in the artillery. His wife was able to visit him occasionally in camp where she cooked and washed for the soldiers.

The battle of Monmouth, New Jersey was fought on a blazing hot day in June. Not a leaf stirred and men dropped fainting from sunstroke. Molly Hays, sometimes under shelter and sometimes under fire, went back and forth carrying water in a pitcher from a spring to the thirsty soldiers. They would call out, "Here comes Molly Pitcher".

At Danbury, Connecticut the patriots in 1777 had collect- threatened by terrible dangers to a defenseless young girl. **Her name was SIBYL LUDINGTON.**

On one of her trips from the spring Molly saw her with her pitcher!", a call soon shortened to "Molly Pit- husband fall beside his cannon. General Knox had no one to put in his place and was about to withdraw the cannon, when Molly came forward, seized the rammer and fired shot after shot. All day in the smoke and heat, barefooted and powder begrimed she continued to do the work of an artilleryman while the soldiers cheered her work.

The story of her bravery spread through the camp. General Greene thanked her "in the name of the army", and the next morning, still in her dusty, torn, powder-stained dress, she was presented to Washington. He gave her a sergeant's commission and later placed her name on the list of officers to draw half-pay for life.

On the scene of the battle field of Monmouth on one of the five panels of a monument commemorating that victory is shown Molly Pitcher ramming home the charge, her husband lying at her feet. Her deed and name and fame helped America to win its independence.

Two years after Paul Revere made his famous ride, a 16-year-old girl made an all-night 50-mile gallop along trails through a country which was a favorite resort of guerillas, deserters and Indians where every mile was ed stores for the American forces. There was meat, flour, grain, hay, tents, uniforms, powder, shot, muskets, — and many hogsheads of rum. On the night of April 25th, 1777, 2,000 British troops marched the 22 miles inland from their ships to destroy these stores.

They found the rum and a large portion of the army got hilariously drunk. That night there was the roar of flames, rifle shots, maudlin yells of drunken soldiers and an occasional woman's scream.

Twenty miles to the west Colonel Henry Ludington, veteran of the old French and Indian Wars was operating a grist mill, when a rider with a British bullet in his back reached him with the news of the British looting of Danbury. But Colonel Ludington could not make the rounds of the country settlements scattered through several hundred square miles and be at the same time on hand to muster in and lead the militia when they came.

Then it was that 16-year-old Sybil said that she would ride and call the militia, and mounting Ludington's big bay horse she galloped away along the night-shadowed, dangerous trail. All night she rode, and all night bands of militiamen notified by her, made their way to Ludington's. Sibyl arrived at day break with the last troop and slid from the back of the big bay exhausted and weeping. But, she had accomplished her mission. The British were driven with heavy losses back to their ships and in such a rout that in their hurry to get aboard many were drowned. And, that victory for the patriots was possible only because of the bravery and endurance of one slender girl of sixteen, SYBIL LUDINGTON.

These instanses of Pocahontas, Jemima Johnson, Betty Zane, Molly Pitcher and Sibyl Ludington are but a few out of tens of thousands of brave girls and women who dared everything in the service of our America.

Installment No. 535
October 4, 1962

BASEBALL

Wednesday, April 29, 1903

The following item looks like this was about the time the famous "Kurth's Brewers" baseball team was organized. (Something we have been trying to determine for sometime)

"A meeting of the Baseball Association was held in the city hall last Friday evening. Officers were elected and such other business transacted which makes promise for good ball playing this coming season. Already several outside teams have applied for an early game with our home team, and talking from the view of an outsider good games will be played here this season. The officers are to be President William Amerrein; secretary Martin Weideman; treasurer, John Heidke, sr.; manager, William Schultz; captain, Frank (Seagan) Lange."

May 6th

May 3rd witnessed the opening game of baseball with our city team. They were met on the Hayden Grounds by a nine from Lowell and although both sides had several errors to their discredit, they gave a fair exhibition of ball playing, it being the first game played this season by either team.

Harmony prevailed throughout and in the language of our reported, "fairness of the umpire" was one of the features of the gam. The score was 4 to 8 in favor of Columbus. Names of players or umpires not reporter.

June 10th, 1903

Democrat gives the following account of a baseball game the previous Sunday from which we quote portions. The largest number of people ever gathered to witness a baseball game on the Heyden Grounds, was between the Union Birds of Milwaukee and our city team (still unnamed). It was a clean cut game, the players on both sides were game from start to finish. The score at the end of the 9th inning was 8 to 6 in favor of Columbus.

The next game to be played here will be next Sunday with Juneau, which promises to be a good game also.

No players names were mentioned.

There was also a notice that a traveling baseball team called "The Nebraska Indians" would play here the following Thursday.

A week later the report on the game with the Juneau team was 8 to 2 in favor of Columbus, before the largest crowd so far this season. The July Fourth game was with the Milwaukee Lake Views. Columbus City Team won 4 to 5; and another game with the same team, was also won by Columbus 5 to 6.

Another game was announced for the following Sunday with Cambria. This game was won by Cambria 9 to 5. No players names were given.

The next game was with Juneau at Juneau, with Columbus winning by 14 to 7; and for the first time one player "Leduers" struck out 13 men to 8 struck out by Juneau's Eagen.

The July 29th, 1903 issue gave nearly half a c o l u m n to the Portage vs Columbus City game in which a few more names are given; Johnnie Williams, Columbus first baseman struck a two base hit with three men on bases. Berdoll caught a fly by running a race with the ball and caught it with one hand. Columbus 5, Portage 1. Strike outs: Lange 7, Phillips 4.

July 15, 1904

Mr. Frank Lange, pitcher of the Columbus Ball Team, went to Milwaukee Monday, last, to try for a position as pitcher in the American Association, but did not get a thorough a try out as it rained severely in Milwaukee. But Mr. Schoeffer of the Milwaukee team stated that the "Columbus lad" has fine quality and his speed and curves are certainly wonderful. Our promising young pitcher will return to Milwaukee next month by request of the management of the Milwaukee club.

He was escorted by the Messrs R. F. Topp, Woltersdorf, Seipp, Kurth, Sanders and Schultz, all of whom are very proud of our young athlete. The bunch had a pleasant

time while they were there, as they all indulged in an automobile ride to Whitefish Bay and return.

August 12, 1904 reported a game with Beaver Dam the previous Sunday as a one sided affair. Columbus made a home run, score 7 to 2. No names given. Up to this point the city team has no name and only players named are those previously given. (Wonder if Sunday ball games were against the law with names purposely omitted.)

We will report no further baseball news until we find out more about the persons composing the city team.

KURTH'S BREWERS

After considerable reading of back numbers of the Columbus Democrat, beginning in 1903 and going to 1908 portions of which have been published and most of the items used called our team, the "City Team" we finally found out what we had been looking for, the name Kurth's Brewers.

It was in the issue of Friday, June 19, 1908 under the heading on the front page "OPEN SEASON." Hartigs Prove Easy for the Brewers; Gutknecht at no time called upon to extend himself; Brewers do fast fielding.

"The Baseball season was opened at the Haydon grounds on Sunday, the Kurth Co. Brewers, and the Hartigs (Watertown Brewers) crossing bats. The Hartigs went to bat first, an dafter a two base hit and one run it looked as if something would be doing, but it was a false alarm for the visitors only furnished a practice game for the local talent and the fans were furnished little excitement.

After the loner in the first, the visitors were unable to score while the locals pushed over 3 in their half of the first, 1 in the third, 2 in the fourth, 1 in each of the seventh and eighth.

Gutknecht (evidently an imported pitcher) was not called upon to extend himself at any stage of the game for everything that looked like a chance was accepted by the local fielders, their work being of mid season form.

The final score of 8 to 1 does not represent the relative merits of the two teams, for Columbus lost a number of opportunities with two or three men on base, because of careless work, or by taking chances that were not warranted.

Taking all together the game made pleasant pastime; Umpire Heidke officiated in his usual gilt edge fashion, and everyone including the visitors went away satisfied.

Final score Columbus 8, Watertown 1. Eerrors Columbus 2, Watertown 7, Hits: Columbus 7, Watertown 4. Base on balls: Gutknecht 1, Schuman 4. Strike outs: Gutnecht 11, Schuman 4.

It will be noted that the name of "Seagan" Lange, a locally famous name as a star pitcher was not mentioned in the clipping used above. The reason without doubt was that Frank, better known as "Seagan" had graduated from local games in what had been called the City Team, and had been playing in the Wausau Club, and that other teams were interested in him.

The "Chicago American" a daily paper, sometime in May, 1908, contained a full length picture of Seagan in pitching position and hid some very flattering remarks regarding his work with the White Sox of Chicago and gave as a reason why the White Sox did not take him was that all of their regular pitchers were in good form and that they already had more men than they could carry.

Dubuque, Green Bay and Wausau were all in the field to secure Lange but he preferred to go back to his old team, Wausau, awaiting for an opening in a big league.

We have already mentioned back in 1904 that Frank, supported by his admiring friends had gone to Milwaukee for a try out but hit a rain out instead.

Lange apparently was enticed away from Wausau, for on October 1, 1909 we find the following item:

"Lange, former Brewers star pitcher, now with Des Moines, Iowa pitches a no hit game, against Lincoln, Neb. Big crowd goes wild as Lange makes the only hit for Des Moines. By winning the game on Monday and also on Tuesday won the Western League pennant by two points. Seagon pitched the final game."

(Continued Next Week)

KURTH'S BREWERS BASEBALL TEAM (con't.)

We were unable to fix the exact date that the Columbus team began operating as "The Kurth Brewers" but the accompanying photograph shows Lange in the picture, the team in Kurth uniforms, so we know it was taken before Lange began playing elsewhere as mentioned earlier.

We interview Frank Koblitz, William Schultz and several fans of fifty to sixty years ago. All were of the same opinion that The Kurth Company furnished the uniforms.

Bill Schultz said that he, as manager, often had as much as four or five hundred dollars in the treasury. Presumably there was some compensation to the players whenever the treasury permitted.



This picture, undated, was probably taken about 1905 to 1907. The names have been verified by several different persons and are as follows: left to right, seated on the floor, Joe Hutchinson, pitcher; Frank Koblitz "Nazey" catcher; Frank "Seagan" Lange, pitcher; seated on chairs, Martin Weidemann, left field; Guy Vessey, third base; August Scheel, short stop; Herman "Dermey" Waltersdorf, second base; Johnnie Williams, first base;

Standings, Henry "Crafty" Altschwager, center field; William "Bill" Schultz, Manager; John Heidke, umpire and Ira Hutchinson, right field.

There were several good players, not in the picture, whose names were not recorded in the research.

There must have been some sort of "local option" not by vote, but by active opposition by an active minority, against baseball playing on Sunday; besides which there may not have been a good level spot for a baseball diamond.

This is the reason, no doubt, that ball games here were usually played on "Hayden's Field," a little east of what was later called the canning company sheep yards but now the quarters of Texas Mexicans. Another way to locate it would be about mid way between the Truck Stop garage and the railroad tracks.

Also and perhaps the motivating reason was that it was located in Dodge County and free from the few Anti Baseballers. (They tried it once but no luck.)

The Haydens had a farm, a general store, and a brick yard, but about the turn of the century went west and had a sizable department store in Omaha.

Anyone wishing to talk baseball and some of the amusing things that happened can spend a harmless afternoon by calling upon Bill Schultz, Henry and John Kurth.

CIVIL WAR ITEMS

April 25, 1861

Last Saturday the wheat buyers, railroad boys and others raised a beautiful flag over the depot. Short and patriotic speeches were made by William Dutcher, G. W. Hazleton, E. E. Chapin, W. Scott jr., George Butterfield, D. Mallo, Nelson Sawyer, Prof. Martin& D. H. Pulcifer and others.

The flag was cheered, after which the crowd dispursed.

May 3, 1861

In addition to the column headed war news there are half a dozen or more brief articles bearing on treason, patriotism, etc. One was a list of 29 signatures largely names recognizable as business and professional men, and workmen; it is called a new roll, raising volunteers to about sixty at this time.

This group elected Willard Scott, jr., as captain.

By May 1, 1861 war news from various parts of the nation almost completely filled the columns of what was then "The Journal-Republican".

In the issue of August 29, 1861 is printed the muster roll of the Lodi Guards, Company A. 7th Wis., 28 of the names are of the Columbus area: these names, mostly, are names of some who were enlisted in Columbus, but got tired of waiting and found vacancies in other units not quite full, but by combining, they could get into action sooner.

THE STREET CARNIVAL

For several years Columbus had had a street fair or carnival. A new editor and publisher had taken over the Columbus Democrat, who was obviously very much opposed to the type of recreation usually associated with such events. Here is the way he expressed himself in his issue of August 11, 1905.

BEWARE — KEEP AWAY FROM IT

The street carnival cancer will next week invade this beautiful city.

The die is cast, the Rubicon is crossed and Columbus, the most beautiful city underneath the magnificant drapery of heaven, Columbus the most advanced, the most wealthy for its size and the most law abiding community in Wisconsin, will this coming week be invaded and occupied by a traveling, floating caravan of vice in all its horrors.

And remember the price of the birthright of honor and our morals is the immense sum of $50, which will (if our city clerk is able to collect it) go into our city treasury in return for a free and unlimited license that will permit our boys and girls to gaze with unveiled eyes upon the nearly naked forms, that were once human, as they attempt to amuse the lascivious public by dancing the "hootche kootche" and numerous other uncivilized, unhuman and undesirable performances.

Well may Columbus blush and hang her head in shame as she realizes that those in whose hands rested her reputation for chastity and for virtue has indeed sold her out for a baubling mess of pottage, $50.

It's a great sum of money that we are getting, pretty nearly enough to pay for the extra police force that we are compelled to have to protect our homes, and our citizens during the reign of this carnival of crime.

There is nothing on earth that can adequately express the real situation.

The idea of allowing this seething saturnalia of hell, this loathsome transfiguration of Dante's Inferno to come here and exhibit their different attractions all for the sole and single purpose of separating the sucker from his money.

We understand that the city of Watertown was offered and refused $1000 for what this city is to receive the dazzling sum of $50 (and free passes for those whose duty it is to protect and shield us from such curses).

We are certainly proud of the situation. This diabolical conglomeration of general cussedness and deviltry has been aptly described by a well known writer "as a spot occupied by men who have no honor, by women who have no virtue and where hell reigns rampant."

Would that we had an artist residing here with the skill of a Michael Angelo who could fitly paint this scene which mere words fail to describe.



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 537
October 18, 1962

REV. OLYMPIA BROWN (Mrs. Willis)

May 13, 1903

We made reference, a short time ago, to the woman, Rev. Olympia Brown, pastor of the Good Shepard Universalist Church of Racine who standing almost alone, insisted on her rights to vote in a school election. The case was taken to the Wisconsin State Supreme Court where her right to vote was upheld. (Temporarily) So women of Wisconsin had a voting privilege in school affairs, before Woman's Suffrage included voting in a general election, which came as a result of a passage in congress of the 19th Amendment in May or June of 1919. Wisconsin was the first state to ratify, which was accepted by Wisconsin shortly after the act was passed.

HER NAME WAS FAMILIAR HERE

In the past ten or eleven years of research, I have seen the name of Mrs. Brown, many times as she was a frequent visitor here and usually preached in the local Universalist Church.

Her text on Sunday May 10, 1903 was from John 4: 38 "Other Men Have Labored and Ye Have Entered Into Their Labors". I will not attempt to report on the sermon which is briefed in the Columbus Democrat, but will quote her concluding remarks.

She closed with an earnest appeal for effort.

"This church has for many years, been a great power for good in Columbus, it has stood for forty years as a constant inspiration to the people of our city; it has ever born testimony in favor of individual righteousness and personal purity; it has been a power house of moral and religious motive. Columbus needs the Universalist church and we trust the services here will be continued."

Rev. Brown-Willis will preach next Sunday "The Demands of Business" will be her subject.

SHE WAS THE PASTOR

Several times during 1904 in church notices the name of Rev. Olympia Brown is given as pastor of the Universalist Church, but apparently she was not here every Sunday.

August 12, 1904

Under the title "The Universalist Church" and signed by Rev. Olympia Brown appeared about a third of a column, a review of the difficulties of carrying on the functions of the church without adequate financial support. She stated that services will continue at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday without fail, but she as pastor could not always be present. The Thursday evening prayer meetings will be resumed October 1st and the Sunday evening lectures will be given occasionally when the weather and other circumstances are favorable. Due notice will always be given in the paper.

COLUMBUS ELECTORS

In an installment published a short time ago we gave a list of Columbus electors, by wards, and commented on the fact that no women's name appeared therein, which raised the question "what year was women's suffrage granted?" which information was supplied by Mr. S. L. McNamara of this city, who obtained information from the State Historical Society and also that in 1887 Rev. Mrs. Olympia Brown gained national fame because of her heroic stand for women's right of franchise on school matters.

We therefore determined to try to get together a few highlights about this nationally famous woman who spent a long life of service, political and religious, and who for quite sometime was pastor of the Universalist Church, even though she may not have ever been a citizen of Columbus.

WISCONSIN MAGAZINE OF HISTORY

In the summer of 1960 "Wisconsin Magazine of History" pages 277 to 287 inclusive (which can be had at the library) there is a mass of material entitled "Olympia Brown and the Woman's Suffrage Movement" compiled by Charles E. Nue largely from an intensive examination of the "Brown Papers" deposited at the Women's Archives, Radcliffe College, which consists of letters, sermons, speeches, and various miscellany and are especially strong on Mrs. Brown's suffrage activities.

We have a standing permission to print State Historical Wisconsin of History, for which we again tender our thanks. We will use a very limited portion o fthe mass of information contained therein, as our readers are mostly local and pertaining to the little Universalist Church in Columbus and Rev. Brown's connection with it rather than with the various women's movements with which she was allied.

We find no concrete biography of her but enough to show what a power for good she was. Piecing together, from various portions of the eleven page article, we know that she died in October, 1926 at her last home which was in Baltimore, Maryland at the age of 91 and therefore was born in 1835. She had grown up on a small Michigan farm, under the influence of a mother with advanced ideas toward women's liberties and religion, who talked at length with her children about the need for larger opportunities for women and read them accounts of reform activities of the 1840 and early '50's from Horace Greeley's New York Weekly Tribune.

(Right here let us say that nothing we have read gives us any clue to the family name, nor is the father even mentioned. She is invariably referred to as Mrs. Brown, implying that she was a married woman, even when she went away to school. Many years later, 1873, she was married to John Henry Willis, and occasionally she is referred to as Rev. Mrs. Brown-Willis — but she much preferred to be known, throughout her entire life by her maiden name which implies that she preferred to be known as "Mrs." for reasons of her own)

NO QUESTION

There seemed to be no question in the family over the highly unorthodox step of sending the young girl to college. In 1854 Mrs. Brown entered Mt. Holyoke Female Seminary but the religious orthodoxy and rigid discipline at Mount Holyoke did not accord with her liberal notions, especially when contrasted with the newly founded Antioch College at Yelllow Springs, Ohio. Antioch, under the presidency of Horace Mann, was co-educational, non denominational and open to negroes.

SHE DECIDED ON A CAREER

Mrs. Brown, who transferred to Antioch in 1856, seemed to thrive there, where she was exposed to many famous men and women with liberal views. In 1860 when she finished at Antioch she had already decided upon a career in the ministry, despite the opposition of nearly everyone.

It was fortunate that Mrs. Brown chose the Universalist faith, for none of the larger Protestant denominations would ordain women in the ministry in the 1860's. The Universalists had recently opened St. Lawrence Theological School at Canton, New York. Mrs. Brown entered and completed the course of study, ignoring as best she could the skepticism of the school director over her precedent breaking action, and the prejudice of most of her fellow students.

ORDAINED AS A MINISTER

She was ordained as the Universalist Minister in June 1863, the first woman in America of a regularly constituted ecclesiastical body. It was a tribute to the liberality of her faith that within a year she was installed as pastor of the Universalist church in Weymouth, Mass.

By the 1860's Universalism, originally an offshoot of the New England Congregationalism, was then largely Unitarian in theology. Mrs. Brown thoroughly reflected this liberalism of the faith.

Whether Mrs. Brown had served other churches or where, at least her activities, political and religious and possibly even of more importance for some years was Women's Rights and the Civil War actiivties, that made demands upon her time.

SHE MARRIED

In 1873 Mrs. Brown had married John Henry Willis, as previously noted. What his business or profession may have been is not disclosed but at any rate, five years later, in 1878 she received a call to the pastorate of a small Universalist church "The Good Sheperd" Racine, Wisconsin.

The Willis family moved there, where Mr. Willis became part owner and business manager of the Times Publishing Company, while "Mrs. Brown" in addition to her ministerial duties, plunged into local suffrage work.

(To Be Continued)



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 538
October 25, 1962

(REV. OLYMPIA BROWN, Con't.)

SHE FIGHTS FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

She was elected president of the state association, and by 1886 seemed to have secured a significant victory, the approval of a law whereby women could vote in elections pertaining to school matters. The law appeared so promising that Mrs. Brown resigned her pastorate in 1887, and devoted all of her time and energy to a campaign to awaken women to their new voting rights.

At the same time, dissatisfied with the narrow interpretation of the law by local officials, she instituted a suit which reached the Wisconsin Supreme court. The courts decision, it was found, in effect, invalidated the whole law, leaving the sufferage cause in Wisconsin precisely where it was prior to 1886, except for an onerous debt, and the effects of a heartbreaking defeat. Many of the old workers now felt that woman's sufferage was a mathmatical impossibility.

A GREAT SHOCK

Apparently Mrs. Brown had been giving her full time and energy for several years, and the defeat was a great shock to her, but she now approached the problem from a federal point of view, and through her initiative the Federal Sufferage Association was founded in 1892; but personal tragedy cut short further participation. In 1893 her husband died and her beloved mother was stricken with a lingering illness: "Sickness and death" she wrote, "have entered my home and endless sorrow has fallen upon my heart". Life became harder for her and she was forced to give up most of her sufferage work, and pleasant travels throughout Wisconsin, in order to concentrate upon running her husbands printing business firm.

At the turn of the century her mother died, and Mrs. Brown, at the same time gave up the printing business.

SHE RESUMES HER FIGHT FOR SUFFERAGE

She, once again was able to work intensively for the sufferage cause, but she soon found that during her years of sorrow, other and younger leaders in the sufferage movement had come to the front, and she was no longer the leader.

This is approximately the time that she was also the acting minister of the Universalist church in Columbus, in a vain effort to breathe life into the declining church. The date of its demise has not yet revealed itself through extensive research.

SHE PICKETS THE WHITE HOUSE

However as late as Mach 4, 1917, Mrs. Brown was one of a thousand women picketing the White House in Washington, with large banners in a freezing rain, with strong wind, to make known their demands to President Wilson.

She marched for the last time in June 1920 to picket at the Republican National Convention in Chicago. The ratification of the nineteenth Ammendment was completed in August and Mrs. Brown could contemplate in peace the fruitation of her life's work.

ADVANCING YEARS GAVE HER PAUSE

By 1920, advancing years clearly had mellowed Mrs. Brown. She could look with pride upon the achievements of her children, for Gwendolen Willis was teaching at Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore and Henry Parker Willis was a professor of banking at Columbia University in New York City.

Both sufferage organizations had honored her and much of the former bitterness passed with the triumph of the cause. Remaining vigorous and alert, she actively supported LaFollette for the presidency, and took a trip to Italy with her daughter, the year before her death, which finally came October 16, 1926, after only a few days of illness.

Mrs. Brown died certain that the truths of Universalism had been confirmed — that there was a brotherhood of man, and a fatherhood of God — and undoubtedly in her last days were blessed with a resurgence of youthful idealism for she had, after all, played a part in the evolution of American democracy. Mrs. Brown had lived a useful and productive life. She had fought hard to awaken the American people to a glaring inequality in the social and political structure of their nation, and though it is clear from our perspective that her efforts were at times misdirected, her courage, determination and sensitivity to wrong are still impressive.

It should be interesting to present day citizens of Columbus to know, and possibly a few of our elderly citizens to recall from personal acquaintance that one of our former pastors of the little Universalist church of Columbus, once walked our streets in the routine calls upon the members of her little charge.

We close our story, by quoting from the Columbus Democrat of November 3, 1926 as follows.

FIRST WOMAN PASTOR DIES IN BALTIMORE

"The Rev. Olympia Brown, 91, said to be the oldest woman in America ever to be ordained by a regularly constituted ecclesiastical body, who, for a time preached in this city, died October 16, at her home in Baltimore, Maryland.

Her former home was at Racine, Wisconsin, where in the 90's she was publisher of the Racine Times.

wl,q,'MrswJ$bglU4mlcx

She was one of the most ardent exponents of women sufferage, and at the 1920 Republican National Convention in Chicago, was a member of the picketing squad of the National Woman's Party.

The Rev. Mrs. Brown shared her enthusiasm equally between politics and religion, and politically was a Republican. Although she was a distant relative of President Calvin Coolidge, when he was running for vice president in 1920, she supported Cox and Roosevelt (Teddy), Democrats. At the next presidential election, she voted for the late Senator Robert A. LaFollette, for president.

For three months last winter the Rev. Brown traveled with her daughter, Gwendolyn, a professor at Bryn Mawr in Europe, spending three months on the Riveira.

She had been ill only a week prior to her death. Funeral services were held in Racine.

(END OF THIS SERIES)

March 18, 1903

BREWERY UNION WAS ORGANIZED

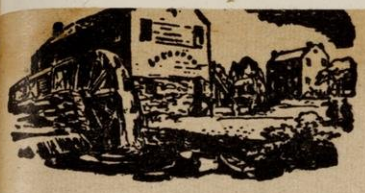
Has membership of thirteen

Kurth Brothers sign a contract for two years.

Chas. Liendl, member of the National Board and general organizer of the United Brewery Workmen of America was in the city yesterday and organized the Union. It includes all workmen employed by the Kurth Brewing Co.

The brewery signed a contract for two years. Wages have been increased $2.50 per week and gives the molsters one day off each month. The charter members are August Nennmann, secretary; John Wofler, Gustave Klawes, William M. Moldrzek; William Radugs; Gottfried Pagell; Frank Miller; Frank Nennmann; William Wetzel; Henry Kurth; Gottfried Emckowe; Fred Erdmann; Jacob Bechtold.

(Con't. Next Week)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 539
November 1, 1962

A REVIEW OF 1920

Only recently the Lange Ostrander Post No. 62 of the erican Legion was organized and early in January the gion appointed a committee to encourage the organi- on of Women's Auxiliary to which mothers, wives, ers and daughters of those who served in the Army, y, or Marines are eligible for membership.

anuary 20 the Democrat published the following re- t and a list of names of those eligible as far as found s far.

The list given below for publication is for the purpose of cking up any errors that may have been made in en- ling members.

This list goes into headquarters Tuesday, January 20 t as it appears below. Will any members who have d up and whose names do not appear below, please ify any of the officers of the Post so that proper cor- tion can be made.

And if there are still any veterans who desire to be en- ed on the Charter Roll, please get in touch with any the officers without delay.

thur Alff	Max Klatt	Thayne Rutherford
d Brokopp	Paul Lohr	Louis Roob
nard Conlin	George Long	Mills Rutherford
ben Chadbourn	Edward Lindl	John Richards
nk Conley	James Lowth	L. C. Richards
mond Callahan	Ernest Lange	Henry Roberts
win Crombie	Emil Lange	John J. Roberts
liam Daley	Walter Merriam	Herbert Salzwedel
Forest Doland	Elton J. Morrison	Clarence Sauer
liam J. Evans	Henry Mulligan	Christian Steinbach
hael Farley	Richard Mielenz	Martin Salzwedel
is Fox	Albert Mueller	Frank Schoenbeck
rles Farley	James McLarty	Adolph Schmit
old Grout	Charles Marquette	Herman Schmidt
ry Gay	Edward Mulvaney	Julian Tobin
ney Hurd	Roy Miller	Richard Twomey
old Holtz	Elmer Ninabuck	Harvey Thiede
H. Hughes	Cyril Nickerson	John Topp
Hutchinson	Ernest Ostrander	Bernard Thomas
Hatzinger	Benjamine Ostrander	Gerhardt Wohlfeil
n Haas	Alvin Pieper	Richard Vick
liam Ibisch	Ralph Priem	Billy Wohlfeil
l Johnson	Verner Pietzner	Walter Waterworth
ar Jaeger	A. Peetz	Frank Wohlfeil
liam E. Jones	Louis Priem	John Wheeler
lton Jones	Ralph Pratt	Frank Yuds
nest Krakow	Richard Roche	Henry Zick
thur Kettlehohn	Harry M. Reeves jr.	Marshall W. Wright

Columbus seems to have been loyal supporters of base- ll and C.H.S. basketball. As an illustration the Dem- at of January 14, 1920 gave half a column to a basket- ll game between CHS basketball team and a collection former basketball stars of Waterworth in which Co- mbus defeated Watertown 31 to 7.

Some of the names mentioned in CHS team are Bohl, e two Morrisons, "Babe" (Clarence) and "Bill" Wil- m, Dick Richards, Alff and Ibisch. Keith was the ach.

In the same issue appears a half column about the organization of Women's Auxiliary of the Legion, the officers of which were Mrs. A. M. Bellack, chairman; Mrs. J. I. Merriam, vice chairman; Mrs. Henry Mulligan, secretary and Mrs. Max Klatt, treasurer. The executive committee consisted of Mrs. George Long, Mrs. J. J. Howard, Mrs. Ed Kwapil, Mrs. James Tobin and Mrs. Mary Gorman.

A half column headed "Horse Doctors" much needed, appeared on the front page of the Democrat of January 21, 1920. Tractors cannot replace horse on small farms, say veterinarians.

According to Dr. L. A. Wright, Columbus, who attended the meeting of Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association.

Fearing competition of the tractors would cut down their market, breeders of horses have not been producing in gnough animals for farm work with the result that Wisconsin faces the prospect of a horse famine this spring.

At a single sale in Milwaukee recently there were 200 horses, bringing as high as $750 a team. Farm horses are bringing anywhere from $150 to $300 apiece about the state.

Far sighted veterinarians have forseen this situation and have been advising farmers to continue breeding horses.

The increasing number of high priced purebred dairy herds, hogs and sheep in the state has kept the veterinarians in constant demand. With such valuable stock, farmers are appreciating the need for the services of the veterinary surgeons.

Replacement of carriages, by automobiles has cut down the city practice, but the country practitioner has found the increase in work among other farm animals, more than offsets any falling off due to automotive power.

In the paper of January 28th, one and one half columns were devoted to the Farmers Institute, combined with the Women's Institute and ths grain and poultry show.

There was a remarkably good showing of farm produce and poultry. Many were surprised at the large number of exhibits of poultry, as it was not known before that so many people of the Columbus area were poultry fanciers, and had various strains of purebred chickens. There were 48 pens of poultry on exhibition, most of which would have won prizes at any poultry show.

The addresses were given in the auditorium and were well attended. Much information of benefit to those engaged in agriculture was given by the speakers, most of whom were from the College of Agriculture of the U. of W. which is continually endeavoring to learn and impart to the farmer, everything that will aid him in growing more and better crops and improve his livestock.

Here are the names of those with Poultry Exhibits, many with several entries: William Roth, W. F. Gernetzky, Howell Griffith, G. T. Mueller, Otto Yuds, Leo Winters, Emil Miller, Otto Fritz, J. C. Waterworth, Raymond Linck, George McKay, Kurt Stark, George Miller, William Holsten, Albert Henk, William Peters, August Yuds, Lawrence Holsten, Fred Raether, F. E. Bell, William Blanchard, William Lang, Henry Ott, E. Jones, August Huebener, William Schaeffer, Bernard Tobin.

The Democrat of February 18, 1920, records the death of Mr. Frank D. Goodwin, editor and owner of the Columbus Democrat as of February 11.

Also the organization of Better Products Co. which has already been written up in a brief article under the heading of "No Opposition" to new industries as follows:

"Columbus Canning Company Favors New Industries"

To the public: The present activity of several different interests in surveying local conditions with a view of securing a large milk plant, (and other small plants) in this city, has revived the old story that the Canning Company crowd is opposed to new industries because it would interfere with the factory obtaining help in the canning season.

We have never been able to ascertain the source of this story and it seemed so ridiculous and manifestly false we have paid little attention to it until now we find it in circulation again and fearing its effect upon strangers who may have it in mind locating here, we take this means of branding this report absolutely and unqualifiedly false.

The report that a shoe manufacturing concern was discouraged from locating here has no foundation. No one connected with The Columbus Canning Company has ever been approached directly or indirectly regarding such a venture; and the parties now considering this city for the establishing a milk plant will have every encouragement and assistance we can collectively or individually give them.

More factories, hare mean more families, more families mean more workers and more workers mean more help for the Columbus Canning Company and for other factories and greater prosperity for Columbus.

It would seem hardly necessary for the Columbus Canning Company Crowd (so called) to publicly deny such ridiculous rumors in view of their well known support of all matters tending to the city's betterment, but the story standing unchallenged might influence those not familiar with the actual condition.

(To be continued)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 540
November 8, 1962

A REVIEW OF 1920 (Continued)

The Democrat of March 3, 1920 has nearly a page about the meeting of the Columbus Advancement Association of which C. E. Fowler was chairman. The object of the meeting was to encourage factories to locate here, several of which have become interested in Columbus.

F. G. Holtz re ported on the possibility of a Milwaukee Manufacturer of rubber goods. Mayor Bunsa on the Milk Company that seems to be keenly interested.

W. C. Leitsch and A. H. Whitney tendered a splendid factory site to the association to be offered to any reputable enterprise wishing to locate here.

Various committees were appointed, the three of most importance being Finance, F. A. Chadbourn, A. H. Whitney, H. J. Baumgarten, A. M. Bellack and G. V. Dering.

Committee to encourage manufacturers to come here, F. G. Holtz, J. R. Wheeler, E. W. Pratt, G. E. Bunsa and W. J. Riedner.

Banquet committee, C. H. Mueller, J. G. Heidke, Dr. E. C. Oviatt, Harry Eichberg, John L. Albright.

(It should be noted that of all named, twelve were stockholders of Columbus Canning Company, or what was usually referred to as the Canning Company Crowd).

March 17, 1920

Two new firms to open here. Messrs. W. F. Weller and his son in law Mr. S. B. Teeters have formed a partnership and in the near future will open and conduct a modern and up to date vulcanizing and auto accessory shop in the Weller building on Ludington street.

Mr. Teeters is an experienced man in this business, which fact should assure the success of this enterprise.

The other is in the Williams Building on Ludington street where Mr. Albert F. Behling of Watertown will open a first class shoe store and repair shop.

March 24, 1920

Telephone company buys the F & M Bank Building, possession to be given when the bank moves across James street into their new Sullivan Designed Bank Building.

The Columbus Advancement Banquet will be held tomorrow night. The speakers are listed as Attorney J. Mahoney, Portage; Rev. L. C. Partch; Supt. John Dixon; Leo Hoffmeister of Milwaukee who is the head of the rubber factory which is to locate here and Mr. J. B. Heins who is also planning to locate a plant here.

Contributions to a fund to be used in attempting to secure new plants here. A list of 101 contributors, but not the amount subscribed by each of the total was given.

May 12, 1920

HOWITZER ARRIVES MONDAY EVENING

American Artillery piece now ornaments Firemen's Park.

The Wisconsin Army Howitzer which has been obtained for the Fireman's Park arrived here Monday from the Rock Island Arsenal and plans were made at once to unload and move it to the park.

The gun is what is commonly known as the 4.7 (four point seven) and shoots a shell approximately six inches in diameter. The total weight of this type of cannon being about 3900 pounds.

Many thanks are due to Columbus Firemen, Mayor Bunsa and the cooperation of Congressman Voight, who were all instrumental in obtaining the loan of the Howitzer.

May 19, 1920

There were two articles pertaining to the Legion Post, one that the Post was giving a Patriotic play called "The American Flag," in which the following took part, Ed Lindl, Mills Rutherford, Max Klatt, Richard Roche, Wal-

ter Damler, Edward Mulvaney, Minnie Priem, Celia Dusell, Esther Giese and a large number of super numeraries, unnamed, all under the direction of Miss Bessie Erickson.

The other being about ¾ column pertaining to a nation wide membership drive.

The officers of the Legion Post were the following: E. . Morrison, Commander; W. G. Wohlfeil, ViceCommander; Max C. Klatt, Adjutant; M. H. Mulligan, Finance fficer; William F. Ibisch, Historian; DeForest Doland, haplain; A. J. Peetz, Sergeant at Arms; Membership ommittee, John Callahan, Chairman; Frank R. Wohlfeil, Richard Roche, Edmund S. Crombie.

May 26, 1920

Woman's Auxiliary Growing Rapidly

At a meeting of the Auxiliary of the American Legion eld Thursday the following applications were reported: elen Merriam, Clara Klatt, Lydia Klatt, Olive Fairbanks aroline Berdoll, Minnie Trapp, Catherine Trapp, Doroy Hoehne, Helen Long, Marie Callahan, Elizabeth Tobin, osephine Finger, Katherine Fox, Pauline Fox, Abbie Roerts, Mary Hatzinger, Anna Doland, Mary Mulligan, earl Miller, Alice Bellack, Laura Albrecht, Alvina Kwal, Cornelia Hurd, Mary Gorman, Emily Conlin, Anna lbrecht, Dora Pratt, Sadie Farley, Emily Hyar, Bertha egert, Pauline Schmidt, Viola Lange, Dora Giese, Meta iebanthal, Mary Lohr, Josephine Zick, Alma Albrecht, nna Mueller, Emma Pietzner, Minnie Kettlehohn, Ida aas, Fredrica Gruetzmacher, Harmie Welk, Bertha rokopp, Nina Pratt, Marion Gorman, Minnie Smitt, lara Roob, Elizabeth Jones, Minnie Priem, Alvina Welk, rances Kelley, Alice Topp, Jennie Lowth, Lillian Thiede, lla Howard, Fannie Priem, Sarah Grout.

The above list of names which will appear on the char- will be held until June 1st so as to enable those who ve not yet applied to make their application before ne 1st.

June 9, 1920

About one column under a three column heading pertaining to the opening of the F & M Union Bank. Only the heading will be reproduced here. NEW FARMERS AND MERCHANTS UNION BANK BUILDING TO OPEN MONDAY, JUNE 14.

FINE NEW EDIFICE TO BE READY FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ON MONDAY, JUNE 14th. FROM 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. BUILDING IS ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL, BEST EQUIPPED AND NICELY ARRANGED COUNTRY BANKS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Mozart Club Proves Highly Entertaining. Male Choir and Whistler put on a splendid program at auditorium.

The concert given in the auditorium here Friday evening, June 4 under the auspices of the class of 1920 of the Columbia County Normal, by the Mozart Club of Madison, which consists of forty male voices, was one of exceptional worth and was a rare treat which was greatly enjoyed by a packed house.

Each and every member of this splendid choir showed most remarkable talent, and the volume and depth of tone produced was nothing short of marvelous.

As has been said before, there is no musical instrument that can produce tones that will compare favorably with those produced by a large group of well trained male voices, and this fact was amply illustrated Friday evening.

Prof. Alexius Baas, the club director, brought the house down with his wonderful solos "Land of Mine" and "On the Road to Mandalay". Miss Margaret Otterson, the club accompanist ably accompanied Mr. Baas and the choir.

Mr. Stephen Spofford, member of the choir, also pleased everyone with his solos.

Miss Reba Hayden exhibited some very rare and pleasing talent by her whistling, accompanied by Miss Marion Mosel.

(To be continued)



The Story of . . . COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

November 15, 1962
Installment No. 541

A REVIEW OF 1920 (continued)

June 30, 1920

American Can Company Opens a State Office here. Mr. Robert Kruse, state field manager (of closing machine service) is now located in the office recently established in the Davis building on Ludington street above the Fred G. Thiede barber shop. The American Can Company furnishes cans and closing machines for the majority of the canning concerns in Wisconsin.

September 1, 1920

Release of figures by the census bureau indicates a drop in population, not only in Columbus, but in the county as well. Here are a few figures. Columbia County had a population in 1910 of 31,129 which dropped in ten years to 30,468 a decrease of 661 in ten years.

The township of Columbus outside the city of Columbus had 744 in 1900, 760 in 1910 and 711 in 1920.

The city of Columbus had 2349 in 1900; 2523 in 1910 and 2460 in 1920.

Of the twenty one townships in Columbia County, six have gained and fifteen have lost.

United States Secretary of State Colby has proclaimed the ratification of the 19th Amendment, and it is sincerely hoped that the women of Columbia County will now prove that they are worthy of the ballot, by using it.

David Bogue, who is acting District Attorney during the absence of Thomas H. Sanderson reports that he has been informed by the Attorney General that the word "male" has been strickn from the constitution and that women holding the same qualifications are entitled to vote exactly the same as men.

The suggestion was also made that the county clerk should at once secure a double supply of ballots. There will be no separate ballots for women as all are now on a par and are entitled to the same rights as men.

September 8, 1920

The total vote cast in the city in the primary election was 460 of which 175 were cast by women.

Only 18 ballots were cast for Democratic candidates, 5 for prohibition and 4 for socialist.

September 15, 1920

The enrollment at the school this year are 196 in high school and 251 in the grades and kindergarten a total of 447, slightly less than last year.

October 20, 1920

A clipping appearing in Kilbourn Weekly Events

"Them were the days"

In looking over the files of the old Kilbourn Mirror Gazette, the editor found some startling comparisons printed twenty five years ago (1895) For instance

"Nehis advertised men's custom made suits from $14.00 up. Dixons offered 24 pounds best granulated sugar for $1.00, lemons 15 cents a dozen.

"Market prices of wheat 55 cents, rye 53 cents, buckwheat 65 cents, potatoes 50 cents, butter 13 cents, eggs 10 cents, hogs $4.00, beef cattle $2.00 per 100 pounds.

"Just compare the prices with the market reports of today and yet the farmers associations are appealing to the Federal Government to afford them relief from bankruptcy, and the night riders in the southwest are burning cotton to keep up prices. Skilled labor commands a dollar an hour; it takes six bits and a prescription to get a drink."

Reprinted in Portage Register Democrat

December 1, 1920

Council Adopts Budget for 1921

Common Council fixes tax rate at 29 mills at a special meeting Monday evening.

Adjourned meeting of the council called to order by Mayor Bunsa. Members present: Alderman Blanchard, Paepke, Quentmeyer, Scoular, Siede and Van Aken.

After listening to various committee reports and recommendations and reviewing probable revenues, recommend the adoption of the budget as read and recommend the adoption.

The total amount was $103,153.26. Without listing the smaller items we will show the larger ones. City Schools $30,507.91; County Taxes $12,487.50; City of Columbus real estate $7,500.00; principal on city bonds $7,500.00; state taxes $6,500.90; hydrant rental $3,033.33; city hall $2,900.00; street lighting $4,000.00; interest on bonds $2,805.00; roadways of streets $2,500.00; county school taxes $2,133.55, library $2,400.00; roadways and streets $2,000.00; city clerk $1,400.00; police department $1,600.00; street cleaning $1,200.00; city team $1,500.00; State Trust fund loan $1,775.00; curb and gutter outlay $1,000.00; and 26 other items running from $17.20 up to $60.00 for fire department and park improvement of $842.00.

End of Review of 1920

"IN THE OZARKS"

In 1928 Columbus Canning Company tried an experiment of growing and canning peas in the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas, a short distance from the Missouri line.

There were two good reasons for the experiment, one being that freight rates from Wisconsin to the southwest were higher than rates from west of the Mississippi as for example, from canneries in Minnesota and Iowa which was greatly to our disadvantage in selling our products in Omaha, Kansas City and all points in Missouri west of the Mississippi river.

The second reason, was to learn from actual experience what kind of quality peas canned in the mountain area would turn out to be, grown at different altitudes and types of soil.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

The college of agriculture of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, was greatly interested in the project and Dr. Cooper of that school gave his personal attention to the selection of different types of soil, at different levels, and with plantings at different times of spring.

We paid cash rent for these fields; rented a tomato cannery at Durham, Arkansas; hired the owner Mr. Taturn, as our local man in charge of working up the ground, doing the planting, etc. and kept such records as suggested by Dr. Cooper.

W. J. EVANS

Also, during a part of the planting season, and also during the canning season, our head fieldman at Columbus, Mr. William J. Evans, spent considerable time with Mr. Taturn.

The entire experiment was completed and some fifteen or twenty employees of our Wisconsin plants were back on their regular jobs for the 1928 pack.

(To be continued)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 542
November 22, 1962

"IN THE OZARKS" (continued)

A CARLOAD OF SEED

We had sent down a carload of pea seed of different varieties. A couple of carloads of three viners and other necessary canning equipment.

The experiment proved that peas could be successfully raised, some varieties were better suited in the area than others; and buyers in the area as far away as several cities in Oklahoma were pleased with the product and became regular customers.

We also learned that sufficient acreage of the right kind could not be had in sufficient quantity to justify building a pea cannery up in the mountains, so we began looking for a location with plenty of soil.

LAWRENCE, KANSAS

We found a canning plant at Lawrence, Kansas which we leased and a few years later purchased, which solved the problem satisfactorily.

During the year of investigating, locating and canning at Durham, the writer became acquainted with a lot of fine people in the general area, called the Ozarks and a few recollections of somewhat curious and humorous nature come to mind.

For example, with the winding and the twisting, uphill and downhill it was difficult to judge distance. Upon asking how far it was to so and so's place, instead of saying "oh, about two miles," the reply would be "oh, two looks and a little; or, it's quite a fur piece."

Once, when Mr. and Mrs. Will Fritz, and Mrs. Stare and myself had been invited to dinner by one of our mountain friends, he said to Mr. Fritz, "Hep yourself to the sugar and her drift along."

THE ROADS

Some of the roads were simply the bed of a mountain stream, almost dry most of the time, but several feet under water traveling fast after heavy rains.

While at the Bank of Elkins, next settlement below Durham, I was introduced to a man named Davenport who had driven in, in a lumber wagon, in which he had some hand made mountain chairs to be left at the b a n k; there were also his wife and a few small children. He said we came near drowning, the water was so deep and running so fast he was carried down stream about half a mile before he could make the other shore. The horses swam, the wagon floated and the Lord was with him."

When asked what he did for a living, his reply was "oh a little farming, a little moon-shining, making chairs like those out yonder and on the Sabbath, I'm a preacher.

THE CHADBOURN BUILDING

At that time I was on the building committee of the Chadbourn building at Fireman's Park, Columbus. It occurred to me that since the Chadbourn building was a very fine log cabin, hand made mountain chairs would be very apropriate furnishings for said building. So, working through the Banker at Elkins we ascertained Mr. Davenport's prices on the different kinds of adult size and children's sizes of mountain hand made chairs and how long a wait would be necessary for him to make up a total of three or four dozen, which information I would pass on to the bank.

APPROVED

The committee approved and after three or four months work by Mr. Davenport, the chairs were shipped and so far as I know, or at least I hope, at least some of them are still in existence.

Much could be written, if the observations of the Wisconsin men who spent some weeks there, could be collected and put into type, but the writer can not undertake it.

VISIT THE OZARKS

Several years later than our full scale experiment of canning peas in the Ozarks in 1928, when the writer had attained, first the vice presidency, followed by the presidency of National Canners Association, for 2 years, 1945 and '46, it was his duty and his privilege to attend state and regional conventions of canners from coast to coast, including Canada.

Among these groups was the Ozark Canners Association which covered Missouri, Arkansas and a few from Oklahoma. This group almost invariably met in Springfield, Missouri, at that time and most regional and or state meetings were held in the winter months.

Two small incidents occurred at Springfield that created a bit of humor and both had to do with footwear. There was much snow on the ground and more was falling.

One man came wearing knee length felt boots, which soon were too warm indoors, so he checked his boots and attended the meetings and lunch and banquet in his stocking feet. Another, a lawyer and officer of a canning factory was wearing one black shoe and one tan shoe, which furnished plenty of good natured kidding.

His explanation was that it was still dark when he dressed to drive to Springfield and not wishing to arouse his wife who was sleeping peacefully, he did not turn on the light. He knew nothing about the mix up in footwear until after his arrival.

We present here, extracts from an article published in "The Bankers Monthly Magazine in 1961 written by Mr. E. T. Brown, vice president of the Bank of Gainsville, Missouri under the title of "Banking in the Ozarks". A life time observer of the banking scene in an area which has tended to cling to the ways of the pioneer, but is slowly and steadily yielding to the forces of change and progress.

Mr. Brown's business career was devoted in large part to such duties as those of treasurer, business manager, and fund raiser for sundry colleges. He also served as special consultant to the Chief of Staff, Material Command, Training Section, U.S. Army Air Forces, 1943-44; vice president of Educational Buyers Association, 1934, and a director of Florida Power Corporation, St. Petersburg and Florida Bank and Trust Company, Winter Park, Florida. He engaged for a time in private business as a real estate and mortgage broker in Orlando, Florida.

BANKING IN THE OZARKS

"Gainsville is the county seat of Ozark County, in southernmost Missouri and in the heart of the Missouri Ozarks. Although a town of less than 300 residents, it is the largest in a county of only 6,657 people according to the 1960 census.

Ours is one of 21 banks in the roughly rectangular seven-county area which is larger, incidentally, than the states of Connecticut and Rhode Island combined, and has an officially recorded population of only 86,898. Notwithstanding the diminuitive population of our town, the Bank of Gainsville has total assets of some $3,500,000, as compared to an average of $2,740,000 for the area.

The bulk of the income of our region comes from the operation of small dairies and family farms, beef cattle sales, and the sale of forest products. Small industry is beginning to flourish is in some favored localities; and lusty and growing enterprises are found among those engaged in catering to vacationists, tourists, hunters and fishermen. The development and sale of retirement homesites has become a sizeable factor in the Ozark economy.

To all of this I have brought the perspective of one who was reared in the environs heredescribed, departed for some 35 years, and returned some ten years ago to assume the office of vice president "without portfolio" of this small bank.

It has occurred to me that my many years of observation of banks and banking from a considerable number of viwpoints should enable me to discuss with some degree of objectivity two questions which have their very definite implications for bankers across the country: 1) How well have these 21 county banks served the people in this sparsely settled and now fast developing territory? 2) Are they making a successful transition in one life-time from the pioneer bank that served the elementary needs of the frontier land of two or three generations ago to the kind that can supply the complex variety of services demanded in today's onrushing atomic age?

Anyone who delves into the intimate story of the bygone days of these small banks in the Ozarks will be convinced of the truth of the old adage that a difficult environment breeds MEN — as the granite hills of New England and the rugged glens and bleak moors of Scotland can testify. The Ozarks, in the pioneer days during which nearly all of the presnt banks were established, was no spawning ground that would nurture the weak, the timid, and the vacillating, and then besto½w on them the accolade of leadership.

(Continued Next Week)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 542
Thursday, November 29, 1962

BANKING IN THE OZARKS (Con't.)

BANKERS SUPPLY LEADERSHIP

The men who first established these country banks would rank high in any society in point of independence, aggressiveness, ability, optimism, and vigorous leadership. And since any institution is but the lengthened shadow of the men who control and operate it, there can be little wonder that these community banks became the dominant factor in shaping the economic life and development of the areas they served. Bankers, almost without exception, were found in the forefront of the many community activities that were designed to improve living standards and raise the cultural level of their people.

But not all the banks of the early days survived — far from it. Ozark County once boasted of having five banks. Now only the oldest of the five survives, having absorbed three of the smaller banks, and acted as a sympathetic pallbearers at the obsequies of another which was liquidated by an adjoining county. As matters stand, two of our seven counties have only one bank each, two have four each, and the remaining three have, respectively, two, three, and six; so there are 21 in all that have stood the test of time.

Early-day banking in the Ozarks was characterized by its simplicity, directness, lack of red tape, and reliance on personal character and integrity. A cattle-buying trip involved little more than a casual conversation in which the customer informed the banker of a need, for example for 25 or 30 steers, for pasture utilization purposes, and was told to go ahead. There was no mention of collateral, terms of the note that would be given in due course for the purchase price, financial condition, or anything else. If questioned regarding the adequacy of this procedure, the old-time bank president would probably have said something to the effect that "Jim is all right; he is a good worker and a thrifty fellow, and his word is as good as his bond. Whether he loses or makes money on the cattle he buys, he will pay his note when he sells them."

It must be said that the banker proved, by and large, to be right. The successful managers of pioneer Ozark banks were shrewd judges of character and ability; and they had a far more intimate knowledge of their customers in that slow-moving age than any bank officer could possibly have in the fluid society of today.

THE "OLD-TIMER" A PROBLEM

But the old-style bank presidents are few and far between. The younger generation is, almost without exception, anxious to follow the latest and best procedures and practices, although many a young Ozark banker has had to make the fullest possible use of his diplomacy and ingenuity in dealing with a customer of the old school. Decades of "borrowing what he needed when he wanted it and paying it back with interest when he said he would," have made it difficult for the "old-timer" to regard the modern method of requiring credit reports and financial statements as anything other than an unwarranted intrusion into his personal and private affairs.

The younger generation of Ozark farmers, stockmen, and businessmen, on the other hand have a wider perspective than their fathers, and realize, unconsciously perhaps, that the extreme individualism of the pioneers, bred by isolation, has lost most if not all of its former status as a credit asset. Much of the old-time informality nevertheless persists even today, although the old way of life that characterized the simple economy of small farms and small stores is rapidly fading into the past, and our banks face a major task of adjustment.

Such adjustment, of course, must proceed within the limits prescribed by the rules laid down by law as well as those of ordinary prudence and common sense. As every commercial banker knows, the need for liquidity precludes his engaging to any great extent in two vital fields of finance: 1) the furnishing of strictly risk capital for any enterprise, however promising, which cannot supply adequate scurity; and 2) the extension of long-term credits. However sound either of these types of transactions may be in specific instances, the fact remains that they are in some degree illiquid.

But even in these forbidden fields, the commercial bank has a highly significant role to play. If it carefully explores every need for capital, it will find that many of them can be met by some means that fully comports with sound commercial banking practice, although that possibility may not be too readily apparent at first glance. With that policy firmly established, the individual will be encouraged to come to the bank for his capital requirements; and any rejections that ensue may well be found to reflect a set of conditions that would make the contemplated investment unsound from the standpoint of all concerned.

As far as our region is specifically concerned, the competition of non-bank financial institutions is of relatively little consequence. There is real danger, however, that a too passive attitude on the part of many of our banks will permit an altogether unjustifiable loss of business to young, lean, hungry, and ambitious competitors. To forestall this eventuality banks must obtain and communicate to the public the facts regarding the method of operation, the proper function, and the charges made by such agencies as sales finance companies, savings and loan associations, personal finance companies, and government-sponsored lending institutions; all by way of counteracting the advertising claims and other subtle propaganda which these organizations employ.

PROFITS IN PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Investment portfolio management is another aspect of country bank operation that readily lends itself to profitable study. Our Ozark bankers are past masters of the art of handling loans to farmers and small businessmen in the traditional manner, but have had neither the opportunity nor the occasion to become equally expert in the field of porfolio management. Few of them appear to take adequate advantage of the opportunities for profit afforded by the market changes caused by the cyclical rise and fall of interest rates. This may consist in the taking of capital gains at one point, and book losses at another, the latter with a view to replacing fully taxable income with accretions of capital gain.

I would guess that many a country bank that is presently devoting little more than routine attention to the management of its investment portfolio might readily add as much as 25 per cent to its income from that source over a period of several years by adopting a simple revision of its policies and procedures. These would require only that an officer of the bank be charged with the responsibility of going over the portfolio with an investment officer of its own correspondent bank, map out a program, and thereafter have its portfolio reviewed quarterly for possible profitable changes. In the case of Ozark banks, and that of agricultural banks in general, the scope of these deliberations might well be extended to include the short-term investment of funds that become seasonally available in amounts and for periods that can be anticipated with some degree of accuracy.

(Continued Next Week)

December 6, 1962
Installment No. 543

BANKING IN THE OZARKS (Con't.)

CORRESPONDENT BANKS WILL HELP

As our smaller farm units are consolidated into larger commercial operations, many of our country banks are confronted with the necessity of dealing with applications for credit accommodations that differ materially in nature and amount from those which they have had to consider in the past. The industrial development that has come to some of our rural areas has brought with it the problem of taking care of brand new types of credit needs that will be found in many instances to exceed the lnding capacity of the local bank. Here again, the banks in question will find it profitable to work closely with their correspondent banks, arranging to have them share excess lines of credit, and consulting with their experts whenever in need of information and advice bearing on problems confronting them as they enter upon unfamiliar fields.

The Ozarks have not yet been invaded by branch or group banking, but that is a possiblity that our banks and others similarly situated cannot afford to ignore.

The acid test of the ability of today's bankers to take the needed adjustments in stride will lie in their capacity to adapt their services and credit policies to the demands of a more complex society; those arising, for example, out of the need for the developmnt of industry, the improvement of tourist areas, and the consolidation and enlargement of farming units. Adequate provision for all of these needs will require larger and more varied lines of credit than our banks have handled traditionally. It is this writer's judgment that rural banks in general face the same challenge, and that the problem is by no means a local one.

THE TREND IS INFLATIONARY

Equally the concern of all our banks, from the smallest to the largest, are the factors and events affecting the regional, national and international trends that are steadily giving shape to the economic framework within which all must function. Foremost among them is the all too obvious long-term trend toward nationwide and worldwide inflation. Although the value of our dollar has held relatively stable level in recent years, it is a foolhardy economist who would be willing to ignore the lessons of history and predict a reversal of this trnd. It seems most unlikely that the United States Government will, over a long period of years, spend less than it collects in taxes, prevent wages from rising, and, in general, adopt a program that is truly anti-inflationary.

Rather, the inexorable trend would appear to b in the direction of ever increasing demands upon government, especially at the national level, for aid of every kind. For country banks, along with banks in general, this portends the handling of a greatly increased volume of funds with nothing like a commensurate increase in earnings. As time goes on, it is all too likely that our currency will become inflated to such an extent as to necessitate the implementation of monetary policy by sterilizing a steadily increasing proportion of commercial bank deposits. This might be invested in government bonds or held in the form of mandatory reserves.

AN IMPERCEPTIBLE PROCESS

The long-range developments here considered are being discussed in terms of what is likely to occur over a period of decades rather than years. Barring World War III, they will come to almost imperceptibly from year to year, but this does not negate in the least the fact that the revolution is taking place. Will it end with the nationalization of our banks? It need not if their policy makers are sufficiently alert, efficient, and aggressive to enable them to hold their own in the fiercely competitive field in whic they will operate in the years that lie ahead.

To sum up, banking in the Ozarks has an inherent vitality that does not always come to light in its printed statements. The spirit of its pioneer founders still persists in the optimistic, individualistic, daringly conservative men who are conducting the affairs of our banks today.

Conversations with our country bankers both on their home grounds and at conventions and conferences, indicate beyond a doubt that a vast majority of them are thoroughly alert to their responsibilities in a constantly changing environment, and take very seriously their stewardship of the economic assets of their respective communities. Ozark bankers, indeed, are setting a pattern of community consciousness and community service that government itself, at every level, would do well to emulate."

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE OZARKS

Eureka Springs, a locally famous summer resort, in the top row of countys in Arkansas has a hotel of some six or seven stories on the "down hill" side but only one or maybe two stories on the "up hill" side.

To get to the bottom of the "bowl" in which most of the small city is built, it is ncessary to drive in a circular down grade of maybe fifteen or twenty blocks, to attain a safe down hill descent.

WILBUR BANCROFT

A good friend, Wilbur Bancroft, now dead, was for many years the American Can Company representative in the Ozark area. He had a most unique and attractive log cabin home in a "hollow" (locally called holler) with a narrow rocky road with many crooks and very little straightaway, with a tumbling mountain stream on the right (going up) of the road, and to the left the foot of the mountain came to a narrow "bench" that followed the curves.

At one point the bench was, perhaps 40 to 50 feet wide, on which his cabin in the form of a large square room on each corner with a breezeway or wide hall coming in from the center to form a maltese cross perhaps about twelve feet wide.

In the intersection at the center there was a very fine pipe organ, of which he was master player; and back of the house, falling down noisely was a beautiful waterfall, illuminated by spot lights and a sizable reflection into which the water fell.

The corner rooms, as I recall them, were perhaps sixteen feet square, and the entire breezeway was the living room. The house was the home of Mr. Bancroft and his mother.

A TRAVELING CIRCUS

One Sunday, a few of us went sight seeing, driving from Fayetteville over the Boston range of mountains, south to Van Buren then west to Fort Scott, Arkansas.

Leaving Fayetteville with strawberries in blossom, following a narrow winding road on the very top ridge at the narrowest part of the road we met a "flea bitten" camel, a few mule drawn cages of monkeys, tent poles, canvass and people looking completely down and out. When we got down the other side of the mountain range, to the Arkansas river at Van Buren big ripe strawberries were being sold from road side stands all the way to Fort Scott. The distance from Fayetteville to Van Buren is only about 25 miles.

There is much more that could be written about the Northwestern part of Arkansas and the adjoining southwestern part of Missouri, as that area was the focal point over which the Army of the Frontier, the Union Forces, met the Confederates time after time.

The battle of Praairie Grove was one of the hardest fought battles of the war; while the number of troops engaged was not large, as compared with Grant's campaigns and some of those in Virginia, yet Wisconsin troops covered themselves with glory at Prairie Grove, Pea Ridge and other lesser known actions.

The end of Ozark Story

OTHER INDUSTRIES ATTEMPTED

Badger Motor Company

Early in 1909 an attempt was made to get into the automobile industry here in Columbus by organizing a company to build automobiles.

An extended write up of the Badger Motor Car Company was published in the "Story of Columbus" installments number 257 to 266 inclusive, including a number of photographs, May 31st to August 2, 1956.

About seventy five thousand dollars was raised locally A plant was built which is now a part of the Stokely Van Camp Warehouse known as the Badger Warehouse; upwards of two hundred or thereabouts, cars were built; competition was too great and a few years later the company paid its debts and ceased to exist.

There may be living a very few of the stockholders, but at the time the story was published five or six years ago the only one who could supply personal knowledge was the late George C. Holtz. He claims that while the stockholders lost their original investments, no assessment was necessary to clear the debts.

The publishers of the Journal Republican have a limited number of single sheet "installments" should any one care to read the complete story.

Badger Casket Company

More than forty years ago, there was, for a brief period, a small local industry known as the Badger Casket Company.

The background was found by asking questions of a few persons more likely to know some of the details.

Carl Ibisch, still living, who was a very capable contractor and builder here for many years, had a partner, Otto Hasenfus, as well as several younger Ibisch brothers in his employ.

In 1919 he built, what was without doubt, the largest and best carpenter shop in Columbus, the roof being supported by timber trusses, but leaving the floor area free from posts.

HE BUILT THE NEW BANK

It was at that time that Carl was engaged in building the Sullivan designed Farmers and Merchants Union Bank then almost completed.

He was approached by Leo Tobin of the Furniture and Undertaking firm of Albrecht and Tobin, and was asked if he would be interested in the operation of a Casket Factory that was seeking a location and some working capital and could he spare any room in the carpenter shop or be persuaded to build an addition at the back end of the shop and rent it to the proposed company.

We gained the impression that while the possibility of a Casket Factory in Columbus was no secret, that only a few people were being contacted, as the promotors wanted to keep the project as a close corporation, with no more stockholders than necessary.

CARL WAS LOOKING AHEAD

The new bank building was rapidly nearing completion and Carl was looking ahead for work to keep his employees busy, and it was also hoped that a portion of the work of manufacturing caskets could be done by Ibisch and Hasenfuss.

The Democrat of April 28, 1920 carried this headline "Badger Casket Company to Locate Here. $25,000 Company to Occupy and Manufacture Caskets in Ibisch Building"

"Through the efforts of our local townsmen, Leo Tobin, Otto Albrecht and William J. Riedner, The Badger Casket Company of Milwaukee has been induced to locate in our city.

"Mr. Riedner spent Saturday, Sunday and Monday in Milwaukee and completed the final arrangements for the removal of the factory to Columbus.

"The new Ibisch building has been secured for the operation of the factory. The company is to be reorganized with a capital stock of $25,000 and will manufacture a complete line of caskets, and job the kindred lines such as casket hardware, shrouds, tc.

"It is expected that the machinery, material and stock will arrive the first of next week. As soon as the machinery can be placed and the building be made ready the work will begin.

"Two experienced men will move here with their families at once and it is to be hoped that suitable dwellings may be secured for them.

The paper of May 12 reported that the machinery, material and inventory of finished caskets and supplies were moved from Milwaukee the first of the week and located in the Ibisch building.

Mr. John Fitzgerald, the superintendent, has moved his family and household goods to Columbus and is occupying the house on Harrison street recently vacated by F. C. Wegner.

Several new machines are expected to arrive here in a few days, and when received and put into place operations will begin. The re-organizing of the company by the new owners, elected these officers, Leo Tobin, president: Otto Albrecht, vice president; William J. Riedner, secretary and treasurer.

No further items could be found until the issue of Nov 24, 1920 when the following appeared.

Badger Casket Company Completes New Addition

The Badger Casket Company has just completed a fine addition to their factory building opposite the freight depot.

The new part is built of concrete to match the main part and consists of dry kiln, boiler house, coal bin, shavings vault and smoke stack.

Steam fitters are now busy installing necessary steam apparatus throughout the entire plant.

Careful reading turns up no front page items about Badger Casket Company in 1921, 1922 or 1923 when a half column appeared under the heading of "Badger Casket Company Increases Capital" from $25,000 to $50,000." The factory has been in operation here for the past four years and although business has been fair, limited working capital has kept the firm from forging ahead.

However with the additional capital which will enable the company to install more machinery and employ more men, a splendid trade will undoubtdly be worked up for future business.

"Starting in under conditions, due to the unsettled state of affairs following the war, the company has been able to exist in spite of the handiacps and a fair profit on the money invested was made last year.

The plant is so constructed that there is ample room to increase the working force to fifteen or more men and also for more modern machinery.

A fair amount of work is being turned out at present, and orders are coming in faster than they can be taken care of with the present equipment.

The process of casket manufacturing is indeed interesting to the outsider, from the time the rough lumber enters the building until the finished product is ready for the market.

The rough lumber is first put into the large dry kiln unit until completely seasoned and it is then taken into the main room of the factory where it is planed and sawed. It is then made up into frames or shells.

The upholstering and covering is the next operation and requires delicate and vry skillful workmanship. A large assortment of finished caskets are kept in stock and the outside trimmings and finishing can be done on special orders on very short notice.

At present the factory is under the management of Mr. John Fitzgerald, who is also president, Mr. Peter Moulter is secretary and treasurer, Carl Ibisch is vice president and Otto Hasenfus, Carl Ibisch and W. J. Riedner are directors. These men are all residents of Columbus and are well known for their energetic business ability.

(To be Continued)

Installment No. 545
December 20, 1962

BADGER CASKET COMPANY (Con't.)

CHANGE OF OFFICERS

The next reference is found in the Democrat of March 5, 1924 reports almost a complete change of officers and directors as follows: President, H. J. Baumgartner; vice president, John H. Fitzgerald; secretary-treasurer, William J. Riedner; directors, R. J. Caldwell and P. J. Noltner.

Secretary's report shows company in a very healthy condition. Volume of business increased by 60% over previous year and shows a substantial progress.

GEORGE LINCK

A careful reading of front page news for two and a half years shows no mention either of the Badger Casket Company or the new officers as of March 5 in the paragraph.

However from conversation with people who were in position to know the facts, if not the dates, our conclusion is that George Linck, a former long-time businessman here, who had moved to Madison to become associated with Mr. Wellman, head of a manufacturing company whose principle operations was the manufacture of wire goods, entered the picture. This much the writer knows to be correct.

Apparently George Linck was desirous of coming into the Badger Casket Company; provided it moved to Madison, having a large local population; and better railroad facilities reaching in every direction.

MOVES TO MADISON

When the decision to move was made, is not known, but we know that it was while Walter Bock was still in the trucking business, as he did the actual moving of all the machinery, equipment, drapery, trimmings, lumber, etc.

Presumably George Linck came into the picture then or later, we have no specific knowledge, but we know from two sources that he came in. And whether it proved to be profitable, and what the ultimate outcome may have been, we did not learn, but, at least Badger Casket Company moved to Madison and the Columbus stockholders, or some of them, lost their money.

One told us personally that his loss was sizeable, even mentioning the figure, which will not be disclosed herein, as it was an unhappy ending.

As a burned child dreads fire, so does an unlucky investor, who finds his investment completely worthless, and possibly faces an assessment to help pay the debts of a defunct venture, decides he is through and gun shy when a new venture comes along.

This particular concern tried to operate, as a close corporation, limiting their sale of stock to a relatively few people; the financial loss was therefore not widespread among a larger number of people, but concentrated to only a chosen few, which made the loss harder to take.

SCOTT VINER COMPANY

Sometime later, time not definitely known, the Scott Viner Company leased a portion of the Hasenfus and Ibisch building which they occupied for several years, as their business grew, the space occupied became too small which prompted that company to buy the Dave Owens Garage Building on Park Avenue, to which it became necessary to add an addition of considerable size. This company will be written up in a later sketch.

A SORGHUM MILL IN PROSPECT

The Democrat of March 3, 1920 had a brief article saying a Sorghum Company was being organized, and in May 12th the paper says the Sorghum Company had purchased land upon which to build.

In the paper of September 8, 1920 the following notice appeared. "Sorghum for Sale" I will have about 400 gallons of sorghum in the next few days, price $1.85 a gallon, eleven pounds to the gallon, J. E. Powers.

This was probably individually owned or maybe a few families were the owners and operators. No further front page new has been found.

BETTER PRODUCTS COMPANY

In February 1921 the recently organized Columbus Poultry Association put on the first of several Poultry shows. The paper has these facts to say about it. "The Poultry Show was largely attended — 280 birds were exhibited.

The lecture and judging was by Prof John B. Hayes of the College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin. He awarded sixty-six firsts; fifty-five seconds and twenty-eight thirds.

Seventy percent of the birds scored over ninety, the highest being ninety five and one half. (Prof. Hayes was still judging poultry at Fairs and Poultry shows in 1962)

The object of the Poultry Association was to pay more attention to quality, to breeding, to feeding properly, to produce more and better eggs, etc."

Some farmers still used "setting hens, or clucks" and scrub roosters, and let nature take its course. Others bought proven fertile eggs, bought incubators and sanitary feeding and water utensils.

Hardware Stores stocked incubators, feeding troughs, fountains, etc. and the mail order houses were a big factor in the handling of poultry equipment.

One local hardware store, that of G. T. Mueller and son Carl being poultry fans themselves had decided through improvements based on their own experience that they could build and manufacture better incubators than they could buy and proceeded to prove it in the surrounding area.

This increased demand for better incubators, fountains, feeders, not only provided a good name "Better" for their home manufactured "Products" but also called for working capital, and space in which to manufacture.

The old Baptist church building (now Columbo Garment Co.) was rented, a limited amount of equipment purchased, a few employees hired, and the "Better Products Company" was in businss. The exact date is not too important and lack of time for research, is a good reason for saying about fifty or more years ago. Since writing the above, we find the beginning was published February 18, 1920.

After a few years, additional space was found in one half of the Lueders and Krause building on lower James street, the next move was into the Quentmeyer Building on Water street.

The company, in addition to Better Incubators made a complete line of poultry utensils, and added heavy duty spoons such as were found in kitchens fifty years ago.

Like many other manufacturers of specialities, disaster came through no fault of their own, but by something beyond their control.

Just when household incubators were on the increase along comes Giant Electric Incubators, half as big as motor truck bodies, holding as many eggs as a dozen or more family size incubators, and along with these big ones, came "Day Old Chicks".

In self defense, Better Products bought one of the big ones, and did custom hatching, but this was the beginning of the end or the end of the beginning, the result was the eventual wind up of the venture.

Several public spirited men who put money into the project of encouraging local enterprise, paid up the company's obligations. The physical equipment was purchased by on of the officers, Walter Damler, who conducted a poultry supply, egg and hatchery business for a number of years.

Carl Mueller became manager of the Lambrecht Poultry Farms in rural Milwaukee for many years, a very sizeable plant between Pewaukee and Butler. Carl then moved to St. Petersburg, Florida. He died a couple of years ago.

(The End of This Story)

Installment No. 546
December 27, 1962

EARLY CANNING IN WISCONSIN

In the last of the nineteen hundreds, from 1887 to 1890 clusive there were only three canning factories in the ate, the Albert Landreth Company, Manitowoc being e first in 1887, and also the same company built a anch factory at Sheboygan in 1890.

The third factory was the William Larson Canning mpany of Green Bay, also came into existence in 1890. illiam Larson had been in the produce business for a mber of years, growing, buying and shipping fresh oduce, such as potatoes, carrots, beets, cabbage, ap- es, etc.

Prompted by the successful pea canning operations at anitowoc and Sheboygan, Mr. Larson decided to add a canning to his produce business, building a factory on e site of the present Larson Company's establishment, aking the second company and third factory, none of hich was organized by professional promoters.

Several promoters became active in Wisconsin where ey were engaged in selling equipment and organizing eese factories and creameries and switching their at- ntion to this brand new field, canning factories.

By the end of 1899 there were twenty-one (m o s t l y all) plants in Wisconsin, more than half of which were a result of promotional activities.

THE COLUMBUS CANNING COMPANY

The Columbus Canning Company too came into exist- ce as a result of promotional activity, on the part of bart and Young, both former school teachers from hkosh, who had been doing promotional work during hool vacations, working for a firm called Davis and nkin, which shortly changed their name to "Hastings dustrial Company".

Mr. Young, during 1900 promted several canning plants; d in May 1900 appeared before the Columbus Mer- ants Association and as a result, a committee to invest- te the proposition was appointed. The committee con- ted of F. A. Chadbourn and J. Russell Wheeler, both nkers and A. H. Whitney, a local private money loaner d owner of considerable farm land.

Their investigation consisted of visiting several canning nts nearby, including Waterloo, Sun Prairie, Sauk City, ndolph, Fond du Lac and Oshkosh, mostly brand new, at the most only a couple of years old, all of which re promoted plants and packing only corn and toma- s.

They also visited the much larger, plant at Waukesha ere peas were being canned and this visit had a lot to with the favorable report they made to the Columbus rchants Association. They were emphatic in saying at unless the proposed plant would be equipped for peas well as corn and tomatoes, they could not recommend ing any farther.

By fall there seemed to be enough favorable sentiment organize, and by the first of November there were sub- iptions totaling $17,500.00 and by mid-November the scriptions had reached $22,000.00.

There was considerable wisdom shown by limiting in- stors to five shares each at $100 per share for any one rson, for the reasons, first, in case it did not prove to a successful venture, no one would lose more than 0; second, the more people who became stockholders e more good will the project would have.

It was decided to incorporate, under the laws of the ate of Delaware for $30,000. Thre were a total of 86 ckholders, whose names and the amount for which ch had subscribed will appear a little later.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

The officers and directors elected were William C. itsch, Attorney and also Mayor, president; A. H. Whit- y, vice president; F. A. Chadbourn, banker, treasurer; A. M. Bellack, clothier, secretary and manager; other directors: S. W. Andrews, J. Russell Wheeler and William W. Williams.

A committee on site consisted of Mayor William C. Leitsch; J. I. Merriam, a coal dealer and James Quickenden, druggist and S. W. Andrews, dealer in farm machinery.

Another committee for drafting articles of incorpation and by laws, consisted of Mayor Leitsch, attorney C. H. Williams and H. M. Blumenthal; and still another committee called building committee consisted of S. W. Andrews, Lewis J. Sawyer and John A. Jones.

TOM RUTTER THE FIRST PROCESSOR

From among three letters of application for the job of "processor" Tom C. Rutter of Henderson, Kentucky, who offered himself for $100 per month, was chosen, to report to work January 15, 1901.

The plant was already under construction by the Hastings Industrial Company and pending its completion the Board sent Mr. Rutter on a trip to visit a few plants which canned peas to see what additional equipment would be needed and to pick up a little information about pea canning.

Mr. Rutter's experience had been only corn and tomatoes and the directors had been told that there was no chance of success in raising tomatoes as far north as Wisconsin.

He was able to pick up a few off pieces of machinery and a promise of leasing one viner.

The first names in the time book May 11, 1901 were Frank S. Roberts with team at $3.00 per ten hour day and Harvey Wood, whose pay was $1.50 per ten hour day with a rented "tip over" scraper rented from W. Selk at fifty cents per ten hour day.

This was work grading up the yard and drive way where hundreds of loads of stone chips and earth had been hauled in to raise the yard up out of the marsh.

The second week, May 18, was more of the same with three names added all at the rate of $1.50 for a ten hour day the usual rate for heavy hard work with pick and shovel were as follows: Christ Wienke, Ferdinand and Herman Schultz.

The third week, same names with one more, G. W. Higdon, added.

The next week same names as before, with five new names at 75c for a ten hour day, evidently unloading empty cans, names were Sidney Smith, Bennie Baraclough, Sarah and Mary Baraclough and Willie Altschwager.

One thing the promoters always stressed was they would put in a limited amount of machinery that was absolutely necessary, leaving as much work as possible to be by done by hand by local men, women and children big enough to work. As I recall those days of so long ago, I think there was no age limit such as the child labor law that came some years later. A boy or girl big enough to work was paid the going wage for comparable work. The promoters were able to advise what the wages were at other plants to use as a guide.

Since names are news, here are the names of the pay roll for the week ending June 15 which was, no doubt, unloading empty cans, but no canning until a week later.

Highest paid was C. W. Higdon who got $1.75 for a ten hour day, perhaps better expressed as 17½ cents per hour. Joe Altschwager, and Will Nashold each got 15 cents per hour. John Mielenz and George Vosburg each got 12½ cents per hour. Bennie Baraclough, Fred Yuds, Willie Altschwager, Eddie Dieckhoff, Fred Pieper, Howard Voth, Harry Ranger, Sarah and Mary Baraclough each got 7½ cents per hour.

Lee Sherman and Fred Christensen each got 6 cents per hour, the latter worked only one hour. The whole weekly pay roll amounted to $58.27.

(To Be Continued)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

January 3, 1963
Installment 547

EARLY CANNING IN WISCONSIN (con't.)

FIRST PACK BEGINS

Here is the record of the week ending June 22nd, 1901. The first two days of the week only four men worked. On Wednesday nineteen worked, one of whom, J. S. Smith must have furnished a steam threshing engine as the rate of pay was 35c per hour. This was probably a trial run. Thursady, Friday and Saturday there were sixty or more. Eleven received 7½c; twenty-seven received 10c; six got 12½c; thirteen were paid 15c; three got 17½c; engine and owner Engineer Smith 35c per hour.

Verna Rutter, daughter of Tom the processor got 20c per hour for running the cook room.

The week's pay roll came to $209.61.

C. W. Higdon got 17½ cents per hour, but at times he also received 20c in addition indicating that he furnished an engine perhaps.

The following names should be interesting as some are still alive and many are family names today. Except in special cases like man and team and man and engineer, the rate of pay is not mentioned here.

C. W. Higdon, Joe Altschwager, Will Nashold, John Mielenz, Sidney Smith, R. R. Blodgett, Henry Brill, Henry Conery, George Weber, Will McCormick, Charles Kelsey, Dan Halloway, Elmer Berdoll, Leslie Blumenthal, Verna Rutter, Otto Finger, George Vosburgh, Alfred Waldo, Joseph Zick, Eddie Dieckhoff, Fred Williams, Fred Pieper, Henry Whitney, C. A. Paroneau, Lyle Fowler, Edward Erb, Howard Voth, Ben Baraclough, Frank Edwards, Mrs. T. C. Rutter, Will Owens, Sarah Barclough, Hannah Baraclough, Lizzie Burns, Laura Culver, Nora Conley, Lorna Randall, Laura Jaecks, Mary Williams, James Brennan, S. F. Brossard, Owen Jones, Jack Roberts, Caroline Zick, Will Nix, Martha Krueger, Alvin Anderson, Albert Berdoll, Frank Roob, Albert Voth, Albert Erb, Herman Brill, Eddie McCormack, Fred Yuds, Bert Ranger, R. Sherman, John Conford, Chas. Williams, Otto Salzwedel and Earl Jackson.

The week ending June 29th shows seventy-six names and total payroll was $492.02. The pea pack ran into July three days for a total payroll of $293.21 for the three days.

The corn pack began in the week ending August 24th and the tomato pack a week or so later.

The corn was husked by hand, the pay being .02c per bushel basket. The tomatoes were peeled by hand at the rate of .03c per fourteen quart pail.

Rates of pay for adult men were the going rate for most kinds of unskilled heavy labor; for big boys who had not worked as there was none to be had, were paid about half adult men's pay. Payment for big girls and women about the same as boy's pay, mostly .07½c per hour.

The wages by today's standards were almost unbelievably low, but many people of my age can recall when common labor was thought to be well paid at a "dollar a day" and single "hired men" on farms got about a dollar a week and board and lodging and simple washing.

SCHOOL TEACHERS PAY

This writer taught three terms of country school in Hamilton Co., Ia., before the Spanish American War for $25 a month, and paid $10 per month or $2.50 per week for room and board. Meals at restaurants, good meal's with plenty and to spare, could be had at 15 cents each. Good men's all wool suits, including vest for $10 and men's shoes at $3 a pair.

Men were considered lucky to have a steady job at a dollar a day, and many kept a family with children on that pay. Another point not to be overlooked is that in 1897 the purchasing power of a dollar was $1.75 (see installment No. 344, Feb. 1958) instead of less than fifty cents as of now.)

PROMOTERS SCORE ONE

So we should credit the canning factory promoters for the correctness of this one of their claims; whether the promoters were right or wrong, on all claims will always be a question.

The Board of Directors and the stockholders, in the know, were very much discouraged for as it turned out Mr. Rutter is said to have had such a disagreeable temper, that he would fly off the handle without any known reason.

He had not been here very long when he issued an ultimatum that we would deliver the keys and walk out unless.

KEEP OUT

That from that minute on, any communications, requests, or questions, must come from one person only to act as spokesman and the rest of the board should not even come into the factory. Mr. Leitsch was selected as spokesman and the writer had heard from Mr. Leitsch's own voice and also from others that it was such a disagreeable situation that they all prayed that the plant would burn down.

When the packs were finished the board held a special meeting in October in which Mr. Rutter was called in and offered his full salary for the remaining two months if he would quit at once, which he did then and there.

The total pack of peas from about one hundred acres was 8,300 cases; corn about five thousand cases and only a few hundred tomatoes; a total according to the books of 14,200 cases.

The board was so utterly discouraged that they eagerly grasped at the only straw in the wind, an opportunity to sign an option to sell the plant at actual cost, being one of several, that were to be consolidated or merged into one big plant or company.

CONSOLIDATION CONTEMPLATED

This document is before me as I am writing about it. It is an option to purchase the plant for the sum of $19,500 dated august 27, 1901, signed by W. C. Leitsch, president and A. M. Bellack, secretary of and for The Columbus Canning Company whose witness to the signing by the company were A. Baraclough and William Gernetzky; and by the proposed buyers, Willard G. Rouse and William R. Roach whose signatures were witnessed by Robert N. McWynn, a well known Milwaukee attorney.

Nothing ever came of the option, although it has been said it was extended or renewed into the following year.

Better conditions and harmony in the operations the following year gave the board and stockholders renewed confidence and they withdrew the option. After the books were closed for 1901 the board was content as they kept out of the red by about twenty-five dollars.

(To be continued)



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

January 10, 1963
Installment 548

EARLY CANNING (continued)

The subscription lists of which there were perhaps more than one with similar printed headings, did not seem to have any "jokers" but did contain one clause reading as follows "and it is understood and agreed that the By-laws shall provide that one half a cent a can be set aside as a sinking fund, and declared and paid to shareholders as a dividend on stock and shall be used for no other purpose". This clause was modified somewhat by deleting "and shall be used for no other purpose" and substituting "or be expended as may be voted by the Board of Directors".

Apparently the lawyers who became subscribers, realized that it would not be proper to set aside as a dividend, any money that had not yet been earned. The company ceased to b a cooperative and became a corporation.

The following is a list of subscribers, number of shares each were buying and the price which was $100 per share. Names had been consolidated on one sheet, mostly in the hand writing of J. R. Wheeler for those not present at the time of signing.

Name	Shares	Name	Shares
W. C. Leitsch	5	R. J. Pritchard	1
J. R. Goff	5	H. R. Owens	1
A. M. Bellack	5	C. Zastrow	2
J. R. Wheeler	5	R. Jones	1
J. E. Wheeler	5	H. J. Owens	1
A. H. Whitney	5	Robert P. Jones	1
W. E. Griswold	5	D. W. Williams	1
Mrs. Marie Griswold	5	William Lavery	2
M. H. Jackson	5	Otto LeFevore	5
John Topp and Bro. Co.	5	Mic Adams	2
E. M. Poser	5	A. Herzberg	1
F. A. Chadbourn	5	Mrs. Rachel Miller	5
T. A. Jones	5	E. W. Richards	1
H. C. Lange	2	C. G. Steinbach	1
Elon Cripps	2	C. R. Gamridge	1
Guy V. Dering	1	W. J. Edwards	2
T. A. Young	5	Name Faded out	2
C. D. Styles	2	W. D. Roberts	1
T. W. Evans	5	H. W. Neimeyer	5
H. M. Blumenthal	1	Robert H. Evans	1
Thomas C. Conlin	1	T. B. Elmore	5
John O'Connor	1	Frank Lueders	1
S. R. Webster	2	John W. Evans	1
Oscar Weiner	3	Albert Herzberg	1
T. S. Griswold	5	John C. Williams	1
F. L. Birdsey	1	David Laskey	1
Boltz Brothers	5	George W. Stephens	1
Henry J. Weidemann	5	R. D. Vanaken	1
E. Churchill	5	P. D. Durant	2
S. W. Andrews	5	Alex Schular	2
John Williams and Son	5	B. F. Bellack	3
Mrs. S. C. Williams	5	W. R. Turner	1
James Quickenden	5	O. A. Trobridge	1
J. I. Merriam	5	T. B. Elmore	2
C. E. Fowler	1	Mrs. Sarah Elmore	1
G. T. Dodge	2	F. G. Thiede jr.	2
H. O. Deysenroth	1	F. C. Foster	5
John C. Thomas	1	Ed Walker	5
R. D. Jones	1	A. H. Kunn	1
William W. Williams	1	Henry Wrede	1
Jos. Gritzmaker	1	Wm. H. Killian	1
John S. Roberts	5	O. R. Jones	1
D. D. Jones	1	Mrs. R. Gamidge	2
Thomas L. Jones	1		

Making a total subscription list of 86 persons and totaling amount of $22,000 pledged.

TOMATO PLANTS CONTRACTED

On March 6, 1901 a contract was made with Emil Schultz to raise and transplant twenty to twenty five thousand tomato plants, transplanted to not closer than three or more inches apart in rows for ease in cultivating; and to deliver them as wanted by Columbus Canning Company and to be paid $2.00 per thousand plants.

The company furnishing material for Mr. Schultz to make up frames covered with cloth and when no longer needed to return same in good repair to the Canning Company. The company to furnish the seed.

CRUDE OPERATIONS

To indicate how crude the operations were during the first year of canning, please note.

The ground level floor was cement with quarry stone walls and was intended for warehouse space. The second floor was on railroad track level which gave about eight feet of head room. The floor itself was a wood floor, of two inch plank laid on 2 x 12 joist, but was not a water proof floor, and the goods stored in the basement were always wet.

The one viner was on the ground under a shed roof, across a drive way from the factory itself, and an outside stairway led up to the second or track level floor

The office was one room about 12 x 16 feet in the nearest corner; this stairway was the only means of access and while actually canning, all the shelled peas had to be carried in pails from the viner and across the driveway up the stairway and half way across the factory to a 40" diameter revolving "size grader" but first, through a fanning mill cleaner called the "clipper cleaner."

After grading for size the peas were carried outside to a long porch sixteen feet wide to a dump blancher where several pail fulls at a time were dumped into a hinged perforated metal container and immersed into boiling water for a few minutes, then raised out by man power pulling a rope, and dumped into other pails and carried to a "squirrel cage" revolving spray cleaner.

There was a small pea filler that rotated vertically, filling two cans at a time, that could reach a speed of possibly forty cans a minute, called a "Bucklin filler" and a Hawkins Capper good for about 60 cans per minute.

Between the filler and the capper a hot water salt and sugar brine had to be put into the cans. To do this, the cans with peas in, had to be put into trays by hand, run the trays through a brining or syruping machine and this done the cans had to be "de-trayed" to go through a straight line into the Hawkins Capper.

The next operation, after the "cap", a circular disc, had been soldered on while passing through the capper, the final act was to "tip" the little pin point hole in the center with a tiny drop of solder.

Then came a careful inspection, and removal of any cans that looked like they had a leak, had to be hand patched before they were put into round iron crates and into the process kettles, or retorts.

PROMOTERS CONTRACT

The regular printed contract forms in use by the promoter were for corn, tomatoes, or possibly apples and pumpkin and for that reason no pea equipment will be found in the regular forms and had to be written in between the lines or on the margins, if supplied as an "extra" and added to the contract.

Some of the pea equipment was found "second hand" farther east where some peas had been canned for several years.

(To Be Continued)

EARLY CANNING (Continued)

MAN WANTED

After Mr. Rutter was "permitted" to resign Nov. 1, 1901, the Board began looking for someone with more experience and less temperamental, to take over and put in some more and better equipment.

Two of the board came to Waukesha to meet me by appointment for I was still under contract at Winneconnie for the remainder of 1901. They had met me at Waukesha during the pea pack, having two months June and July free at Winneconnie, to gain experience with peas at Waukesha.

They must have been impressed for they would not take "no" for an answer. However, I put them off for a while, as I was to be married in December 1901, and wanted my fiance to have a voice in the matter.

I had received a letter from an Indiana concern who packed corn and tomatoes but not peas who wanted me but I preferred a plant packing peas. My wife to be also favored a Wisconsin plant, so our decision was in favor of Columbus where we came between Christmas and New Years in 1901 to a house that was ready to move into known as the Weiner cottage (now owned by John H. "Hanse" Roberts at 340 W. School street.

There was much to be done to improve the factory. Putting in one additional viner (on a rental plan of nine cents per dozen cans of peas, for at that time all viners were on a rental basis and could not be bought; building a shelled pea elevator; water proofing the canning room floor; making a continuous blanching system and a lot of conveniences that speeded up the operations but had not cost much in money.

We doubled the acreage of both peas and corn and forgot about trying to raise tomatoes.

TWO VINERS

The viners of which we now had two, could easily have been built at a cost of not over $600.00 each at that time, actually cost us in rental about $22000.00 each; a regular gold mine. But we had packed 25,450 cases of peas instead of 8,300 cases the previous year and by better varieties of pea seed and improved cultural methods we had an average yield of 3441 cans per acre.

WRONG KIND OF CORN

Sweet corn seed, Stowels Evergreen, a late maturing variety, while doing fairly well in the corn belt states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa was not suitable for this far north. Only a few pea canning plants of which many were built in the next two decades did not fool around with sweet corn, but by careful experimental work, the College of Agriculture, and the seed men made good progress over the years in sweet corn seed improvement and with the coming of hy-bred seed, Wisconsin is now one of the leading corn canning states, but it was a far different thing for the pioneer corn canners of 1902 and for many years thereafter.

But getting back to Columbus Canning Factory, in 1902. The company was proud of their success. They paid a 10% dividend in cash, paid for all improvement in the plant, started a surplus account, and everybody was smiling.

However, I was then in my twenty-sixth year and had gained considerable experience during the two pea packs in Waukesha, and the one here at Columbus and did not want to lose any opportunity to gain more experience, as well as an offer of higher pay, and an opportunity to combine office work with factory work, all of which had been offered me elsewhere.

Therefore I discussed the matter with the Board here and made arrangements to move to Waukesha at the end of my one year contract. Also recommended that they name Ed Selk of Columbus, who had been my right hand assistant, as my successor, as I was confident he could handle the job as I would be available to get him started in the pack of 1903, and stand back of him if he felt the need for help.

ED SELK TAKES OVER

This arrangement worked out nicely, and Ed held the job for five years before making a change. These five years were all profitable, and the plant was added to repeatedly and had gained the reputation of packing quality and reliable in every respect.

This brings us up to 1907 by which time the Board of Directors at Columbus decided it would be best in the long run to begin to make plans for expanding their operations by building another plant in some near by town or perhaps build a new plant on the site of the old original plant.

Meanwhile the Waukesha Canning Company had "growing pains" which led to over expanding without adequate cash working capital which eventually led to bankruptcy in 1910.

The move to Waukesha in 1903 was a wise move as the experience of superintending a much larger plant which included pork and beans in the winter months; the building of improved canning equipment, some research work in the first laboratory in a canning factory in the U.S., if not in the world; acquiring some knowledge of bookkeeping and sales was all to the good.

AN INDIANA PLANT

Waukesha decided that in addition to Wisconsin plants at Barron and Rice Lake which they built; and Sawyer (Sturgeon Bay) which they leased, they must also build a large plant for corn and tomatoes in a warmer climate. Frankfort, Indiana was chosen, a plant built and equipped for tomatoes in 1903 when it was decided to build a third story and a husking shed so corn could be packed also in 1904.

This meant another move, as I had been chosen to build, equip and operate this plant and miss a pea pack that year.

However in subsequent years, while Frankfort was our home, I was called to Wisconsin to go through the pea pack, either at Waukesha or elsewhere where ever needed. In 1906 it was for the pea pack at Sawyer (Sturgeon Bay).

AN INVITATION

During the pea pack at Waukesha in 1907, two of the members of the board at Columbus came to Waukesha for a confidential chat about their problems in connection with their own growth. They came directly to the point which was, "would I consider a proposition to come back to Columbus?"

In addition to a salary considered good in those years, they would work out a profit sharing arrangement and if or when any Columbus Canning Company stock shares were offered for sale, I was to have the opportunity to acquire it. I was to participate in the sale of the production of canned foods and in the bookkeeping.

They felt strongly that no expansion program would be undertaken without my assistance; would I give it careful consideration and when I was through with the pea pack and before I went back to Indiana, would I promise to run up to Columbus for a meeting with the Board. This I did.

That is how and why after five years of added experience in self reliance and resourcefulness and the feeling that this was the knock of opportunity, shortly before the end of 1907 we came back home.

No photograph has been found of the original promoted plant, but during the five years of absence, the low peaked roof was remodeled into a flat roof with good head room for the storage of cans in the end near the railroad and pea graders and corn cutters in the end next to the driveway.

Also a wooden silo 40 x 45 feet had been built in 1905-6 and the so called "old warehouse" 36 x 72 feet, two stories high had been built. The ground floor was cement with stone walls, the upper floor was of brick walls, wooden floors, and metal rood on a wooden deck.

(To Be Continued)



The Story of . . . COLUMBUS.

By F. A. STARE

January 24, 1963
Installment No. 550

EARLY CANNING (Continued)

After returning to Columbus in 1908, the factory viner shed was doubled in length to hold eight viners. The first country viner station was built on what was then called the Morris farm, now the O'Brien farm No. 2.

The second on the Berger farm, called No. 3, the fourth on the Schallert farm (now Premo) called No. 4; the fifth not far from the Hinchliff farm, five miles out on County Trunk called No. 5; the 6th out on highway 73 about three or four miles, was called No. 6. Later No. 9 was located nine miles out on what is now highway 151, the Madison road, and No. 10 was about a mile north of East Bristol, and a one viner station north of Highway 60, about five or six miles out. There was also a station called the "White" station south off Highway 89.



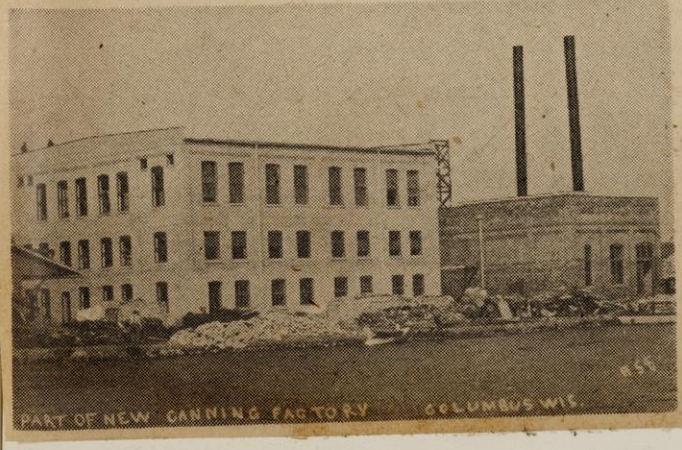
First Photograph taken about 1908

This picture taken about 1908 was taken from across the river.

Taken from city light and power house looking towards the river, lower left now called "Old Warehouse"; center left shows chimney projecting upward from roof of boiler house; back of chimney a lean-to warehouse attached to factory, the building with windows and the left hand part attached to end of original frame warehouse parallel with railroad tracks.

Low buildings in center of picture is a temporary wooden warehouse 36x48 feet in size, built in one day and filled with canned food the next day; viner shed with name across the end; at the right is the large wooden silo.

The new plant was built in part the following spring, 1910, before the 1910 pack as far as a new boiler house is concerned, also first section of fire proof warehouse, and present cookroom.



The third picture was taken later in the fall or early winter of 1910 shows the boiler house with two steel smoke stacks, built and used early in the spring of 1910 is on the right.

On the left the new three story factory is under construction in early fall of 1910. Picture taken from across the river.

A REVIEW

We now review some of the details of what had been done and were yet to do.

Additional pictures showing progress of the work during the fall and winter of 1910-11 will be shown.

The next three years after returning to Columbus 1908-09-10, by a re-arrangement of the canning machinery, we were able to increase production twenty-five percent by putting in one more line, being the fourth.

It had been decided a year earlier that we would tear down the factory building and build a series of brick buildings, and do the building ourselves, with home town workers.

BUILDING BEGINS

The present cook room was built before the pea pack of 1910, in which we temporarily installed the canning equipment for corn; also the first section of a fireproof, three story warehouse of steel, brick and re-inforced concrete floors and roof, and included at the same time an electrically operated freight elevator.

These buildings adjoined the "old warehouse" and were connected therwith, were built before and or during the pea pack of 1910.

STEAM COMING FROM THE NEW BOILER HOUSE

The last few days of the pea pack of 1910 we were finishing without a roof on the factory as we were already tearing down and removing everything possible to clear the ground to start the new structure.

ALL MATERIALS ON HAND

All the steel work, fireproof windows and doors, for the present factory and the second and larger section of the warehouse, as well as the brick, were on the grounds.

Each of the footings, walls and columns for the warehouse went down to clay, through marshland which required coffer-dams to hold the water level down during construction; the pier footings were six by six feet, twelve inches thick, stepping back in three steps of twelve inches in and twelve inches thick.

The ground floors were of cement and some steel reinforcing, with sharp sand and either washed gravel or crushed stone.

Both load bearing floors, first at railroad track level and second twelve feet higher were made for same load, 450# per square foot. All beams, girders and floor slabs all heavily re-inforced and poured without stopping. Second and third floors of warehouses designed to carry 450 pounds per square foot.

Roof construction of warehouses same but lighter but ample for heavy snow load. The factory part has a wood deck of dressed lumber timbers and dressed and matched two inch flooring for roof, to qualify as slow burning.

A matching boiler house of dimensions ample for four Horizontal Tubular Boilers of 150 H.P. at 80 pounds pressure was built early in 1910.

All this building was going on from early in July through summer and fall; the installation of machinery and equipment followed almost automatically through the winter.

(To be continued)



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 553
February 14, 1963

PITTSBURGH LANDING STORY (Con't.)

A private letter from Captain Coleman, to his wife, dated April 12th, published April 23rd will follow: portions of the contents would indicate that Mrs. Coleman knew the soldiers from Columbus immediate area, but not those from farther away, but we are inclined to think that the Colemans were, at least, temporary residents of Columbus.

"In camp near Pittsburgh Landing, Tennessee, April 12, 1862, I have been engaged in one of the most terrible battles that was ever fought on the Western Continent, and hope to God that it will be the last that will be fought on this continent, or any other, as it was terrible beyond description; at any rate I cannot find words to express what I saw on Sunday and Monday of this week.

A SURPRISE ATTACK

On Saturday of last, we landed from the steamboat and pitched our tents after dark, and the next morning we were attacked about half past seven by eighty thousand rebels and we fought all day until dark, and they had the advantage of us in all respects and kept it all day.

They drove us about two miles away from our tents and they robbed them of everything that they could carry away.

COUNTER ATTACK

The next morning we made an attack and fought them until about twelve o'clock before we drove them. We drove them about ten miles as fast as they could travel. We took nearly all of their artillery and how many firearms I do not know, but there are a lot of them.

We lost a good many as prisoners on the first day of the fight, how many I do not know, but the 18th (regiment) lost prisoners, as near as we can find out, about 150. Our killed and wounded will amount to about 100 more.

We lost our Colonel and Major, killed; our Lt. Col. and acting Adjutant were wounded, but will recover.

COLUMBUS SOLDIERS

Now I have something to say of our own company's loss. Lts' Ford and Southmayd are both prisoners, as I cannot hear anything of them. Peter Mead, George Dexter and Ben Shaver are prisoners and a good many more that you are not acquainted with. We have three men killed, Rensler Cronk, our orderly sgt., Maurice J. Cook of Scott and George Hillman of Portage City. They are all that I know of.

We have sixteen wounded, none of them dangerously except Thomas Laskey, he was shot through the body, and he cannot be found; since we put him into an ambulance and put him aboard a steam boat. I have hunted for him in vain, I fear he is dead.

Elias Haight is among the wounded, shot through the hand; Peter McIntyre was shot through the leg; Albert Turk shot through the arm; C. C. DeVore of Colmubus wounded in the arm; Peter Callahan, slightly wounded; none others wounded that you know. The men are having the regular camp sickness."

LT. ED. B. ROYS

In the same battle, Co. D, of the 16th Wisconsin in which several area soldiers served, lost, killed, Capt. Oliver D. Pease, Cpl. William Taylor and privates Alphonse Harrington, August Wollem, Louiss Pettis, and Chester W. Haskins. Wounded, Sgt. John S. Bean, Cpl. Chas. N. Virgin, Cpl. Michael Walrod, privates O'Brien, E. Cook, Harman Gerreck, Joseph Edwards, Jems M. Lyons, Dennis Delanty, Josiah W. Fields, Burton R. Towsley, Chas. H. Tracy, William Hamilton, Daniel Kallahan, Harrison Fuller, Milo Farrington (leg amputated); missing, Lt. Louis Fassbine.

The Company was under command of Lt. E. B. Roys (of Roy and Bros. plantation, town of Hampden).

From issue of April 23, 1862, we learn that Ed Roys, well known at that time, recruited some 30 to 40 men in the Hampden, Leeds, Otsego area in the early days of the war, was home on a short leave. In the paper of May 7th there is printed a letter written by Captain Coleman to Mrs. Ira Ford, 1st Lt. which gives a little more detail.

"At half past six o'clock in the morning (Sunday) the Rebels attacked our lines and we fought them for two days; on the first day Lt. Ford was taken prisoner, with Lt. Southmayd and 19 others of our company. The last that was seen of Lt. Ford he was fighting the enemy in true soldier like style with his gun, doing a soldier's duty and may God protect him during his captivity.

I miss him as I would a brother, he made himself generally useful, he was kind and obliging to all.

Our Company suffered terribly as did our Regiment. Our company lost four killed, sixteen wounded and twenty-one made prisoners. The loss or nearly all of it occurred on Sunday.

The first day of the fight, the Rebels had the advantage and they kept it until night, then they fell back and stopped fighting for the day. In the morning, that is on Monday morning we opened the ball again and we gave them more than they bargained for.

Their loss in killed alone is estimated to be ten thousand. They had about eighty thousand men engaged, and we about fifty thousand." Yours in haste,

William A. Coleman.

(The estimated number proved to be much too high as will be stated in the story of the battle, which will follow

A few items from the latter part of 1861; a glimpse of camp life in Milwaukee; the appeals for enough men to fill Company I; training up to manual of Arms, and dress parade; a few letters to the newspaper at home, we are not surprised at a brief silence, broken by Captain Coleman's letter to his wife. After a surprise attack by the enemy, before day break. After a few hours sleep, we now have some conception of what it means to be thrust into battle, where the recruits or some of them did not know how to load and fire a gun.

GENERAL ULYSSES S. GRANT

We now insert a brief biography of General Grant and his rapid rise to Commanding General of a large army of several divisions; going back a few weeks to his tremendous victory in the capture of Fort Donaldson, and a Confederate Army of 14,000 which preceded the battle of Pittsburgh Landing by only a few weeks.

U. S. Grant was the 8th generation of Grants, descended from Matthew, the founder of this branch who came to Dorchester, Mass. in 1630.

Ulysses was born in southern Ohio, son of a tanner, Jesse Grant. When Ulysses was 17 he received appointment to West Point, U.S. Military Academy; served through the Mexican war after which he was stationed in Detroit at Sackett's Harbor, and eventually in California, leaving his family at home.

In 1854 he resigned from the army to settle on a small farm belonging to his wife near St. Louis. He stuck it out for nearly four years, the last being a year of fever and ague, and put him badly in debt.

His father, the tanner, had a branch leather store in Galena, Illinois, operated by two sons, one of whom was shortly to die of consumption. His father never lived in Galena, but offered Ulysses a job as traveling salesman in northeastern Iowa, southeastern Minnesota, south western Wisconsin, with headquarters in Galena, calling on harness shops, shoe repairmen and the like.

Upon Lincoln's call for volunteers, Galena raised over a company of over a hundred. No one there had had army experience, so he was asked to drill the company. Being very short of trained officers, Governor Gates of Illinois, put Grant in charge of a regiment as colonel. Next we hear of good work in Missouri, and at Cairo, Illinois on the Mississippi, and on the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers, leading up to Fort Donaldson, where having been put in charge of the army of the Tennessee, brings us to Fort Donaldson, where he delivered a stunning defeat to the Confederates under Generals Pillow, Floyd and Buckner.

The latter two fled with about 1500 under cover of night leaving Buckner in charge with no recourse, other than to surrender the Fort, and his army of 14,000 men; it was here when Buckner asked for a meeting to discuss terms of surrender that Grant replied "only unconditional surrender" which caught the public fancy.

(To be continued



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 554
February 31, 1963

PITTSBURGH LANDING STORY (Con't.)

Up to February 16, 1862 the name of Ulysses S. Grant was utterly unknown to the great world. Now he became famous, and his rise in the next six years is the most extraordinary in the history of America.

On the minor movements of the armies and the intreogues of other Generals, that followed Donaldson we have no time or space.

Immediately following Donaldson, there was a re-grouping of forces on both sides. Confederate Generals abandoned their positions as follows — Polk left Columbus, Kentucky heading towards Corinth, Miss.; Albert Sidney Johnson left Bowling Green with what few troops escaped capture at Donaldson, heading towards Corinth.

Union General Don Carlos Buell advanced from Louisville, Kentucky to Nashville, Tenn. where he destroyed vast stores of southern supplies and was held awaiting further developments while Grant's army of the Tennessee kept moving piecemeal farther south on the Tennessee.

By the first of April Grant had an army of about 40,000 around Pittsburgh Landing, an obscure stopping place for boats to load and unload, not far from the Mississippi state line, consisting of two log structures and a small dock; about two or three miles from Pittsburgh Landing and on higher ground sloping up from the river was an old dilapitated church called Shilo church.

Grant's army was roughly divided into six divisions under the following generals—McClernand, B. M. Prentiss, Wm. T. Sherman, Stephen A. Hurlbut, C. F. Smith and Lew Wallace (who later wrote the famous book, Ben Hur.)

General Smith was sick at Savannah; (which was also Grant's Headquarters) and Smith's Division was then under command of General W. H. L. Wallace.

Grant had a total of possibly 40,000 men, widely scattered, because of the numerous creeks and small rivers twisting their way to the Tennessee. At least half his troops were raw recruits with a very limited training, many had never been taught to load or fire a gun.

While Grant was in charge in the field, General Halleck based at St. Louis, was in superior command of the Western Forces, including Buell, who was 150 miles away with about 20,000 more Union Troops.

The Union Generals knew there was a heavy concentration of Confederate troops at Corinth well supplied and strongly entrenched. Grant's strategy was to duplicate his thrilling feat of Donaldson, and crush confederate Albert Sidney Johnston at Corinth.

In the meantime the Confederate Clan's were gathering in great numbers, some twenty miles southwest from Pittsburgh Landing. Here had come Polk from Columbus, Tenn.; Braxton Bragg, from the far south, Beauregard from the East, and A. S. Johnston, Commander of all Confederate forces in the area, had come from Bowling Green, after Donaldson.

Johnston's combined armies totaled about the same as that of Grant's, 40,000; and nothing was more certain that these two would soon come together in a terrific contest for the region of the upper Tennessee. Through this region ran the Memphis and Charleston railroad from Memphis by way of Corinth to Chattanooga where it connected with lines running eastward to the sea coast.

This railroad was of immense importance to the South and to save it from falling into the hands of the Union Army, a great battle must be fought and won by the Confederates.

Grant fully expected that the enemy would await an attack in hi sentrenchments at Corinth, and in this belief he left his lines of communication openly exposed.

Not an earthwork had been thrown up, and the blunder if such it may be called, no doubt cost many lives. Confederate Johnston's strategy was to collect his armies quietly and at night from Corinth, in the heavily wooded area with heavy underbrush, and suddenly fall upon the

Union forces in a sudden, impetuous dash toward Pittsburgh Landing, to take and hold the same, thus preventing Grants bringing up some of his division.

It was Saturday night and the Union Amry lay shivering on the damp ground, some units having arrived long after dark without tents or blankets, from boats on the Tennessee river. Only the dull tread of sentinels could be heard and the splashing water of the streams overflowing with recent rain. Some of the deep gulleys completely full, making it impossible for some of the units to move from where they were.

Only a mile away on higher ground, in deep woods around Shilo church the army of General Sidney Albert Johnston, waiting to spring on Grant's army at break of day.

At break of day magnificant battle lines emerged from the woods in front of the Union Camps and in a few minutes the roar of artillery announced the opening of the greatest battle ever fought on the Western Continent.

General Holleck, Commander of the Union Forces, back in St. Louis; General Grant Commander in the field and all the division commanders, previously named, all stoutly insist that they were not surprised.

General Grant, only a few nights before returning to his headquarters at Savannah, through flooded fields and muddy roads met with an accident in which his horse mired down with the General's foot doubled up under the horse's body, causing a very painful dislocation of the ankle. He went on through the rain flooded path and went to bed.

In the morning he was awakened by the noise of heavy firing of cannon, which was the first he knew that the Confederates had assaulted the Union forces.

He had expected the arrival of General Buell, whose twenty thousand seasoned troops had covered most of the 150 miles, but was still more than a good day's march away.

He had also given orders for General Lew Wallace to move his 7,500 men from Crump's Landing to the Pittsburgh Landing but due to flooded conditions he had to march more than three times the distance and could not possibly reach the combat in time to turn the balance of power.

When Grant arrived on the field of battle he found a tremendous battle raging all along the Union front. He spent the day riding from one division to another, directing and encouraging them to hold tight as both Buell and Wallace were due to arrive before the day was over.

The heaviest attack of the morning fell on the Union right after Sherman, whose division was made up almost completely of raw, untrained men who had never been in battle; and on McClernand whose troops were next in line to Sherman's and who also were raw troops; but the superb bearing of their commanders inspired the raw recruits with confidence and they fought like veterans.

Confederate Commander Albert Sidney Johnston quickly brought up by rail from Corinth heavy re-inforcements in a matter of a few hours, when he learned that Buell and his Union forces of 20,000 were still held back by a washed out bridge; The Rebels saw that their time to attack Grant's forces was before Buell could reach him.

Johnston addressed his troops in stirring but traitorous language.

Grant's troops were on the west side of the Tennessee river, in an exposed position and his rear was near the river, where he could not rapidly or safely retreat, and he had at the time only 38,000 widely scattered troops to 45,000 Confederates.

But he had behind him a fleet which included two gunboats the Tyler and the Lexington, to help drive back the advancing foe.

The area in which the heaviest fighting took place was about three miles square, including the hottest spot which was called the Hornet's Nest.

(To be continued)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 555
February 28, 1963

PITTSBURGH LANDING STORY (Cont.)

We have already stated the names of Division Commanders to which we add "our forces faced south and west with the river behind us. Prentice (in whose division three regiments of Wisconsin Regiments, the 14th, 16th and 18th were placed) at the left, a mile and a half from the river landing; McClerland at Prentice's right, Sherman farther at the right and in advance near Shilo Church, and in the rear, Hurlbur, to support the left wing, and Wallace to support the right." (Wallace did not arrive until after dark and was not in the first days fighting.)

The Southern forces, due to difficult roads and heavy rainfall did not reach their positions, near our forces, until Saturday night, too weary to attack without rest.

They were ordered to remain concealed from our men, no fires, no music within sight or sound.

How they could have approached so near us in so large a force without our knowledge has never been satisfactorily answered.

It is not true that ou officeres were taken wholy unprepared, for Col. Allen of the Wisconsin 16th regiment states that after a conference with officers on Friday afternoon he felt called upon, in view of the possible chances of an attack, to order and distribute forty rounds of ammunition, which was also quite generally done in the division. But this was rather in view of possible danger by skirmishers in force rather than the approach of the main Confederate Army. Yet one Michigan regiment in front, had been given no ammunition at all when the battle commenced.

At three o'clock Sunday morning, April 6th the rebels had concluded their breakfast and were ready for the attack.

The 14th Wisconsin had been inducted about a month earlier than the 16th and the 18th but had never been in battle. In fact they had arrived by boat from Jefferson Barracks St. Louis, landing at Savannah, General Grant's headquarters on March 28th where they went into camp. There were only fourteen soldiers from our area in the 14th. They were ordered to march to Pittsburgh Landing on the 6th, after the battle was well underway, arriving about midnight. They went into battle early the 7th, with very little rest and had no food until late in the day when the Confederates had fled. The 14th Wisconsin was part of General Prentice's Division.

The first company of the 16th Regiment came to Camp Randall November 20, 1861, and as fast as new companies were formed they were sent to Camp Randall, Madison, where there were 10 companies, the earliest having become well drilled; the later ones very little training.

They left for St. Louis on March 13, 1862 where they were transferred to boats on the Mississippi and up the Ohio, and the Tennessee, arriving at Grant's headquarters at Savannah on the 20th of March.

In Company D the 1st Lieutenant was Edwin B. Roys of Hampden and Columbus, who is said to have recruited some thirty-five or forty men from Leeds, Otsego, Hampden and a few from across the Dane County Line.

Only 28, were in Roys' company, the others being used to fill in shortages where needed. This unit also a part of the Brigade of General Prentice and were in the thick of the fight. The 16th was fully equipped by the state with the exception of arms, to be supplied at St. Louis. Total number of officers and men being 1070 men.

The 18th Wisconsin. Our readers are well informed about Company I. The Lewis Rangers, recounted earlier in this story, and also know that the 18th arrived at Pittsbugh Landing late at night Saturday, April 5th and that heavy rain fell before many tents could be pitched.

The 16th and 18th Wisconsin were in the left brigade of the left division of General Prentice. General Prentice, a very able commander, sent out eight companies from the 16th on picket duty, and for heavy skirmishing, four of which companies were companies A, B, C, and D (Lt. Roys' Company) the eight companies being under the immediate command of Lt. Colonel Cassius Fairchild of Madison.

At half past four, Sunday morning, April 6th the eight companies were ordered to advance and reconnoiter. Proceeding half a mile they came upon the Confederate pickets, stationed behind a fence. It is said that they numbered about 3000 men, and immediately fired on our soldiers, killing two officers. This was the actual beginning of the battle.

The Federals retreated before such superior forces, being outnumbered about three to one; and the rebels pursued them.

Lt. Col. Fairchild was the first to announce in camp that the enemy was coming. The 16th was immediately formed in line of battle, about 30 rods from their tents; and the 18th under Colonel Alban, of Plover, was formed on the left of the 16th.

In about fifteen minutes the enemy showed up, in great force, and as he approached the 16th opened fire (many firing a gun for the first time, and against seasoned confederate soldiers). The rebels replied by a terrific fire and advanced upon the whole division, pressing our front and flanking our left.

There was no panic in our lines (unless with individuals) the men fought bravely; but they must either surrender, or be shot, or fall back; they reluctantly fell back.

A flank movement by the enemy on our left finally resulted in the capture of General Prentice, and about 2200 of his troops, some of them being from the 18th Wisconsin.

Col. Allen of the 16th, a skillful commander, saved his regiment by changing fronts when he was flanked, and falling back again to resume fighting. Eight times he did this; two horses were shot from under him. He then was wounded and carried from the field.

In the 18th, Col. Alban received a mortal wound in the lungs from which he died the following Wednesday.

It was Confederate General W. J. Hardee's Corps that attacked General Prentice's division by driving in a wedge shape and then adopted the flanking process. Hardee found an opening or gap between Prentiss and McClernand's divisions into which he pressed, while Braxton Bragg, who commanded the second rebel line, reinforced Hardee on our front.

To be continued



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 556
Thursday, March 7, 1963

PITTSBURGH LANDING STORY (Con't.)

In General Sherman's division his pickets were driven back at about sunrise, and his line of battle was then hastily formed. His position was on a ridge, with a creek in front, which the enemy must cross to reach him.

Pages could be written about movements and counter movements which we must omit, suffice it to say that the Confederates made three grand attacks, the first about six o'clock in the morning; another at half past one in the afternoon and the last about four o'clock, when it seemed all had been lost. Bull had not yet arrived from the north. Lew Wallace was mired down and no one knew when he could arrive. General Grant has stated that if Wallace had been able to get to the field promptly, Prentice and 2200 of his troops taken prisoner might have been saved, and perhaps the battle won the first day.

However Col. Webster of Grant's staff, skillfully and rapidly placed on a ridge near Pittsburgh Landing, sixty cannon—among them three, thirty-twos and two eight inch howitzers. Capt. Givin and Capt. Shirk of the two gunboats were able to deliver devastating fire where the enemy had to come through the ravines and across a creek, which compelled the rebels to change their point of attacks and bring up their own artillery as day was ending.

Nearly every Federal camp held Sunday morning was now in the possession of the enemy; but the enemy themselves were not without heavy losses, perhaps the worst of which was that General Albert Sidney Johnston, second in skill only to General Robert E. Lee, was dead, having been shot in the leg, cutting an artery from which he bled to death as he remained in the saddle until he fell in death and his body fell into our hands; and also Generals Gladden and Hindman of the Confederate Army were killed.

But General Grant was making plans for the next day's fighting. He had ridden all over the narrow confines of the battle field and discussed his plans with Division Commanders and his staff. He last visited General Sherman's position about five o'clock to tell him that with his own gathered fragments, of raw recruits, some of whom had never been under fire, nor fired a gun, that he, Sherman together with General Lew Wallace's weary troops, then expected about dark, were to drive the enemy out of the area they had gained during the day.

Just then Union General Nelson's Division, of General Buell's Army of the Ohio, came into sight on the opposite side of the river and darkness was falling. This changed the situation materially. All night long the transports were carrying Buell's troops across the river and up from Savannah.

General Buell outranked General Grant in seniority, but Grant was in charge of the battle. Buell had not followed Grant's request to cover the 150 mile march as quickly as possible. He even stopped on the way for a bridge to be built, which engineers said could have been made passable in a day. In fact General Nelson got so impatient and tired of waiting, that he finally got permission to wade his men across, each one carrying his gun, knapsack and ammunition above his head, thus appearing in the nick of time with his one division.

Even after Buell's main army reached Savannah, Buell did not obey Gran't orders to come speedily to the field.

The Confederate Army, under command of General Beauregard who had succeeded General A. S. Johnston when he died in battle, was not fully aware of the large number of federal troops that had come in during Sunday night.

On Monday morning the disposition of the Federal forces, now greatly strengthened numerically, was as follows from left to right, by divisions—Nelson, Crittengen, McCook, Hurlburt, McClernand and Lew Wallace. Our left and center commenced the attack, we now being on the offensive.

Beauregard responds by advancing toward our left. His troops fight fiercely and Nelson's men are nearly overcome but Mendenhall's battery rushes over from Crittenden's division and beats back the foe. The Confederate pour fresh troops upon us again and again, but as yet they cannot break through. Then Hazen's brigade charbes and captures a confederate battery, reverse the guns and use them effectively against the foe, but Hazen is gradually pushed back, but Terrell's Union battery of McCooks division comes across and finally the combined Union forces rolled the Confederates upon their own lines at the left.

Meanwhile at the right of our front, Generals Sherman and Lew Wallace, advance and soon occupy Sherman's former position as of early Sunday morning. There and simultaneously, another fierce battle takes place near old Shiloh. At last Monday afternoon the whole Confederate army is in full retreat, but the next day, by lying, Beauregard telegraphs to Richmond that he has just gained a great and glorious victory.

Not withstanding Beauregard's claim of victory at Pittsburgh Landing, he and his army ran away from this crowded battlefield, back to his intrenchments at Corinth twenty miles away, as fast as they could. They lined the escape road and railroad with wagons and ambulances and many places felled trees across the way, and destroyed all bridges behind them.

After reaching the field of battle, Monday morning, the 14th Wisconsin (without food) lay in a wet ravine. Then they were ordered to charge against a Confederate battery. They did so, across another ravine, over a brook, through a thicket, beyond a narrow road, and captured the battery.

But not being supported, had to fall back. Twice more they did the same thing, without result, for the expected support failed to reach trem. The fourth time ,they held the position and one of the guns, which the 14th "spiked" on the first charge, was later brought back to Wisconsin as a trophy: after the fourth charge, at the site of the battery, the 14th found seventeen dead artillery horses and sixty dead Confederates.

For their bravery the 14th was given the title "Wisconsin Regulars". They went without food through the whole day and served as guard at Pittsburgh Landing during the night and were afterwards retained there as provost guard.

The 14th, under command of Col. David E. Wood of Fond du Lac, and was composed for the most part of companies from the northern line of frontier counties. The roster of all troops from Columbia County shows there were only fourteen from our county in the 14th.

Seventy officers and privates of the 14th were wounded, some mortally wounded.

The 16th Wisconsin one hundred fifty nine officers and men were wounded, several mortally. Company D. of which Edwin Roys of Columbus was 1st Lt. was one of eight companies previously mentioned as having been sent out on patrol, which brought on the battle. There were 28 from Columbia County in Co. D.

To be continued



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. SLAKE

Installment No. 558
March 21, 1963

From Columbus Democrat October 18, 1899

The following "firsts" at random, may prove to be of interest:

First trial by jury	907	First wheeled carriages	1559
First pins made in	1450	First illuminating gas	1792
Needles used in	1545	Latin ceased to be spoken	580
Matches made in	1829	Musical notes introduced	1338
First cast iron in	1544	Gun powder used by Chinese	80 BC
First newspapers in	1494	Bible translated into Saxon	637
Coal first used as fuel in	1834	Bible translated into Gothic	872
Surnames first used in	1162	Photography first produced	1802
First gold coins	B.C. 206	Old Testament finished in B.C.	430
Tobacco introduced	1583	Emancipation proclamation	1863
First steam railroad	1830	Paper made by Chinese	B.C.220
First postage stamps	1840	Bible translated into English	1534
Kerosene (coal oil) introduced	1826		
Lead pencils used in	1594		
Window glass in	694		
Electric lights invented	1874		
Iron found in America	1815		
Marine Fire Insurance	533		
First American Express	1821		

January 11, 1890

The Irish mile is 2240 yards; the Swiss is 9183 yards
The Italian mile is 1766 yards; The Scottish 1984 yards
The Italian mile is 1766 yards; The Scottish 1984 yards
The Tuscan is 1808 yards; The German 8106 yards
The Arabian is 2143 yards; The Turkish 1826 yards
The Swedish and Danish are both 7341.5 yards
The Roman is 1628 or 2025 yards (How can it be both?)
The Dutch and the Prussion mile are each 6480 yards
The English and American miles are each 1760 yards
(When the writer went to school in 1890 we were taught that a mile was 5280 feet)

July 1, 1904

A. H. Whitney Resigns from School Board

To the Editor of the Columbus Democrat:

The resignation of Mr. A. H. Whitney as School Commissioner and the acceptance by the Common Council last evening terminates the official career of Columbus' foremost public spirited citizen.

From the day that Mr. Whitney commenced to interest himself in the public affairs of the city, Columbus made its first effort to get out of the rut in which it has traveled for years.

His was the guiding mind that led the onward march towards public improvements. His honesty, unselfishness and tact made him the acknowledged leader of the progressive element by nature, liberal and highminded, by education, a thorough business man, he possessed qualities that gained for him the friendship of the needy and the confidence of the rich.

But it was as a member of the Board of Education that Mr. Whitney has made a record of which his family and his friends can be forever proud of. Long after the present generation has been laid under the sod, hundreds and perhaps thousands will bless the name A. H. Whitney and that little band of Columbus Philanthropists who have pioneered a plan whereby the worthy student without friends or money can gratify his or her desire for higher education.

How many of our citizens know that we have an organization of this kind in our midst, or know the names of its members, the writer of this article himself knows the name of only two of its members, and it was by the merest chance that he became aware of the existence this organization.

A few years ago a young lady graduate of the Columbus high school, took charge of a district school in one of the neighboring towns. Later on she met Professor Jackson and in the course of the conversation he asked her how she liked her work, she replied "very well."

After some questioning he elicited the information that the young lady intended to make teaching her vocation and as soon as she had enough money saved, would go through the State Normal school. Here is the Professor's answer in his own words:

"My dear girl it will take a long time before you can save enough money for that purpose. I know of a better plan. We have in this city an organization founded by A. H. Whitney, S. W. Andrews and a few others. The object of this society is to assist students desiring a higher education. It is in no sense a charitable institution, but conducted strictly on business principles. The qualification and security required in the individual high school record of the applicant, nothing but your personal note is needed and you may repay the loan in installments suiting your own convenience.

Needless to say that the sudden and unexpected realization of this young lady's wish can be better imagined than described.

When a few years ago Mr. Whitney's attention was called to the fact that only one prize was available in the annual high school oratorical contest, and that invariably the boys were more favored than the girls, he laid the matter before the Board and asked for an appropriation not to exceed $30.00 to purchase a gold medal for the girls.

The Board, refused giving as an excuse that the funds would not warrant the expenditure. Mr. Whitney answered "very well, the girls work just as hard and faithfully as the boys, they are entitled to just as much consideration, and I authorize this Board to have a medal made for the girls, fully as good, if not a little better than the one given to the boys; and send the bill to me.

This is the handsome gold medal awarded annually as a first prize to the girl winner in the C.H.S. oratorical contest.

The credit for whatever grade of perfection our public school has attained its well earned reputation among the leading educators of the state and the successsful career of its graduates is shared alike by the teachers and by that triumvirate of honorable gentlemen, Mic Adams, H. M. Blumenthal and A. H. Whitney, who as members of the School Board for the past ten years have labored so faithfully for the welfare of our schools.

Signed CC



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STAKE

Installment No. 559
March 28, 1963

THE LEE FAMILIES

In mid February 1962, Rev. Stanley S. Tarrant, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, Columbus, received a letter from Mr. Joe H. Smith, jr., of Hereford, Texas, who was seeking information about William M. D. Lee from which I quote the following.

"I have reason to believe that he may have been married to a Miss Whitney, from an old and prominent family there in Columbus.

This man was a large merchant, dealing in Buffalo hides, and was a suttler in various Army posts here in the west. He was a business partner with Mr. A. F. Reynolds, operating under the firm name of Lee and Reynolds.

I am writing an historical novel built around this man and his activities and so far, I have been unable to learn much about his early life, where he was born, when, where, etc. I did learn that he was buried by an Episcopal minister in Leavenworth, Kansas, early in 1925.

It occurred to me that if he was married there in your church, that some information I am seeking would be revealed.

Rev. Tarrant, I will be most happy to pay you for a search through the early records there if you will bill me for same and I will appreciate very much your consideration of this letter. By the way, I learned your address from the Episcopal church directory out of our church, I too am an Episcopalian".

About two weeks later, Rev. Tarrant, called upon this writer and said, after the letter had been read that there were very few records, newspapers, county histories, etc. for the past ten or twelve years, he wondered if I could recall any family named Lee.

I recalled, immediately, that one o fthe early sheriffs of Columbia County had been Perry Lee, but that I had not written up that family as their family was early settlers in the western part of the town of Hampden and after some years, Perry Lee had moved to Portage rather more distant than our writeups for the story of Columbus usually were.

But that I had a hunch we were on the right trail. Within a few days we had collected the biography of Mr. Perry Lee, and together with several installments from The Story of Columbus, that were c l o s e l y connected because of four marriages of "Lee's" with prominent families in Columbus and trading areas; and subsequently additional material was found and forwarded, through the helpfulness of Mrs. Ruth Sutton Doland; Mrs. Esther K. Sanderson and Mrs. Dr. Blumenthal of Milwaukee.

The following is the first batch of information sent to Mr. Smith.

From Page 970 History of Columbia County 1880

"Perry Lee, deceased, was the son of Jesse and Jane Lee. Born in the town of Eaton, Wyoming Co., Pa. in 1816. He was educated in the common schools of his native county and devoted his time to farming there until his marriage in 1840 to Miss Esther, daughter of Thomas and Polly Mitchell of that town and county.

After marriage, he, with a brother, turned his attention to milling (having purchased a grist mill a short time before his marriage) and were its proprietors till 1844; emigrating then to the township of Hampden, Columbia County, Territory of Wisconsin, which was their home till 1850; removing then to Portage, he became proprietor of Wisconsin house for two years; then purchased the Lee House of which he was the proprietor till December 1859 when it burned down.

He was elected sheriff of Columbia County in 1852 and served in that office during the years 1853 and 1854. He then went to Denver, Colorado in 1860 and there with a company of men started south on a trip, but was taken sick and died in Abiquin, New Mexico in November 1860 leaving a wife and five children to survive him.

The children are as follows, William D., who now (1880) lives in Texas; Mary M. now the wife of Thomas Sanderson, and lives in the town of Hampden, Columbia County, Wisconsin; Sarah, now Mrs. John Sutton of Columbus, Wisconsin; Esther M. now Mrs. Alonza Henry Whitney of Columbus and Miss Lillian E., unmarried living at home with her mother.

Those who knew Mr. Lee, knew well of his many manly qualities, being a man who took interest in public affairs and whatever seemed to be for the general good of the county and the community he was ever ready to support. His acquaintance throughout the county was very extended; and all who met him honored him for his courtesy, his kindness and his manhood.

End of Biography

LETTER TO MR. SMITH

"I spent one entire afternoon searching for any items there may have been in the bound volume of Columbus Democrat for 1884, beginning Nov. 1883 and through every issue up to March 1885 and found nothing.

I then went through and assembled all installments that had items pertaining to the Lee families, the Suttons and Whitneys, if it hooked up to the subject for which we are searching.

A great deal about early frontier life in the area is typical and portions for local color, could easily be inserted in a novel.

There are plenty of Sandersons in the western part of Columbia County.

Mrs. Dr. Blumenthal, the former Lillian Lee Whitney, is still living in Milwaukee, might possibly have some clippings of obituaries, weddings, etc. but I doubt it. However I will ascertain her address and forward it.

I am close to my 85th (April) birthday, and ever since my retirement at 70 I have pursued my hobby of Research and publication (for free) of local history for the local weekly paper.

F.A.S.

P.S. I will also contact Mrs. Doland and Mrs. Sanderson who may have some knowledge or even pictures.

To Be Continued



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 569
April 4, 1963

LETTER FROM MR. SMITH

216 Avenue B
Hereford, Texas
March 15, 1962

Mr. Fred A. Stare
Columbus, Wisconsin
Dear Mr. Stare:

You have no idea how much I appreciate what you have done, and how much help you have been. I can only say that I was "lucky" when the Rev. Tarrant gave my letter to one who is familiar with research and all that goes with it. For almost five years I have been completely in the dark as to the background of William M. D. Lee. Although he was a tremendous man in the early day cattle ranching circles here in western Texas, little about him is actually known. I finally received from the city of Houston a death certificate about him about six months ago, and on the certificate it was shown that he was born in Eabon, Pennsylvania in 1843 to Esther Mitchell and Perry Lee. But correspondence with the Pa. Historical society revealed that no such name as Eabon ever appeared on the records there — of course it should have been Eaton. And there I was.

A further check with the Funeral Home in Houston revealed that the body was shipped to Leavenworth, Kansas and was received there and a funeral service was held by a Rev. R. K. Pooley of the Episcopal faith on January 9, 1925.

A check with the Leavenworth Times of Leavenworth, Kansas came up with this, and I quote: "William M. D. Lee, an early day cattleman of this area and who left Leavenworth 28 years ago, died yesterday in Houston—he actually died on January 6th—according to a telegram received by the Davis Undertaking Co., last night. Funeral services will be held at the Union Station by the Rev. R. K. Pooley. Burial will be at Mount Muncie cemetery.

"Mr. Lee, while a resident of Leavenworth, resided at the northeast corner of 6th and Olive Streets. He was a member of the firm of Lee & Reynolds, extensive cattle ranchers. Much of Mr. Lee's time, while a resident here, was spent away looking after the many interests of the firm. Mrs. Lee was prominent socially. Mrs. Lee and a sister accompanied the body from Houston."

(Mrs. Wm. D. Lee was a sister of Alonza "Lon" Whitney.)

LETTER FROM MR. SMITH (Con't.)

Three years ago, while searching the land records in Austin, I came across the name Columbus, Wisconsin in regard to some of Mr. Lee's land deals. In as much as he was buried by an Episcopal rector, I had a hunch that a letter to the church there in Columbus might turn up something. How fortunate I was.

Having given as much time as you have, Mr. Stare, to this project, I know that it will not bore you if I go into some of the exploits of Mr. Lee since he left Columbus as a boy to find his way into the world.

Sometime, somehow, he became a partner of one A. E. Reynolds — this must have been shortly after the war between the states, and the firm Lee & Reynolds became the largest traders and merchants in all the west. They had trading posts in Fort Reno, Fort Sill, Fort Supply, and Darlington in the Indian Territory, and at Fort Elliott and Camp Reynolds in Texas all at about the same time. The firm leased over a million acres of fine grass land from the Cheyenne Indians in Oklahoma and then re-leased same land for a profit to white cattlemen. Lee & Reynolds had dozens upon dozens of long freight trains —oxen pulled freight wagons—going all over the southwest to their stores at the agency headquarters. Also they hauled for other people on the side. At one time, they had close to a million buffalo hides in warehouses in Chicago and New York City, etc., etc.

Now here is where I come in. No, I am not in any way related to Mr. Lee. Back in the late 1870's, the State of Texas needed a capital building. Texas had no money but millions of acres of unsurveyed land here where I live in the area known as the "Panhandle." Texas traded 3 million acres of western lands to a firm in Chicago known as the Farwells if the Farwells would build a capital building. To pay for the survey of this 3 million acres, the State of Texas put up for bid to the highest bidder 50,000 acres of land in western Oldham County—approximately 50 miles west of Amarillo, Texas. William M. D. Lee bought this 50,000 acres of land for thirty-seven and one half cents per acre. This was in about 1880.

But let me go back. In 1875 a military fort was built called Fort Elliott near what is today Mobeetie in Wheeler County, Texas. Lee & Reynolds became the post traders and Mr. Lee became the postmaster. By 1879 it was apparent that the Fort would close soon. The famous Comanche War Chief, Quanah Parker had been whipped at Adobe Walls in 1876 and the Red Man's day was over on the Texas Plains. It was then that Mr. Lee cast his eyes on the great grass land to the west of Fort Elliott, Oldham County, Texas.

Early in 1880, Mr. Lee arrived in western Oldham County with plenty of money and organized the LE Ranch, a spread of close to a quarter of a million acres. He had as a partner A. E. Reynolds, his old crony. Meanwhile Reynolds had moved into Colorado where he became a most wealthy gold mine operator.

The LE partnership lasted only a short time when Lee and Rynolds had a violent quarrel and the business firm dissolved. Then Lee with Lucien Scott, a Leavenworth Banker, organized the LS Ranch some miles east of LE but of about the same acreage.

Mr. Lee operated these ranches until 1890 when he sold his LS holdings to his partner, Scott, for one million dollars and moved to Houston where he lost his entire fortune trying to dig a canal from Houston to the Texas Gluf, a feat, of course, that has been done since to the extreme benefit of the entire southwest. However, Mr. Lee was far ahead of his times. There was not sufficient equipment in those days for such a venture.

This was a wild and wooly country, Mr. Stare, when Mr. Lee organized those ranches over 80 years ago. Matter of fact, one of the wildest gun fights ever fought in all the west was between some of Lee's LS cowboys and some saloon rowdies in 1886. Nothing on TV has ever passed it for a real "shoot-em-up." Lee lost three men, an innocent bystander was killed, and three were totally shot to bits, but lived awhile. It was a big raw country, nothing but cattle, outlaws, and horses. I believe now that Mrs. Lee lived in Leavenworth all during the time that Mr. Lee was operating these ranches. If she was ever here, I've never hard of it.

My interest is somewhat as follows: A very close friend of mine is today the owner of the LS Ranch. And together we are trying to arrange the complete and true history of it, both from a historical standpoint and one of pure personal interest.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

Installment No. 561
April 11, 1963

Mr. Stare, I will give you my immediate need now, and I wil lask you to proceed as you think best. I would like to have something about Mr. Lee's family tree, exactly when he was born, etc., his education, habits, size, and, above all, a photo of him at any age, preferably at a later age. It would be wonderful to know just how he happened to team up with A. E. Reynolds and where. I have reasons to believe that they knew one another before going into such extensive business ventures. The Episcopal records there say that Mrs. Lee was baptised as Mrs. Lee in 1877 which, of course, predates their marriage to when I thought. It would be interesting to have a review of the newspaper story of their marriage. Possibly the marriage record is in Portage. I'll write for it there.

Anything along these lines that you may get, without undue trouble to you or others, I will appreciate, and I will let you be such a judge. I feel that a short interview with Mrs. Sanderson would do, but I am more interested in Mr. Lee himself than others—except his immediate family, of course. If there should be a picture of Mr. and Mrs. Lee, or of either, and you feel that a copy could be made of it, I will gladly pay for the photography for same. And any other expense, of course, that you may incur.

I hope that the people of your town and community fully appreciate what you are doing for them in your research and writings. It is excellent and I know that you have put in much time and thought on such projects. Too bad that we do not have more like you.

You mention three feet of hard packed snow. How strange that sounds to us here. Our winters are mild and snow is somewhat rare, although just three years ago we had over two feet on the ground at one time.

Your country is not altogether unfamiliar. Our son is now in prep school over at Faribault, Minnesota—Shattuck School—and we have been there on two occasions to visit with him.

It is possible that we will be there again this early June, and, if so, will certainly try to say hello, if only for a short while.

Mr. Stare, I am enclosing amap of our area that may interest you in regard to the Lee episode and surely it will have some interest to Mrs. Sutton and Mrs. Sanderson.

I am writing Mrs. Dr. Blumenthal soon. Such a valuable tip.

May I thank you again, Mr. Stare, for your extreme courtesy. It is with much pleasure that I look forward to meeting you in person.

Yours very truly,
Joe H. Smith, Jr.

P.S. I have the feeling that Mrs. Lee is buried in Leavenworth, however, she may be right there in Columbus. Also I can't quite get the exact size of Lee's family. I've heard of the dwarf son but of no other.

After the first exchange of letters, there were half a dozen or more, but unfortunately I have no secretary and my correspondence is all in long hand, and no copies are kept; however Mr. Smith's letters to the writer give some clues.

Some of the side lights of information turned up and sent on to Mr. Smith, in the six or eight letters have been helpful. We were able to establish the fact that Perry Lee's only son was the William M. D. Lee, for whom information was desired. He was married to Miss Orleana (or Arlen) Whitney, daughter of Henry A. Whitney and sister of Alonza H. Whitney. One of the daughters of Perry and Esther Lee, Miss Sarah Jane Lee wa sthe second wife of John J. Dutton, married Monday, May 7, 1877 by Rev. M. E. Eversz, left for Chicago on the midnight train and returned Wednesday afternoon.

William M. D. Lee was married to Miss Whitney in Sept. 1877. The local newspaper that should have had an account of the wedding in their issue of Sept. 15 but all we could find is the hole left when someone cut out the clipping about six or eight inches long.

Another daughter of the Lees was Miss Mary M. who was married to Thomas Sanderson of the town of Hampden; another daughter Lillian became first wife of Alonza H. Whitney and their daughter Lillian became Mrs. Dr. Robert Blumenthal, and a son Henry. The youngest daughter of the Lees was Miss Lillian Lee who was unmarried.

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Ruth Sutton Doland, we learned that William M. D. Lee (Mack) Lee had a son Lucien, who was a dwarf, who for many years was sent to Columbus each summer to escape the heat in Houston, Texas, living with his grandmother and aunt, Mrs. Perry Lee and daughter Miss Lillian, whose home was at the corner of Lewis and Prairie streets, now the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Wohlfeil, 254 S. Lewis street and his aunt, Mrs. Whitney.

While considerably younger than Lucien Lee, Mrs. Doland knew him and used to join the rest of the neighboring children of all ages in their activities.

A news item in the paper of August 19, 1903 said "Lucien Lee and several of his companions were walking along the highway leading to the Danville bridge last Sunday afternoon when Dr. Schmeling's team suddenly became unmanagable and started to run away. The boys scattered and before Mr. Lee could get out of the way, was knocked down by one of the horses and run over. Those who saw the accident expected to find him dead, but he was able to pick himself up and went on his way; he received several bad bruises on one of his legs.

Glenn Howard, who was one of the group, and in trying to get out of the way of the team, ran into a wire fence bruising his hands somewhat.

A research of abstracts shows that the house above mentioned was built after the close of the Civil War and changed ownership a few times before but on October 21st, 1876 William M. D. Lee bought it from Myron Sawyer. Mr. Lee held title until Sept. 30, 1902 when for $1.00 and other valuable consideration he issued warranty deed to his unmarried sister, Miss Lillian Lee, who held title to it until her death early in 1937.

In the settlement of her estate it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. William Wohlfeil by Guy Sanderson, her niece and administrator of her estate.

Mrs. Guy Sanderson, widow of Guy Sanderson who was a nephew of Wm. M. D. Lee, has among her keepsakes a work of art, in the form of a family tree, no doubt done by an amateur painter, but a fine piece of work nevertheless, a peaceful cemetery scene with fruit about the size of a small egg, upon each of which are inscribed in ink the names of Jesse Lee and his wife, Jane Brown Born in 1778 and 1782 respectively, grandparents of Wm. M. D. Lee and their children, only one of the fruits left vacant but one fruit contains two names proof that there were eleven children, but no twins.

Perry Lee was the 8th born in 1816, and his next older brother Elijah in 1814. The sixth born was Jesse McDale (or perhaps McDole in 1811 and obviously this is where Perry's son Wm. M. D. Lee got his middle name and throws light on the three initials W. M. D. used in some of the correspondence.

One scroll about half way up the tree shows an angel with wide spread wings, holding this scroll in far flung arms and hands, on which are these words, "may the fruits that doth fall from this prolific plant, be gathered in the heaven of endless felicity of tree of life".

All this, and much more in the way of information was found through intensive research and passed on to Mr. Smith.

Continued next week



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

The second letter received from Mr. Smith is being used here in its entirety and is self explanatory.

I promptly sent him the write up of Dr. Earll, thus establishing the fact that "Mack" Lee had become acquainted with Mrs. Reynolds through their respective wives. Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Lee grew up, went to school together, lived in adjoining homes on Ludington street (not Ludow, as stated in a subsequent letter.)

In our subsequent correspondence, Smith learned that I was born in Dallas, Texas in 1887 and that one of my sons, Capt. Phillip lived in Dallas.

Installment No. 562
Thursday, April 25

HISTORY OF W. M. D. LEE (Con't.)
LETTER FROM MR. SMITH

My belated letter of thanks to you for your most recent letter of aid is because I have been abed for six days with a severe case of sore throat and flu . . . the worst I've ever had.

But your letter was most welcome and very beneficial. Today I received a letter from Mrs. Blumenthal in which she enclosed a very good picture of Mr. W. M. D. Lee with an inscription at the bottom saying, "Yours Truly, W. M. D. Lee." I was most elated over this find as I feel sure that it is the only picture of him in the entire area, and in as much as it was so inscribed, there be no doubt but that it is his photo. The picture was made in Fort Leavenworth, and I would suppose from an inspection of the photo that he was approximately forty-five years of age when it was made. He was a most handsome and forceful looking man.

I wonder, Mr. Stare, if you have written anything about the Dr. Earll family? His only living grandchild, daughter of A. E. Reynolds, now resides in Denver, and if you should have something along these lines without having to trouble yourself, I know that she would appreciate reading it. If you should have same and should care to mail it to me, I will see that she gets it.

Back to Mrs. Blumenthal . . . she had little other info. about her uncle, saying that she only saw him twice and that was when she was very young. She did say that he had lived in Port Arthur, Texas as well as Houston. I enjoyed her letter, and she seemed most pleasant.

Thanks to you I am making real progress now, and however and whatever you think best as regards further queries from the folks there, I will appreciate it very much.

I will be in close touch with you.

Hope that your weather is as warm as ours . . . 90 degrees today.

Sincerely,
Joe H. Smith Jr.

April 29th, 1962

As one native Texan to another, we are proud that you were born among us. I trust that you do not feel toward Texas as General W. T. Sherman felt back in the late 1860's as he crossed our area here on his way to inspect western army posts. It is said that he remarked, "Texas has more cows and less milk, more rivers and less water, and more bluffers and less money than any place on earth." He went on to say, "If I had a farm in Texas and a home in hell, I'd sell my farm and go home."

All joking aside, Texas is a pleasant place to live, and we who live here realize that it is somewhat in the public gaze; however, few of us buy our clothing at Neiman-Marcus, (the Marshall Field of Chicago) have twin airplanes marked "His" and "Hers", drive a Cadillac until the ash trays fill up, then trade for a new one, or own large ranches with oil wells all over them, but, generally speaking, ours is a prosperous state, though it does have many so-called draw-backs.

Our immediate area, Mr. Stare, is the youngest section in the State. Only a few years ago, it was strictly cattle, but today we are most prosperous. Hereford is one of the large vegetable producing areas in Texas, producing in the main potatoes, onions, lettuce, sugar beets, and carrots. Our area is irrigated with underground water, and the country is as flat as a pool table and treeless. The Hereford area had not come into its own as a vegetable producing area to any degree while you were interested in the Rio Grande Valley. (1934 to 1940.) However, we still have the large ranches. The old LE's and LS's that Mack Lee founded are still about as they were when he founded them. Only now the managers fly in airplanes and the camp houses have air conditioning. I can assure you that Mr. Lee would not know the surrounding area now, should he be allowed to return. But the flat grass land of a few years ago, has long since been put into cultivation.

Yes, Mrs. Garry of Denver is the daughter of A. E. Reynolds, former partner of Mr. Lee, but she has been unable to give me anything on the Lee side of the story. Lee & Reynolds had a violent quarrel the year that she was born, and the Lee's and Reynolds had nothing to do with each other after that. She did recall that Mrs. Lee and her mother had been the warmest of friends and that they had grown up with each other there on Ludlow street as she called it. It is strange that Lee & Reynolds would have such a fuss after having so close and so successful for all those years, but that is the way it was.

You realize, I know, how much help you have been to me on this project, but I certainly do not wish to impose further. If and when something comes along about Mr. Lee, I will appreciate your passing it along. At present, I am in much better shape regarding the story than I ever thought I would be.

Back to Reynolds for a moment. He died practically broke after amassing a tremendous fortune in gold in Colorado. Spent all of it trying to find more. Mrs. Garry is in comfortable quarters but not wealthy by any means.

I had a nice friendly letter from Mrs. Doland. Also I had a nice letter from Mrs. McCarthy of Portage but the bits that she included had been furnished already by you, Perry Lee's obituary and his real estate dealings there in Portage.

Back to your Texas background. With your son in Dallas, I know that you keep up with us here in Texas quite somewhat. I was in Southern Methodist University there in Dallas in the late 30's and Dallas was a city then, of course. But today, as you know, it is tremendous. The property that your family owned there is priceless today.

I most certainly enjoyed the history of your family.

Today I was over in the Old Lee Ranch and took pictures of the spot that he landed in West Texas. He bought out two German brothers who had a store and Post Office. The old building is in ruins today, but, to me, it is quite interesting. I was born and reared on a ranch here in the Panhandle, and was is why I enjoy the background of our ranching period.

Sincerely,
Joe H. Smith, Jr.
(To Be Continued)



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

HISTORY OF W. M. D. LEE (Continued)

May 1st, 1962

Today I mailed you a letter minutes before yours came to me.

About the Lee family tree. Mr. Lee, himself, of course, is the important one. I did so need to know the day of his birth and place, his marriage date, death, etc., and whatever else I could learn about him personally, his habits, size, and, above all, how it was that he teamed up with A. E. Reynolds.

The LS is such an old ranch and so many have been connected with it, that Mr. Lee is only one to be brought into the story. There is Lucien Scott, the Leavenworth banker whose story must be told, and the mayor of St. Louis once owned it, and his story must be told along with dozens of others. It is quite a project.

All of the information that you have furnished is most valuable because you have written history and know what is needed. I was most happy to get Mr. Lee's mother and father's background, etc.

Also I am now having copies of Mr. Lee's picture made and will send three of them along to you. It will be a few days yet on those, however.

I do not believe it necessary for either you, Mrs. Doland, or Mrs. Sanderson to delve further. If and when something should fall into your lap, I will appreciate your passing it along. But all of your have exerted yourselves enough.

Sincerely,
Joe H. Smith

The pictures referred to in the last previous letter were copies of the picture Mrs. Blumenthal sent to Mr. Smith, but she borrowed from Mrs. Sanderson, and to make sure that they would all have copies, we suggested to Mr. Smith that if he would like to keep the autographed picture he could do so provided he would have three copies made and send them to me for distribution. We also wanted it for possible identification of a charcoal enlargement which we have reason to think is of Mr. Lee.

May 9, 1962

LETTER FROM MR. SMITH

Your pictures should be ready within the next few days, and they will be mailed poste haste.

It appears now that we will not make the trip to Faribault due to a shift in summer plans for our son. I do know, however, that we will be headed that way soon, and I most certainly want to meet you and visit.

Mr. Stare, I have a book here that perhaps you would enjoy reading — are you a reader? It is a rather authentic history of our area, beginning in about 1840 and coming up to about 1900. It is well written and contains quite a bit about Mr. Lee aand his ranch operations, etc.

I wish that I could present the book to you, but it is now out of print, and I use it some for reference. However, I will be most happy to mail it to you for your reading upon receipt of a letter advising me. If you want to read it, I will include a map of Oldham County with places marked that will be referred to in the book, etc.

Most certainly I have enjoyed our visits via the United States mail, and I can certainly emphasize the fact that I never, in my wildest dreams, ever supposed that I would ever come up with such valuable information plus a photograph of Mr. Lee. By the way, I am hot on the trail of the girl that was adopted by Mr. Lee and his second wife. With any luck at all, I will have her address within weeks.

My best to you, and let me know about the book.

Yours very truly,
Joe H. Smith, Jr.

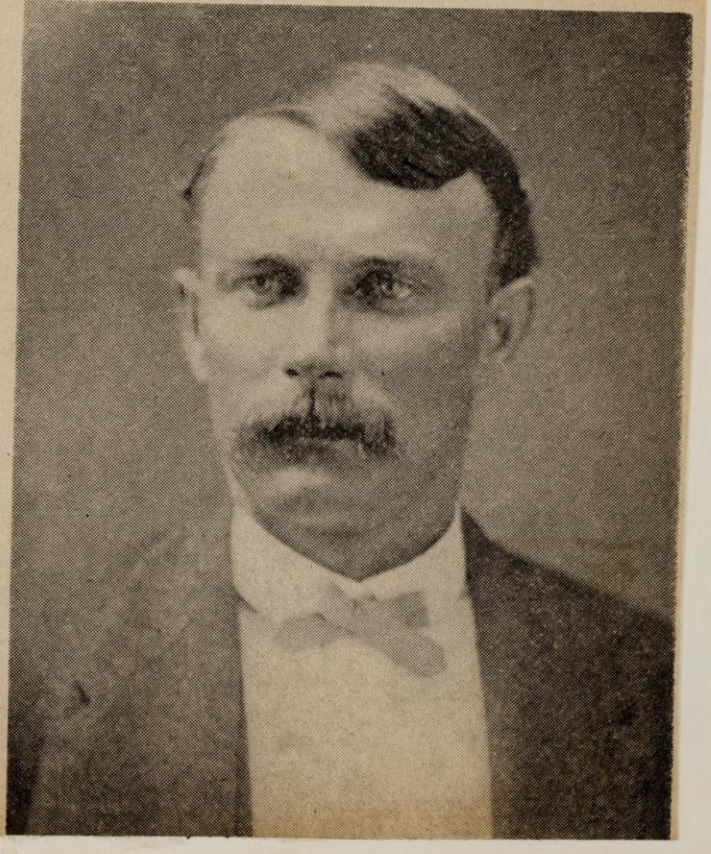
We expressed a desire to see the book referred to but as of late June 1962 it has not arrived nor have the three pictures.

The girl he refers to, he had never head of, but Mrs. Doland put him on the track; she would be a grown woman and may still be living.

August 8, 1962

Today I received your most interesting letter with the piece about Sir St. George Gore. It so happened that I wrote an article about his hunt many years ago, and it was published in — I believe Argosy. Perhaps W. M. D. Lee was acquainted with him. Wouldn't it be wonderful to know the many things that one would like to know. Then again, maybe it wouldn't.

I had a nice letter from Mrs. Doland. She must be a most gracious and stimulating woman. She had picked up a bit of information from a grand niece to the extent that Mr. Lee married his nurse, or the nurse who aided with the first Mrs. Lee and that his name was in reality William McDowell Lee, a point that you suggested might be the case. Remember.



The book is coming along slowly. However, I have alloted several years — possibly three more — to its completion. As you are aware through your experience as a historian and from helping me with my problem that this kind of work cannot be rushed.

I am now trying to run down something about the three Lee cowboys who were slain in the big gun fight at old Tascosa, Texas back on March 18, 1886. There are many conflicting facts or assumed facts regarding this gory episode. Maybe I didn't tell you, or perhaps I have, Mr. Lee was not too well liked among the old timers in this area. He was referred to as a "high handed" Yankee, but, or course, that day was not too far removed from the War Between the States, and being from Wisconsin, I am sure that some of the Southerners were not even tolerant of him. Then too, he was progressive and agressive and those two characteristics are never popular with the masses. But back to the story. Many believe that Mr. Lee hired gun fighters for the sole purpose of "rubbing out" the "little men", ets. I don't believe it.

My! How I have enjoyed our correspondence and making your acquaintance through the mails. Perhaps your never ending efforts in my behalf have opened up one phase of history that you never dreamed you'd be a part of.

My best to you, Mr. Stare, and I'll have the book to you in due time.

Sincerely,
Joe H. Smith, Jr.

(As of February, 1963, the book referred to has not arrived.)

(Continued next week)



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Installment No. 562
Thursday, May 3, 1963

LANGE-OSTRANDER AMERICAN LEGION POST 1920

In previous installments we have mentioned the organization of American Legion Post, named Lange-Ostrander Post No. 62 in which the complete roster of charter members were listed.

Also a little later the details of the organization of The Woman's Auxiliary, including the names of the charter members were given. These names in both cases were taken from the Columbus Democrat, and the items pertaining to the organizations were from the newspapers of 1920.

We now review the items pertaining to the Legion for the calendar year of 1920, and 1921.

The name Lange Ostrander chosen for the name of the Columbus Post was in honor of the first two Columbus soldiers who lost their lives in World War I.

First items of interest was in the issues of January 12th and 19th, 1921 from which we take only portions.

"Legion Conducts Military Funeral". The funeral of Albert Howard Ostrander who was wounded in action and died in France in June 1918, and whose body was returned here for burial, was conducted Sunday afternoon by members of Lange Ostrander Post of the American Legion No. 62.

The funeral was conducted in a military manner throughout and was most impressive.

Six ex-servicemen in uniform acted as pallbearers, carrying the flag draped casket to the entrance of the auditorium (second floor of the city hall) where members of Lange Ostrander Post with a firing squad were lined up in two columns, standing at attention, between which columns the casket was carried up to the front (stage) of the auditorium.

Captain E. J. Morrison, Post Commander spoke a few well chosen words in honor of the sleeping hero.

The Post Chaplain, W. F. Damler then read a prayer after which several very beautiful and touching songs were rendered by the Welsh Male Quartette and then a vocal solo by Mrs. William J. Evans, accompanied on the piano by Mrs. E. C. Oviatt.

The Columbus Band occupied the stage and rendered apropriate music suitable to the occasion.

Rev. LeRoy C. Partch, pastor of Olivet Congregational church (and also an army chaplain) preached a most eloquent and fitting sermon which will long be remembered by everyone of those in attendance.

The casket was then placed on a flag bedecked wagon (cassion) drawn by four horses to Hillside cemetery where the earthly remains of the loyal soldier of Uncle Sam were laid to rest with full military honors. The firing of three volleys and the blowing of taps at the grave concluded the services.

Albert Howard Ostrander was born No. 27, 1896 in the town of Columbus, Columbia County, Wisconsin. He graduated from Columbus high school in June 1914. He entered the University of Wisconsin on Sept. 23, 1917 and it was while at the University that he offered himself to his country as a National Guard on October 15, being sent to Jefferson Barracks (St. Louis), Mo. receiving his training at Camp McArthur, Waco, Texas. landing at Brest, March 4, 1918.

He was wounded in this action and was sent to the First Division, Company G. 28th Infantry, in the Cantigny sector at Montdider.

On May 27th his Company G went over the top in the sey, sent to Brest, France on the transport Covington,

In Feb. 1918 he was sent to Camp Merriott, New Jer-

His first combat service began May 14 and 15th in the battle of Soisson near Mortefontaine.

Howard was cited by his division commander Major General Summerall for "Gallantry in Action and Especially Meretorious Services".

evacuation hospital at Perresfonds, where he died. He was buried inside the French Civilian Cemetery in that place from which he was disinterred and brought to his home town.

The details of the second soldier honored by giving his life for which his name was a part of the Legion post was Otto R. Lange, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Lange which will be given later in this story of the local Legion Post as his body was not brought home until mid

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In the meantime we will pick up a few items in the interieum.

When the Legion was organized there was no suitable room available so they were offered the part time use of the quarters of the "1492" club which was located on the second floor of what is now the Sports Shop.

The "1492" club was a social organization made up of the younger men on a club basis as distinguished from a Lodge.

The Democrat of Feb. 9, 1921 carried a front page brief story as follows: "Legion Post Buys Club Furniture" "1492 club" popular here for many years has disbanded".

Lange Ostrander Post of this city put through a deal recently whereby it becomes the owner of the furniture and fixtures formerly owned by the "1492" club which has disbanded.

The Post also signed a lease for the club rooms and is now permanently located in rooms of its own.

The Post has shared the club rooms on a joint basis for sometime past, but owing to the high cost of the up keep and the rapidly decreasing membership of the original "1492" club it was decided to sell the furniture and fixtures and disband.

A set of by laws and regulations have been drawn up and a strict observance of the same, which includes the prohibition of gambling, will be rigidly enforced and an orderly club will be maintained at all times, each member endeavoring to keep up as good a reputation as the "1492 club" enjoyed.

Continued next week



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

Thursday, May 9, 1963
Installment No. 563

AMERICAN LEGION POST (Con't.)

As a "house warming" suitable for the occasion, the Lange Ostrander Post of the American Legion as soon as they were nicely settled in their new quarters, issued invitations to the veterans of three wars for a social evening.

Veterans of the war between the states (civil war) as given in the Democrat were High Hall, Lansing Williams, Robert Bell, A. Vanderpool, M. Trainor, Julius Engleke, M. Witte, Theron Edwards, W. Williams, Conrad Koblitz.

Veterans of the Spanish American War, as given, were Henry Altschwager, and Fred Kuechenberg.

Stories, smokes, eats and boxing mathces were indulged in from eight to midnight, after which Lansing Williams issued a challenge to Schaskopf players, which challenge was accepted, and a protracted game of schaskopf ensued.

The occasion served to bring these three military posts closely together and to prove that the spirit that sent all three organizations onto the field of battle in the spirit that engenders and stimulates the life of these organizations in times of peace.

(It should not be assumed that those mentioned is a complete list of Veterans living here, as there were other veterans not present.)

In the Democrat of March 2, 1921, Mr. George H. Landgraff of the State Board of Education, addressed the members of the Lange Ostrander Post of the American Legion on the Soldiers Education Bonus Law. In addition to several other subjects in which classes would be available without charge was that of a Legion Brass Band which was organized by twenty-four veterans signing up and in a few weeks there was a total of 53 taking instructions in instrumentation, out of which there was a flourishing Band practicing twice a week, under the instructions of Mr. Rolfe.

In the issue of April 27th the Legion announced the it would stage a home talent play entitled the "Dust of the Earth" under the direction of Miss Frances Morrison. Those taking part will be Ed Lindl, Yolanda Pietzner, Celia Dusell, William Quentmeyer, Walter Damler, Minnie Priem, Ernest Gruhn, Mills Rutherford, Milton Jones and Jessie Morrison.

The same issue Lans Williams, before a group of veterans of three wars gave a vivid description of his experience while a prisoner of war in Andersonville Prison. Shortly after Mr. Williams wrote a comprehensive history of Andersonville which was the recipient of a standard silk American Legion Banner. The Banner could well be the envy of any Legion Post, and it is hoped it will arrive in time to head the parade on Memorial Day.

It was a gift of Mr. A. M. Bellack.

The body of Corp. R. Lange whose name was designated as part of the name of Lange Ostrander Post of the American Legion, wa sbrought back from France, of the American Legion, was brought back from France,

The body arrived in Columbus Friday night, May 25th and the services were held on Sunday afternoon May 27, 1921.

The funeral services, which were most impressive were held at the home of his parents at 1:30 p.m. and at 2 p.m. at Zion's Lutheran church.

Eight members of the Legion Post in uniform acted as pall bearers and placed the casket, which was draped with the colors of his country, on a wagon drawn by four horses, and was escorted to the church and thence to Hillside cemetery, by the American Legion Band. The members of Lange Ostrander Post, which included a firing squad; and members of the Woman's Auxiliary, and the Woman's Relief Corps (Civil War women).

Rev. Nommensen conducted the services and preached a very fitting and touching tribute to the fallen hero. The services were completed at the grave by the firing of a salute and the blowing of taps over the final resting place of a true and noble citizen.

Otto R. Lange was born in Columbus Nov. 19, 1893 a son of Mr. and Mrs Julius Lange. He received his education in the Columbus schools and grew up to manhood here.

On May 15, 1917, a little over a month after the entry of the United States into World War I he enlisted in the U.S. Army and on August 2nd he was sent to Camp Douglas, Wisconsin.

On Sept. 24, 1917 he was transferred to Camp McArthur at Waco, Texas from where he left for France with company F 127th Infantry, 32nd Division February 1918.

While a member of that unit he saw much active service "going over the "top" a number of times, and finally was mortally wounded in action on Oct. 9th, 1918. He was taken to a hospital where he died four days later, at the age of 24 years, 10 months and 24 days.

The Legion Post continued to occupy the Club Rooms for several years. Meanwhile they purchased the lot on the corner of Ludington and Mill street expecting to build a club house with ample space for parking.

But as time passed and the members grew older and dropped out of it because it became apparent that there were not enough members sufficiently interested to go along with the idea.

The lot was acquired by the city as a parking lot, and the Legion purchased the Cook property at the top of the hill on James street, which was the Club Rooms for several years.

Only in recent years was it decided to dispose of the property which is now the office of the Hughes Company.

The Legion now holds their meeting in the Community Room of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, as does also the Legion Auxiliary.

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By E. A. STARE

The 'Story of Columbus" now presents the history of what is now the Farmers and Merchants Union Bank, which was founded by John R. Wheeler, grandfather of J. Russell Wheeler, who ran the bank from 1896 to 1925. He is still living in Milwaukee.

The notice of Mr. Wheeler's intention to open a bank in Columbus, as well as a similar notice that Mr. R. W. Chadbourn was like wise opening a bank, appeared in the Columbus Weekly Journal of September 5th, 1861, both on the same page.

THE FOUNDER, JOHN R. WHEELER, 1861-1873

"In The Beginning"

While Columbus had had a few private money loaners for several years earlier, a private bank called The Bank of Columbus was opened December, 1856.

Due to rapid shrinking of values of bonds of the southern states, as Civil War approached, the portfolios of many banks, being full of southern bonds, were unable to continue to operate. The Bank of Columbus was one of many banks in Wisconsin that could not re-open its doors in mid-summer of 1861.

THE UNION BANK

The time was ripe for a new bank. The Columbus Weekly Journal of Sept. 5, 1861, announced the opening of two new banks, the bank of Mr. R. W. Chadbourn, called the Columbus Bank, and the bank of John R. Wheeler, called the Union Bank, because he greatly admired Pres. Lincoln, and his determination to save the Union.

John R. Wheeler was well established in business in Western New York. After the sudden death of his wife, he came west where several brothers-in-law, named Rockwell, were already well established in the mercantile field and in banking in Milwaukee, Oconomowoc and Elkhorn.

Wheeler joined in organizing a second bank in Elkhorn, Wis., to gain more experience. After a year or two, learning from another brother-in-law, a lawyer, A. G. Cook, in Columbus, whose wife was a Rockwell, sister of Wheeler's late wife, that Columbus was a good opening for a bank, he moved his activities to Columbus, where he learned that another bank was also opening the same week.

Undaunted he moved his equipment into a small frame building on James St. belonging to his brother-in-law.

WHEELER'S EQUIPMENT

The books show that his equipment and the expense of coming from Elkhorn was as follows: Ink, pens and holders, $1.35; Knife, 90c; Two leather bound record books, $10.08; Letter press and express, $8.00; Safe, $157-.50; Letter press book, $2.00; Blank deposit books, one half dozen, 75c; Blank draft and note bonk $1.00.

Indicating that Mr. Wheeler was a man of few wants, here are a few personal items. Paid board at Elkhorn to Sept. 1st, $15.64; Tooth brush, 13c; Expenses to Columbus, $1.85; Paid Rountree for drawing and recording Eddy Deed, $2.00; Postage, 60c, Express, 75c, Paint brush and melon, 50c; Printing circulars, $3.00; Labor on safe, $1.00; Key, $1.00.

MARSHALL AND ILSLEY

Apparently Mr. Wheeler operated a private bank for about one year, but on Sept. 24th, 1862, the bank was incorporated as a state bank, and certificate issued authorizing the bank to engage in the business of banking under the name Union Bank.

It was at that time that Mr. Samuel Marshall, Madison; Mr. J. Adler Ellis, Madison, and Mr. Charles F. Ilsley, Milwaukee, became stockholders with Mr. John R. Wheeler, Columbus, all of whose names appear on the Certificate, which is framed and hangs on the wall of the present bank.

The signatures on currency issued bear the names of John R. Wheeler, President, and A. G. Cook, his brother-in-law, as Cashier.

CURRENCY RETIRED

The Civil War caused such a serious drop in the value of southern state bonds which secured the issue of bank currency, that the circulation became unprofitable, and Mr. Wheeler and his associates decided to retire their currency, after which Mr. Wheeler's Union Bank continued as a private bank until he sold his interests to Mr. Rockwell in 1872 or 73.

In 1870 he acquired a controlling interest in the First National Bank of Colorado Springs Colorado, which was then his home. His interest in the bank there was that he could provide adequate training for his only son John E. Wheeler, as a banker and business man when he the father, would no longer be able to carry on.

Mr. Wheeler had also started another bank, the St. Croix Valley Bank at Hudson, Wis., only a few months after the Union Bank. He had many other business interests which required his attention, so in 1866 his brother-in-law, Lester R. Rockwell, with several years of banking experience, came to Columbus to join with Mr. Wheeler in operating the Union Bank, and presumably acquired an interest in the Union Bank, and gave Mr. Wheeler more free time to attend to his many other business interests, reaching out as far as Kansas and Colorado.

WHEELER SELLS HIS INTEREST TO ROCKWELL

About 1872-3 Mr. Wheeler sold his interests in the Union Bank to Mr. Rockwell, and while there may have been other stockholders in the Bank, it was dominated and controlled by the Rockwell family, with Mr. Lester R. Rockwell as president. The bank was still called the Union Bank, still a private or family bank.

In January, 1884, Mr. Rockwell died and it was necessary to call in an experienced banker to assist in the closing of Mr. Rockwell's estate and carry on the operation of the Union Bank. Mr. John Edward Wheeler, son of the founder, John R. Wheeler, and

himself an experienced banker and president of the LaCrosse Exchange State Bank, was chosen.

Mr. Wheeler found the assets more than sufficient to meet the estate's liabilities and leave a substantial balance to add to the estate.

RE-ORGANIZATION AND CHANGE OF NAME

Meanwhile a re-organization and change of name of the bank was quickly made in order to continue the banking operations.

Mr. A. G. Cook, a brother-in-law of Mr. Lester R. Rockwell, became president, F. H. Rockwell, a nephew of Lester, vice-president, John E. Wheeler, nephew of two just mentioned and cousin of two, cashier, and Ruggles Rockwell, son of Lester, assistant cashier. The name of the newly re-organized bank was Farmers & Merchants Union Bank.

John E. Wheeler remained cashier for a brief period until he was satisfied that Ruggles Rockwell, with the able assistance of Mr. G. W. Sheppard, could carry on, thus permitting Mr. Wheeler to return to his own bank in La Crosse.

BANK COMES BACK TO WHEELERS

In 1896 John E. Wheeler had an opportunity to acquire the bank, which he did, thus becoming the owner of the bank started by his father, John R. Wheeler, in 1861.

The bank had been operating as a private bank. Its stock was held by the Wheeler-Rockwell and Cook families, and had been and still was, in effect, operating as a private family bank. In 1903 the bank became a state bank, no change in name.

THE FOUNDER

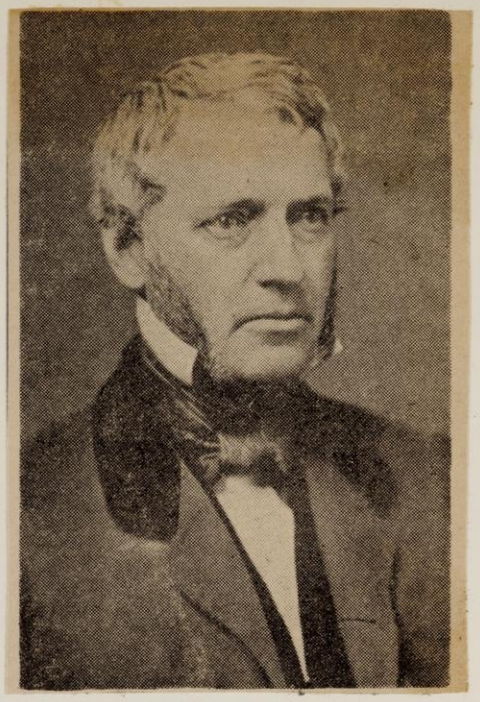
Mr. John R. Wheeler, the founder, was a banker of the old school, being himself an expert bookkeeper and accountant. His books, the early records of the Union Bank, on file in the vaults of the present Farmers & Merchants Union Bank, are models of precision and clearness. His penmanship looks like copper plate engraving, being what was once called "Spencerian".

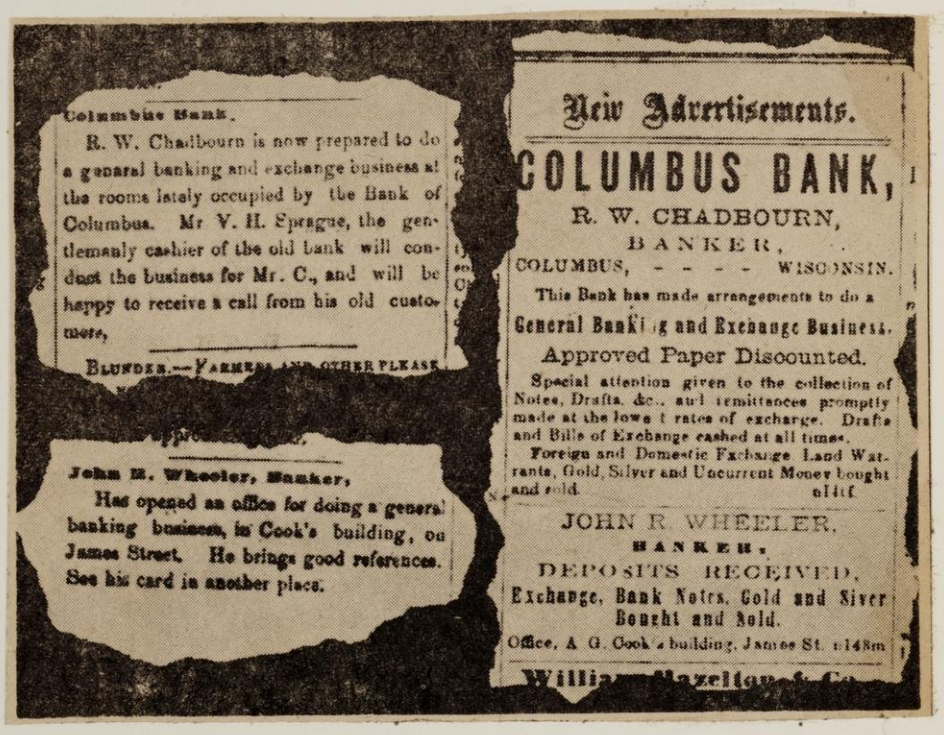
In his early career he once received first honor as having the best set of commercial and banking books in the State of New York.

He was a man of varied interests and accomplishments, had traveled widely; owned an extensive library of books; was of scholarly tastes, and spoke fluently three or four languages, including Spanish.

ACTIVE IN EPISCOPAL CHURCH

While he was a resident of Columbus, he was active in the small group of Episcopalians, who had started a society in 1860 but had no church house of their own until 1871 when the present little church was built at a cost of $3,000.00, largely supplied by Mr. Wheeler. It was, therefore, fitting that his body was brought from La Crosse to the little church reared largely because of his generous gifts. He died Sept. 18th, 1881, at the age of 65, and was interred in Hillside Cemetery, Columbus.





Columbus Bank.

R. W. Chadbourn is now prepared to do a general banking and exchange business at the rooms lately occupied by the Bank of Columbus. Mr V. H. Sprague, the gentlemanly cashier of the old bank will conduct the business for Mr. C., and will be happy to receive a call from his old customers,

BLUNDER.—FARMERS AND OTHER PLEASE

John R. Wheeler, Banker,

Has opened an office for doing a general banking business, in Cook's building, on James Street. He brings good references. See his card in another place.

New Advertisements.

COLUMBUS BANK,

R. W. CHADBOURN,

BANKER,

COLUMBUS, - - - - WISCONSIN.

This Bank has made arrangements to do a

General Banking and Exchange Business.

Approved Paper Discounted.

Special attention given to the collection of Notes, Drafts, &c., and remittances promptly made at the lowest rates of exchange. Drafts and Bills of Exchange cashed at all times.

Foreign and Domestic Exchange Land Warrants, Gold, Silver and Uncurrent Money bought and sold. n1tf

JOHN R. WHEELER,

BANKER,

DEPOSITS RECEIVED,

Exchange, Bank Notes, Gold and Siver Bought and Sold.

Office, A. G. Cook's building, James St. n148m



The Story of . . .
COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS UNION BANK

John E. Wheeler - J. Russell Wheeler

JOHN E.

John E. Wheeler, only son or child of John Russell Wheeler, the founder of the Union Bank of Columbus, Wis., in 1861, was closely connected with his father in all of his many business ventures, including banking, from the time he had finished school.

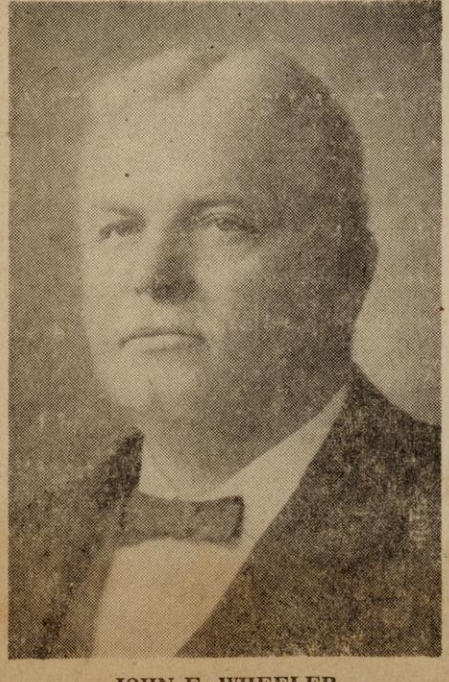
He was therefore well qualified to follow through and act for his father as decline of health gradually took place.

John E. lived in Colorado Springs, Colorado, a central point for various business interests. His father, John R., had moved to La Crosse, Wis., where much of his later business interests was concentrated

In 1886, two years after his father's death at La Crosse, John E. Wheeler moved to La Crosse, to more easily close up his father's estate. It is presumed that the Wheeler interests in the First National Bank of Colorado Springs had been disposed of. John E. became president of the Exchange State Bank of La Crosse, and so continued for about twenty-five years, or until his retirement from active business.

HE ACQUIRED THE BANK

In 1896, he had the opportunity to purchase the Union Bank at Columbus, which had been founded by his father, John R., which was undoubtedly one of the impelling reasons. Another was that he had always liked Columbus, and thought it would be a nice place to live as age crept up.



JOHN E. WHEELER

Practically all of the closing years of his life were spent in Columbus. He was a well known figure, with a wide range of friends, and highly regarded for his stable business qualities and great personal charm. He died in Columbus in 1917.

The Farmers & Merchants Union Bank was still a private bank, with a Capitol Stock of only $10,000 up to 1903, when it was incorporated as a State Bank with a Capital of $25,000, which amount was later increased to $50,000.00.

J. RUSSELL WHEELER

At the time of his father's death in 1917, his son J. Russell Wheeler became president. Also at that time it was thought wise to sell a limited amount of stock outside the family circle, in order to have a few business or professional men on the board of directors. Among the first from the "outside" were Guy V. Dering, produce, poultry, fuel, etc., store; Dr. L. A. Wright, a veterinarian surgeon widely known throughtout the state; Wm. L. Fritz, a prosperous active farmer, and Lawrence Holsten, a retired farmer, none of whom are living now; others later were Dr. A. J. Mudroch, Phil. Hudson, Clarence Wilker, Ed. Cullen, F. A. Stare, and others.



J. RUSSELL WHEELER

These men were selected because of their wide acquaintance, intimate knowledge of men and conditions, and their abiilty to perform the duties of directors of a State Bank. No small part of the progress of the bank over the years can be attributed to the devoted service of these early directors, and others to follow. At no time were all those mentioned on the board at one and the same time.

The building in which the bank was located and which was built by Mr. A. G. Cook in 1865, is now and for over forty years has been known as the Telephone Building. The small frame building in which the bank opened in Sept. 1861 was part of a store building torn down when the building now occupied by Columbus House Furnishings Co. was built about 50 years ago.

From 1896 to 1924 the history of the Farmers & Merchants Union Bank was necessarily closely identified with the record of the man who headed its activities, J. Russell Wheeler from 1896; president of bank from 1917 to 1925, he then having moved to Milwaukee when he was elected as vice-president of Banker's Joint Stock Land Bank.

Here is a good place to say that Mr. Wheeler had no first name, just the initial "J", as both of his grandfather's had given names which began with the letter J. to avoid any feeling of disappointment, he was named "J" for both of them.

J. Russell Wheeler received his early banking training in La Crosse, at first in the smaller Exchange State Bank of which his father John Edward Wheeler was president, and later in the much larger National Bank of La Crosse.

During his first years in Columbus, he busied himself with the mastery of the many details of the regular routine of the F & M Union Bank.

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GETS A BROADER VIEW

About 1910, while attending a convention, Mr. Wheeler was much impressed by an address delivered by Prof. R. A. Moore, then head of the Agronomy Department of the College of Agriculture, at the University of Wisconsin, on the subject of proper selection of seed and soil, and hence the increase in community prosperity and wealth that could be brought about by seed testing, as to germination.

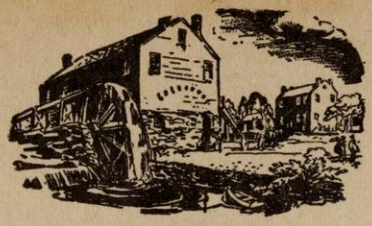
It may seem odd to present day master farmers, who have long used hybrid seed, practice crop rotation, and supplemented barnyard manure with intelligent use of commercial fertilizer and chemical weed killers, to learn of the trials and troubles their forebearers went through.

But as of the time we speak the idea of careful selection and testing for germination was brand new. Mr. Wheeler sensed its great possibilities, and resolved to strive to help bring about greater prosperity through better agriculture.

To Be Continued



WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

THE UNION BANK
1861-1873 an 1873-1896

In another sketch we have reviewed the first twelve years of the Union Bank founded by John R. Wheeler in September 1861 to 1873, when Mr. Wheeler sold his interests in the bank to his brother-in-law, Lester R. Rockwell, who had joined him in 1866 for the purpose of giving Mr. Wheeler more time to devote to several other business ventures, inclduing the St. Croix Valley Bank at Hudson, Wis., and a flourishing loaning and farm mortgage operation in Minnesota.

THE ROCKWELLS

The Rockwell family were pioneers in the Territory of Wisconsin as early as June 1837, as the writer has in his possession a letter written to Lester R. Rockwell, Milwaukee, Wisconsin Territory, bearing that date. This was before envelopes were in general use. The written letter was folded up to convenient size, sealed, and addressed. It was also before postage stamps, this letter being marked 25c where stamps are currently used, the upper right hand corner, to be paid by the receiver.

In the family of Ard. S. Rockwell and his wife, Betsy Shaw Rockwell, both buried at Hillside Cemetery, Columbus, there were four sons and four daughters, five of the family are buried in Columbus.

The two older sons, John S., born 1810, and LeGrand Rockwell, born 1812, came to the Territory in 1836 and engaged in general merchandise both wholesale and retail in Milwaukee, and later also in banking in Oconomowoc and Elkhorn. Neither of the above ever lived in Columbus, but John S. was the owner of a general store in Columbus (with resident manager), and lived at Oconomowoc where he had many interests, including the bank.

LeGrand went to Elkhorn, where he was a co-founder of the town, and also organized the Rockwell Bank.

The third son, Lester R., born in 1816, joined his brothers in Milwaukee in 1837, when twenty-one years old, and acquired a working knowledge of the general mercantile business, including book keeping.

When John S. and LeGrand established themselves in Oconomowoc and Elkhorn, it is believed that Lester continued to operate the Milwaukee store for a few years.

In 1845 John S. Rockwell was appointed United States Marshall for the Territory of Wisconsin, and appointed his brother Lester Deputy United States Marshall in charge of the south western part of the Territory and state, with headquarters at Platteville, Grant County. This area in Territorial days was the most heavily populated part of Wisconsin because of the lead and zinc industry being well established.

LESTER R. ROCKWELL

In 1857 Lester R. Rockwell was married to Miss Marie Page, teacher of music in Platteville Academy. They moved to Elkhorn, Wis., where he joined with his brother LeGrand Rockwell, and his brother-in-law, John R. Wheeler in organizing Elkhorn's second bank, the Rockwell Bank.

While John R. Wheeler was a partner, he was still active in business in New York State, and did not move to Elkhorn until a couple of years later, but Lester R. Rockwell was the active banker. After the death of his wife in New York, John R. Wheeler closed out his affairs in New York State and came to Elkhorn, and became active in the Rockwell Bank of which he was a partner until he moved from Elkhorn to Columbus.

Lester R. Rockwell remained in Elkhorn until 1863, when his oldest brother, John S. Rockwell of Oconomowoc, died, making it necessary for Lester to move to Oconomowoc, as administrator, to settle the estate of his brother.

The estate must have been large and involved for it took three full years to complete the work. In April 1866 Lester Rockwell moved to Columbus, joining his brother-in-law, John R. Wheeler, as a partner in the Union Bank.

Late in 1872 or early in 1873 Rockwell acquired the interest of John R. Wheeler, who desired to move to Colorado to be close to his various projects in Kansas and Colorado.

Lester R. Rockwell became president of the Union Bank, and while there may have been other members of the Rockwell, Wheeler and Cook families who were silent partners, all were related through marriage, and it was operated as a private family bank, but still called the Union Bank.

Mr. Rockwell died January 18th, 1884, making it necessary to bring in an experienced banker to administer and settle the estate of Lester Rockwell.



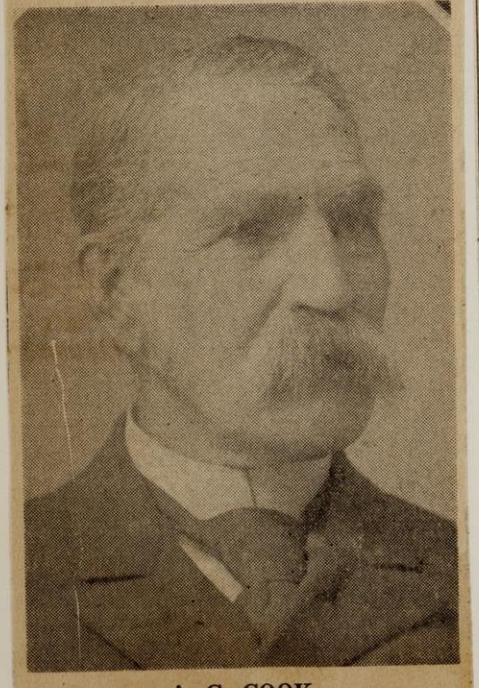
LESTER R. ROCKWELL



RUGGLES ROCKWELL

Mr. John Edward Wheeler, a nephew of Mr. Rockwell, who was then president of the Exchange State Bank of La Crosse, was chosen, and in only a few days reported that after a careful examination, the estate could pay all creditors promptly and leave a substantial amount to add to the estate.

A re-organization was quickly effected, in which the name was changed by adding Farmers and Merchants to Union Bank, with lawyer A. G. Cook of Columbus as president, F. H. Rockwell, second son of John R. Rockwell of Oconomowoc, vice president, John E. Wheeler, cashier, and Ruggles Rockwell, son of Lester Rockwell, assistant cashier.



A. G. COOK

The affairs of the former Union Bank were wound up, the depositors paid in full: The Farmers & Merchants Union Bank was off to a good start. Mr. Wheeler remained long enough to be sure that Ruggles Rockwell with the assistance of President A. G. Cook and Mr. G. W. Sheppard, an able and worthy man, could carry on.

The bank carried on without any material changes of note for twelve years when the bank came back to the Wheeler family.

Ruggles Rockwell, who outside of banking hours, was pretty much an out of doors man, being deeply interested in horses, especially trotting horses, perhaps because of being close friends with the Roys Brothers, old time breeders of fast horses. He also raised hunting dogs and loved to hunt, being a close friend of Guy Dering.

Ruggles had a keen desire to go west, pick up land as his ancestors had done; hence his desire to sell the bank. John E. Wheeler was a willing buyer, because he had three sons, one of whom desired to become a banker, as had his father and grandfather.

Ruggles did not immediately go west to stay, but along with a few Columbus friends went west to "look and see" a project in Idaho in which the U.S. Government was offering claims under what was known as the "Stone and Timber Act". It is said that all of them entered claims. The other three came back as the west was too wild for them. However, Rockwell went as far as Pasco, Washington, but came back too.

About 1903 he went to Sprauge, Washington, and became interested in a bank there. Later he entered the employ of the U.S. government at Olympia, Wash. Some years later he moved to Seattle, Wash., where he died.

This was the last of the Rockwells as far as Columbus is concerned.

We found no record that Ruggles was ever president. He may have been, or it could be that his uncle, A. G. Cook, retained the presidency until the bank came back to the Wheelers.

TO BE CONTINUED

WHEN GRANDPA WAS A BOY



The Story of . . .

COLUMBUS

By F. A. STARE

TOWN AND COUNTRY

There was the further conception that town and country were but parts of one enlarged community in their interests, and that to add to increased farm production would be to also add to the prosperity of business and profesisonal men, including bankers.

Mr. Wheeler was not a farmer, but he set out to learn more about this very interesting problem. He studied, investigated, accumulated facts, and visited his farmer friends and sought to interest them in the new idea. He even bought the old family farm near Elkhorn to use as a demonstration farm.

Then, as usually happens when a man begins to do constructive thinking, other constructive ideas presented themselves.

The Columbus area was part of an excellent dairying region, and he noted that the owners of some herds seemed to be much more prosperous than others.

Mr. Wheeler learned with astonishment the tremendous difference in remunerative value between scrub cows and poor bulls on many farms and well-bred animals on others, and he set about to campaign for stock improvement, greater production of milk per cow, higher butter fat, and better marketing procedures.

He learned that the U.S. Department of Agriculture and our State College of Agriculture were spending thousands of dollars in experimental work, reports of experiments, and dissemination of information, in a constant effort to add to the intelligence of farmers to secure greater productiveness of their farms.

True, there were Dairy Associations, Farmers Institutes, Short Courses, and other efforts to educate, but so far as Wheeler could learn, there had been little, if any, efforts by bankers to finance the purchase of more and better dairy cows. The great difficulty was to reach and convince individual farmers, and right there is where Mr. Wheeler and the Farmers & Merchants Union Bank got into action. Here was real work to be done. It was the beginning of what became known as the Banker-Farmer Movement, which in the following ten years grew to large proportions in Wisconsin and the nation.

Mr. Wheeler was not merely a participator in, but was an active and ecceptive leader in the movement.

SOME GENERAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

In 1912 Mr. Wheeler was appointed Chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the Wisconsin Bankers' Association, serving in that capacity for three years. In the meantime, in 1913, at a national Conference of Bankers interested in agriculture, held in Kansas City, Mr. Wheeler's presentation of the virtues and possibilities of the new banker-farmer movement was so convincing that when these bankers, along with others, met at the Boston Convention of the American Bankers' Association, later in the year, he was named as one of the seven members of the new Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers' Association. He was re-appointed each year during the duration of World War I.

In 1916 he was chosen President of the Wisconsin Bankers' Association, serving in that capacity during the strenuous early war organization period of 1917.

In April, 1917, he was appointed by Governor Phillip, as a member of the State Council of Defense, upon which he served continuously to the end of World War I.

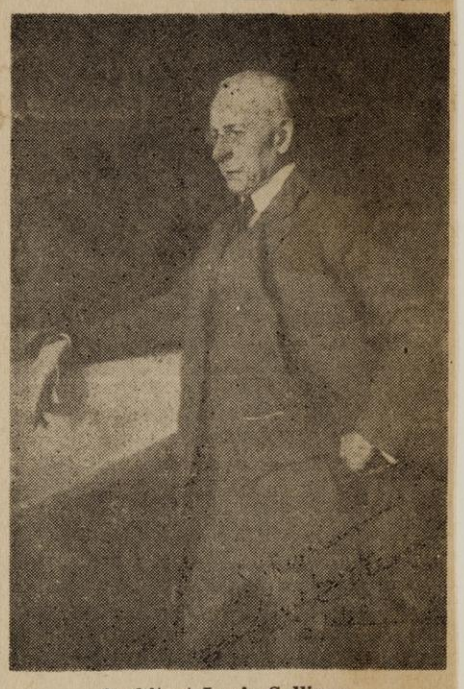
F. & M. UNION BANK WAR ACTIVITIES

During the war period, the F. & M. Union Bank was active in promoting war work, and over-subscribed its quota of U.S. Certificates of Indebtedness. In the Fourth Liberty Loan the total amount of bonds subscribed and paid for through his bank was $215,000.00 and in all the four loans the bank's customers subscribed approximately $750,000.00, the equivalent of the entire resources of the bank at the time.

FROM THE WISCONSIN BANKER & MANUFACTURING

An article in the Wisconsin Banker and Manufacturer of that period says:

"Through the close association of its president, J. R. Wheeler, in the Banker-Farmer movement, the Farmers & Merchants Union Bank of Columbus, has taken a leading part in stimulating agricultural development. Although all the activities of a bank or banker in relationship with rural



Architect Louis Sullivan

customers cannot well be tabulated, the following is a list of some of the things done by the Columbus F. & M. Union Bank:

"It helped organize two annual farmers' short course weeks in Columbus.

"It conducted two annual dairy trips by automobile through the southern Wisconsin dairy country.

"It helped to organize the Columbus Dairy Improvement Association, and the Columbus Cow Testing Association.

"It helped to organize the Columbia County order of the Wisconsin Experimental Association.

"It escorted farmers to Banker-Farmer Conferences at Madison.

"It distributed many bulletins of state council of defense on increased food production.

"It circulates approximately 1,000 Wisconsin Bankers' farm bulletins every month, and did so monthly for several years.

"It assists farmers in farm accounting.

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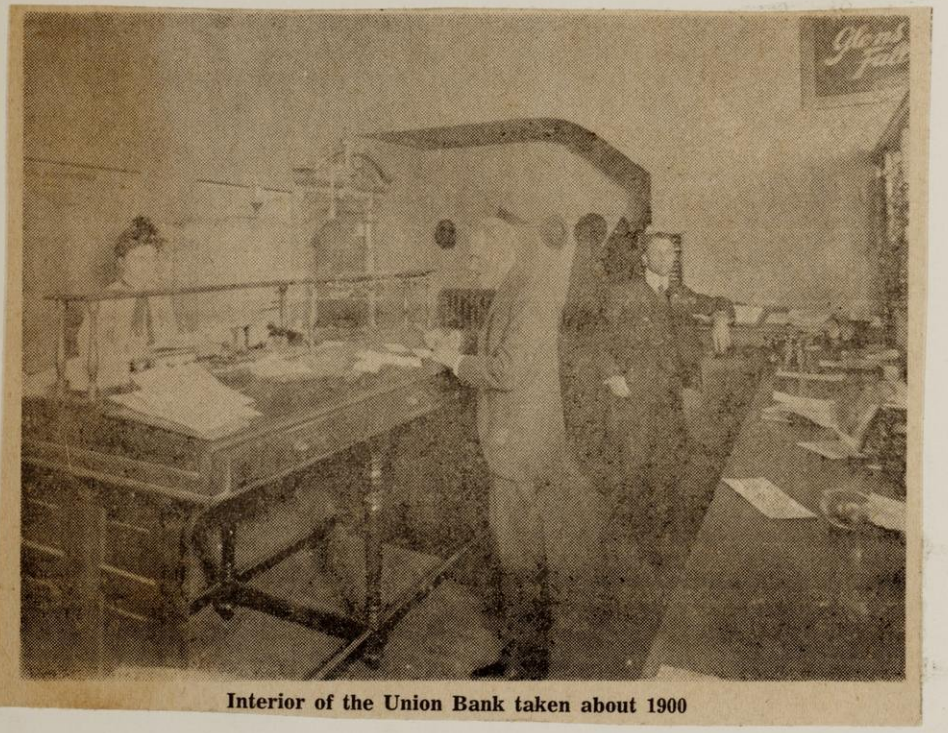
"It assists farmers in entering the short course of the college of agriculture.

"It supplies farmers with special bulletins whenever called upon to do so, and supplies bulletins of the College of Agriculture of Wisconsin at all times."

The above gives but a mere suggestion of the labor and ceaseless effort involved in this program of the F. & M. Union Bank and its president, Mr. Wheeler. Many thousands of miles of travel over country roads, thousands of conferences, numberless hours spent in investigation, discussion, persuasion, organization, and all that goes into the projection of new plans and ideas.

It was Mr. Wheeler who organized the first Banker-Farmer Conference which was held at Madison, Wisconsin, in 1916. And, his enthusiasm never waned, nor his conviction or faith weakened. The work went on with ever increasing momentum."

While Mr. Wheeler has not lived in Columbus for nearly forty years, and retired from business activities many years ago, he is still living in Milwaukee at 2728 N. Maryland Ave. as this is written early in 1961.



Interior of the Union Bank taken about 1900

BUILDING THE NEW FARMERS' AND MERCHANT' UNION BANK 1919-20

"The new F. & M. Union Bank stands just across the street facing the old Union bank building, occupied by the bank since 1865, before which it was in a small frame building on the same street torn down about 1910. The location was near enough to the old location to be readily identified with it. To have moved farther away would have been to mar somewhat this identity of the new F. & M. with it predecessor of so many years' standing. It occupies a corner as before, but a corner just across the street.

Charles A. Stevens, founder of the great millionaire mercantile firm of that name in Chicago, was a crank on the subject of location. He said, "Locate where the greatest number of people can reach you quickly and easily. Then the same efforts will produce much greater results, and if your merchandise merits it, your possibilities will be limited only by your capacity to do business".

The Farmers' & Merchants' Union Bank of Columbus is a fine example of the applicatio nof this principle. It is adjacent, at hand, convenient. There is no break of ten or fifteen feet of space to cross before reaching it from the street; there are no steps to climb; the floor of the bank is practically on the same level with the sidewalk. You merely turn aside, push a door slightly, and are within the bank at once and without preliminary.

The bank is located at the corner of James and Broadway, (now Dickason Blvd.), a civic center of the city. Across Dickason, with its attractive boulevard and monument, is the city library, another beautiful building; diagonally across is the City Hall; and immediately adjacent on both sides of James Street are the city's main business blocks. The bank's location is exceptional not alone in the fact that the main currents of the city's life touch it constantly, but in the further fact that its outlook commands wide spaces, and that it has a certain definiteness and individuality of place without losing any of that close contact with the business district essential to its needs as a bank.

When the old quarters, the present Telephone Building, which became less and less equal to the demands upon them as the interests and business of the bank grew, and when some special difficulty growing out of restricted space or unsatisfactory arrangement or inadequate equipment, presented itself, J. R. Wheeler would say, "O well, when we build our new bank, we'll have all this changed."

And through a score of years, notes and sketches and plans grew as the needs manifested themselves. And not only so, but as other banks in this and other states were visited, the ever accompanying notebook made record of observed features of advantage and disadvantage.

Now, among the many banks visited at various times, were some designed by the noted architect, Louis H. Sullivan. The originality, adaptableness to banking purposes, without too much regard to cramping traditions, of these buildings made so deep an impression that there came a day when in the architect's Chicago office, Mr. Russell Wheeler, banker, and Mr. Louis Sullivan, architect, discussed possible lines of construction for the new Columbus Farmers' and Merchants' Union Bank.

Then Mr. Sullivan came to Columbus to get the environment of the proposed building, realizing that such a structure must harmonize not alone with its purposes and uses as a place of business, and with the plans and ideas of the builders, but also with the space to be occupied and with the surroundings.



Corner View Of Farmers & Merchants Union Bank

Then, with this setting in mind, with the limits of length, width and height determined, and with the demands of twenty-five years of banking experience, investigation, and tested conclusion concerning the essentials of spacing, arrangement, equipment and general essentials furnished by Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Sullivan went back to his office to shape a design for the bank.

It was no less a character than the great Napoleon ho said, "The vice of our modern institutions is that they have nothing which appeals to the imagination". This has been peculiarly true of banks. They are fundamentally conservative, and in their architecture, until in recent years, have clung tenaciously to the old, set forms, resisting modern influences, however improving such influences might be in the features of convenience and attractiveness. These fixed and formal conceptions have been so much the rule in bank construction that the public has come to associate certain unvarying lines with bank buildings.

But, while demanding the utmost of the practical and the serviceable, and while insisting upon an economy consistent with the established principles of bank building expenditures, Mr. Wheeler put aside outgrown traditions, and gave the genius of a great bank architect free scope in the designing of a building, not new, for the sake of newness, nor original for the sake of originality, but new and original for the sake of superior serviceableness and beauty.

And, why not? Is there any reason why the men and women of the smaller city and the country about it should not have the best for their service and seeing when they have occasion to do business at a bank? What is genius for, if not for their service of the people who do the world's work, and carry on the world's business?"

We are often asked, "who was Louis H. Sullivan?" It is not at all surprising that in this day and age most people have no close contact with Architects, Sculptures, Artists, Writers, Professors, and the like. In fact that was equally true when Sullivan was at the height of his artistic career in his chosen profession, and it is equally true of thousands of other brilliant artists in any field.

It was not until 1956, the 100th anniversary of his birth, that some one, or some group or guild, brought the name Sullivan back from the unknown, and introduced him again to the public, although it was an almost completely different public.

To Be Continued

We quote here a tribute to Mr. Sullivan printed in 1956 in the Columbus Journal-Republican, taken from the Chicago Tribune:

100th ANNIVERSARY OF
LOUIS H. SULLIVAN

"Chicago newspapers and the Burnham Library of Architecture of the Art Institute in Chicago are calling attention to the fact that September 3rd marked the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Louis H. Sullivan, Chicago Architectural genius, who died in 1924."

"He was not well known outside the "great living creative spirit" which is architecture but scores of his buildings stand in Chicago and elsewhere to remind us of his creative genius."

"Frank Lloyd Wright, known by name and fame all over the world, and who in his early life, occupied a draftsman's desk in Sullivan's office, has said, "I always called him master."

"To list all of his buildings would be tedious, so only two in Chicago were mentioned in the Chicago Tribune of September 3rd, the great Auditorium Hotel and Theater, at Michigan Ave. and Congress, designed in 1887-89, now the home of Roosevelt College, and the beautiful store of Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co., at State and Madison, designed in 1899 and built in 1903-4."

"In the later years of his life, after he had retired as far as huge buildings are concerned, but was still dreaming of beautiful buildings, he turned to designing small country banks, which he referred to as Jewel Boxes. That is how we happen to have the fifth and last Jewel Box of a bank of his designing right here in Columbus."

"The Farmers and Merchants Union Bank was designed and building was begun in 1919 and finished in 1920, only a few years before his death."

"The Guggenheim Foundation, a few years ago, commissioned John Szarkowski to take innumerable photographs, both exterior and interior, of the bank, some of which are now on exhibition in the bank, for those who care to look at them during banking hours."

"Students of architecture from the University, are frequent visitors. The general public may not be aware of the story behind this building, which is one reason we are joining in the 100th Anniversary of the birth of the genius who designed it for Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Wheeler, for it was Mrs. Wheeler who had the inspiration to engage Mr. Sullivan when her husband had decided to build this beautiful structure."

Almost countless books written by him, and about him, and about his work have been written in the past decade. One of them entitled "Louis Sullivan as He Lived" was written and published in 1960, and from a brief review of it we take a few lines.

"Who is Louis Sullivan?" "An artist of unique gifts, a passionate romantic, a daringly imaginative architect, whom Frank Lloyd Wright called "beloved master". Louis H. Sullivan is still completely unknown, (in his own country,) but widely known in Europe.

Even less is known of his fascinating personal story. In the life of Chicago during the raw era when the city was being rebuilt after the great fire, and the skyscraper was being born (a creation of Sullivan), Louis Sullivan was an imperious man, uncompromising in his principles, a man of large appetites and fiery distructive temper, destined to live through both supreme artistic triumphs, and one of the bitterest personal tragedies in America's cultural history.

"Genius the master had, or rather, genius had him", Frank Lloyd Wright has written: "Genius possessed him. It revelled in him, and he squandered it".

Earl yin his career he employed as

Early in his career he employed as named Frank Lloyd Wright, who became, as Mr. Wright later said "the pencil in his hand".

Sullivan reached the pinacle of success in his chosen field. Sullivan was credited with the designing of well over 150 different buildings, which could have been a much larger number had it not been for his explosive temper, which brought him to poverty.

And this is the spirit in which Mr. Sullivan worked. Genius is not alike, but different, and the designing pen of this architect, like the ship of Columbus, finds its proper place only in new territory. Therefore, the Farmers & Merchants Union Bank, of Columbus, Wisconsin, the fifth and last bank designed by Mr. Sullivan is of brand new design, and has no duplicate nor counterpart in all the wide world. This bank was the last building of any kind that he designed.

Nearly seventy years ago the Transportation Building at the World's Fair, and in the late eighties the great Chicago Auditorium, and later the "fretted shafts" of the Guarantee Trust Building attested Mr. Sullivan's originality as an architect. Since 1907 he designed four or five other banks, each a new triumph of structure, color and form.

Mr. Wheeler was not satisfied with the merely conventional and ordinary: He desired for the bank and for Columbus a building which should represent the best design that the best architectural ability of the day could devise. He found Mr. Sullivan, with the result now seen, a building whose practical serviceableness, artistry and individuality put it into a class by itself.

For its departure from the usual, as well as for much of the artistic interior coloring, and other features connected with the building, a special tribute is due Mrs. J. R. Wheeler, who was also responsible for the initial interview with Mr. Sullivan at Chicago, and who supplied the extra courage needed by Mr. Wheeler to go o nin the face of the especial difficulties involved in constructing a building with a scope so extended and along lines so new and original as to appear radical. It should here be said that the building was built by the Wheelers as individuals as the bank at that time was not strong enough to own so expensive a home.

The bank attests the fact that the day has gone by when the great cities alone have a monopoly of the country's architectural genius. This building has none of the somber dignity and mausoleum-like chill that sometimes characterizes such institutions. Both the style of construction and the very exceptional color design give warmth and spaciousness and life.

Whether approaching the center of the city along the treebordered sweep of James Street, or via the broad areas of Dickason, and whether by day or by night, the eye is seized and held by the brilliant beauty of the Dickason side of the F. & M. Bank. The long series of arched windows with their exquisite coloring at first startle and then charm the sight with their exquisite coloring at first startles and then charms the sight with their perfect beauty of color and form.

PITTSBURGH LANDING or "SHILO"

While this sketch is being written in the early part of April, 1962, newspapers all over the United States are printing articles about the battle one hundred years ago, a part of the five year centennial observation of that mighty struggle.

It will be some weeks before the sketch will be published, and our reason for doing a great deal of research about the battle of Pittsburgh Landing, or Shiloh, which are one and the same is that an unusually large number of volunteers in 18th Wisconsin Infantry came from Columbus and other nearby townships, as will be seen as we work our way through events leading up to that particular battle, said by many historians to have been the heaviest in killed, wounded, and missing on both sides, the Unionists and the Confederates, of any battle, anywhere up to that time.

It will be our effort to give the story a local flavor, compiled from many different sources of information, including three different published histories, plus items from our local paper of that period, and a vivid personal letter to his wife, in Columbus, written by Captain W. A. Coleman, Co. I, Wisconsin 18th Infantry, who survived the battle.

From the Nov. 1st, 1861 issue of Columbus Journal-Republican, we take the following:

PATRIOTIC APPEAL

Commissions having been granted to the undersigned to raise a company of Infantry for the War, we appeal to the friends of the government to aid us in our work.

It is the purpose of the undersigned to enlist only men of good character and associations of the camp and the soldiers life may be sound and healthful.

As soon as forty men of the right stamp are enlisted, the company will be put in quarters at the expense of the state.

The undersigned purpose, when a sufficient number of men have been enrolled, to surrender their commissions and leave the soldiers to elect their own officers (which was the custom in the early months of the war).

As it is the design to make this a choice company, such a company as Wisconsin may be proud of, we earnestly and confidentially ask the cooperation of all good citizens in aid of the enterprise.

W. A. Coleman, Ira Ford, C. A. Southmayd

Dec. 11, 1861

The paper prints a patriotic appeal signed by W. A. Coleman, Capt. Lewis Rangers. Lack of space will prevent reproducing it, except for the opening paragraph.

"Why do you need to be reminded of the Nation's Cry to Arms! You have heard and yet you tarry."

The same appeal appeared one week later.

The issue of the Journal Republican of January 8, 1862 records patriotic meetings in th Welsh settlement, in an effort to procure enlistments in Lewis Rangers—speakers G. W. Hazelton and George Griswold and in Lowell, William Dutcher and J. F. Hazelton.

The paper of January 22, 1861 said "Hiram L. Randall, late foreman in this office, has joined the Lewis Rangers, a company formed in this town, and now in Camp at Milwaukee, forming one of the companies of the Wisconsin 18th Regiment. By a late army regulation, all commissioned officers are obliged to wear sky blue pants, the same as privates.

The uniforms will be introduced among the companies of the 18th this week.

The Lewis Rangers have elected for commissioned officers, W. A. Coleman, Captain; Ira Ford and O. A. Southmayd, Lieutenants. They were unanimously elected and have received their commissions.

The captain and lieutenants richly merit this compliment; they have spent time and spared no means in raising a company which the citizens of Columbus need feel proud of."

The following week the captain and lieutenants were back in town, installing Lt. Southmayd as recruiting officer with headquarters at Hotel Whitney.

Editor's note: (both Lieutenants from Columbus. Cap-Ford in Hampden and Southmayd fro mColumbus. Captain Coleman may have been a newcomer, probably an experienced recruiting officer sent here. We have searched a great deal but find nothing more than mentioned, except one uncalled for letter at the P.O.

The issue of Feb. 26, 1862 printed the following:

Camp Trobridge, Milwaukee, February 22. Dear Journal: At last I attempt to pen a few lines for the perusal of your readers. The Lewis Rangers have been comfortably quartered in the barracks at Camp Trobridge since Thursday, the 13th.

Six companies are in camp and three others in the city which will come here in a day or two. Yesterday the 18th appeared on dress parade for the first time, though last Monday, on the receipt of intelligence of the surrender of Fort Donaldson, the Regiment formed in line and marched about the city; every one acquisced in giving us the credit of doing exceedingly well — and without exaggeration we did do a good job of marching.

Last Thursday evening, Capt. Coleman (Company I) announced to the company that he (and his company) had been summoned to appear the next day (yesterday) on dress parade, an dthat it was eminently necessary that the non-commissioned officers be elected; whereupon a motion was made to leave it with the Captain to make the appointments, which was unanimously carried.

Yesterday Capt. Coleman announced the following named persons as the officers.

Sergeants — Rensler Cronk, S. C. Alban, Peter McIntyre, Fred A. Brewer and H. L. Randall.

Corporals — Peter Mead, A. J. Herring, C. C. Devore, Thomas Laskey, B. W. Shaver and E. M. Haigt.

The company not being quite full the Captain thought it advisable not to appoint all the Corporals at present.

The Rangers are prospering finally. Only a few days since, seven were sworn in at once. A few more able bodied men are wanted and no better inducements are offered than by Lewis Ranger.

The sanitary condition of the company, as well as the Regiment is good: two of our company reported sick with the measles; four others had slight colds.

At some future time I will send you a list of the members of the company for publication (signed) Gorham.

In the same issue February 26th there is a "display ad" from Recruiting Officer Southmayd of which the pay of a private soldier is given as follows: U.S. pay in gold $13.00; U.S. pay in board, gold $12.00; U.S. pay in gold for clothing $3.50; medical U.S. pay in gold fifty cents. State of Wisconsin pay for men of family $5.00; total $34.00.

In the weekly Journal of March 12th there is over a column, a very interesting letter about camp life, from a writer signing himself as M. Quad (which identifies he was a printer); but lack of space forbids except the paragraph as follows.

"The Lewis Rangers are progressing finely. Fifteen were mustered in on last Saturday and the Rangers now muster ninety men mustered into the United States service and inspite of the company's enemies will in a few days number 101 men and has not been spliced in with another company.

Come along, boys, you will not be distributed among other companies. The Lewis Rangers will occupy a prominent position in the 18th.

Nothing more in local paper later than March 12. No doubt the Rangers got marching orders.

To be continued

The 18th Wisconsin, suffered seventy officers and men wounded, some mortally. Company I of which Capt. A. Coleman and botr Lieutenant Ford and Southmayd were from the Columbus area lost four killed, sixteen wounded and twenty one prisoners.

There are one hundred twenty two shown on the Roster of Columbia County as enlisting in Co. I, since there were only 101 in the company when it left Milwaukee, the twenty one overage must have been "fill ins" to other companies.

The 18th Wisconsin was put into the front of this great battle just one week after the regiment left Milwaukee; some of the men had never seen more than four battalion drills and some had never loaded a musket until forty hours before. They had been promised drill and discipline in St. Louis, but moved on at once to Grant's headquarters at Savannah, Tennessee and from there to Pittsburgh Landing.

On the boat they had suffered for want of room and food and had not time to completely encamp on the field before the battle began. Drawn up in line as the enemy advanced, their dark forms, standing in bold relief against the white tents that had been erected in the general camp, were an inviting and sure mark to the advancing troops fro mthe south..

Besides, one adjoining regiment being without ammunition, for which they were not to blame for the retreat that followed, it put the 18th Wisconsin on the spot, as they were immediately flanked, were forced to fall back under the fierce onslaught of the double exposure, both front and flank. The regiment's loss was 24 killed, 82 wounded, and 174 taken prisoner.

The losses for the battle, as published in Love's History of Wisconsin in the War, printed in 1866 are as follows: Federals, 1,735 dead, 7,882 wounded and 3,596 taken prisoner, total 13,573.

Confederate: 1728 killed; 8,012 wounded and 950 missing total 10,699.

PITTSBURGH LANDING STORY (completed)

General Grant's failure to entrench prior to the battle (but how could he with every road wet or flooded) got him in great trouble witr his superior General Halleck, back in St. Louis. Halleck may have been a good "desk" general, but he seemed to be very jealous of Grant in the field. While Grant was not actually relieved of command, his freedom of action was greatly impaired, by Halleck leaving his secure spot in St. Louis and coming to take over supreme command of all Union forces in the west, in person, with Grant still in command of the army of the Tennessee.

The next big campaign must be Corinth where the Confederates totaled 65,000 behind strong entrenchments.

Halleck brought up Pope's Federal forces from Island No. 10 after its capture and now had three armies, totaling 90,000 that of Pope, Buell and Grant.

"If Grant erred in not entrenching his army at Pittsburgh, (and his own Division Generals did not think it was a mistake) Halleck now went to the other extreme". Enroute toward Corinth, he hardly stopped for a night without throwing up fortifications (the ground was dry now) and clearinv the ground for battle. One historian wrote "he cast up extensive entrenchments, running for miles, and in one place we passed, he cleared a heavy forest of 1000 acres of heavy hard wood timber."

General Grant when he was again restored to power and Halleck was retired did not, for some reason, follow his critic's idea of entrenching, but used the flanking method. However Corinth is another story.

THE END

"OLD ABE"

Poem composed by Walter R.-Bussewitz, a senior of the Juneau high school, on the destruction of "Old Abe" in the State Capitol fire at Madison Feb. 17, 1904.

Ye men, now old and gray,
  Ye men, who wore "the blue"
Can ye recall the day
  When high above ye flew
Old Abe?

Can your hearts still recall
  Those keen delights which came
When ye heard that war call
  Of this proud bird of fame?

Emblem of Liberty!
  Your true hearts grandest pride!
'Twas even more o'er cried
Old Abe.

In battle, shot and shell
  Could ever harm that bird!
Wherever "blue coats" fell
  Was his loud crying heard.

How oft he soared on high
  And yet to victory led!
Cheered by his battle cry
  Ye fought e'en though ye bled
Old Abe.

How oft a mark for foe!
But then—for them 'twas vain,
He screeched both high and low,
  Glorifying his loved name.

But peace soon came—four years,
  Then was his duty done,
And oft ye gave "three cheers"
  For him who battles won—
Old Abe.

He still lived on and then
  His spirit took its flight—
But yet, it's here, as when
  It hovered o'er the fight.

Ye held his body dear
  A relic ye made him
And thousands gazed each year
  Awed, reverent on him.
"Old Abe"

The bird ye thought Heaven sent
  Was hero still, of war
The years came and they went,
  His fame grow near and far.

But oh! Ye ol dgray men,
  Ye men who wore "the blue"
Ye ne'er shall see again
  Alas! it is too true.
"Old Abe"

Memorial day this year
  Calls for the last sad word
And the heart given tear,
  For this grand old bird.

Bird, fit for the poet's lore,
  But ashes is today!
Fire in its ruthless war,
  Took him—your bird—its prey.
"Old Abe"

Immortal bird! we weep
  Oh! could we but recall!
But memory will keep
  Thy name for ages all.

821

This Indenture, made the twentieth day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine BETWEEN, John Hustis of the County of Milwaukee and Territory of Wisconsin of the first part and Elbert Dickason of Portage County and Territory aforesaid of the second part

WITNESSETH, That the said party of the first part, in consideration of the sum of one dollar part of the purchase money hereinafter mentioned, now actually paid, and upon the express condition that the said party of the second part, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns shall and do well and faithfully perform the covenants hereinafter mentioned on the part of the said party of the second part to be performed, do-es hereby, for himself his heirs and assigns, covenant and engage to execute and deliver to the said party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, a deed of conveyance in fee simple, with a covenant of warranty, in the usual form, of and for all that certain piece or parcel of land, situate in the County of Portage aforesaid, known and described as the Southwest quarter of section twelve and the northwest quarter of section thirteen of Town Ten of Range twelve, also in the County of Dodge and Territory aforesaid the Southwest fractional quarter of section seven, the northwest fractional quarter of section nineteen, the west half of the north west fractional quarter of section eighteen and the west half of the Southwest fractional quarter of section eighteen of Town Ten of Range Thirteen containing in all six hundred and ninety five and forty four hundredths acres be the same more or less

AND the said party of the second part, for himself his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, does covenant and engage to and with the said party of the first part, his heirs,

This document is the trust deed of Major Dickason, a combinaiion of an agreement to sell and give title at a future date provided payment and interest had been made, to property which is now Columbus.

executors, administrators and assigns, to pay to the said party of the first part, his heirs or assigns, the just and full sum of seventeen hundred and thirty nine dollars and sixty cents on or before the twentieth day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty three, together with the interest at the rate of seven percent to be paid annually on the twentieth day of February in each year

and to pay all taxes that shall be assessed on the said premises, from the twentieth day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine

PROVIDED ALWAYS, and these presents are upon this express condition, that in case of failure in the performance of either of the covenants or agreements on the part of the said party of the second part to be performed, the said party of the first part, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, shall have the right to declare this contract VOID: and thereupon to recover by distress upon the said premises, or otherwise, all the interest which shall have accrued upon this contract up to the day of declaring it void, as rent for the use and occupation of said premises; to take immediate possession thereof; to regard the person or persons in possession, on such termination of the contract, as tenant or tenants holding over without permission, if that should be necessary to regain the prompt possession of the premises; and to recover all damages sustained by reason of any unnecessary destruction of the timber or trees growing on said premises; or by holding over without permission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said parties to these presents have hereunto interchangably set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.

SEALED AND DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF

J. R. Holmes
Jas O. Wayton

John Hustis
Elbert Dickason

John Hustis to Elbert Dickason Contract for Deed

The reverse side of the trust deed, which was temporarily in the possession of Fred Stare is shown. The deed belonged to Major Dickason.

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NOT FOR LOAN

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