

Story of Columbus 1: pp. 1-200. 1

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STORY
OF
COLUMBUS

I

PP 1-200
With Index

Fred A. Stare

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STORY OF COLUMBUS

by

Fred A. Stare

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Installment No. 1

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

Before a building can be built, a foundation must first be laid.

Before an historical story can be written on a factual basis, the facts must first be established.

Since the oldest persons now living here or elsewhere in the area were born less than a hundred years ago, and their personal recollections could not go back farther than perhaps 1870, which is not far enough by a long ways to begin at the beginning. It is perfectly obvious that considerable research from all available published records or other documentary evidence, will be necessary to develop sufficient facts, to write a worthwhile story.

One of Washingtons most beautiful public buildings, the Archives building, is said to contain perhaps the largest and most interesting collection of historical data in existance.

Carved on the exterior, to the left of the principle entrance to this beautiful building is a quotation from Shakespeare's Tempast "What Is Part Is Prologue" and to the right, an injunction to "Study The Past."

Fortunately for our present purpose, which is to build a foundation consisting of Wisconsin's part as a territory before she became a state, and our specific location therein before the present Columbia County existed, there are available in our public library, a few books from which some preliminary research indicates, that facts are hidden therein, and only need digging out.

We shall feel free to report from "A History of Wisconsin and Columbia County" by C. W. Butterfield published in 1880, and consisting of over a thousand pages of which over 500 pages are devoted to Columbia County.

Also a small volume of about 150 pages by A. J. Turner, one time editor of the Wisconsin State Register, and published in 1904 by that company in Portage. The book is called "The Family Tree of Columbia County."

A more recent and much larger book, in two volumes "History of Columbia County" by J. E. Jones of Portage published in 1914 appears to have some information that we have not seen elsewhere as yet.

There are, perhaps, other books, here or in the Historical Library at Madison, which is needed, would be available for research purposes.

It would not be our purpose to go too deeply into the history of our state, but enough to make a solid foundation, and perhaps to kindle a desire for further reading by anyone who is historically minded, in some of the more recently published histories, such as H. Russell Austin's "The Wisconsin Story" published in 1948 by the Milwaukee Journal, and Fred Holmes's "Old World Wisconsin" published by the Wisconsin Historical Society, also in 1948, and many others.

A complete file of the Columbus Democrat, from volume one number one, September 1868 until it became the Columbus Journal, and of

the present Journal-Republican, is available, for research on details of the affairs of our community.

An appeal, by the editor and publishers of the Columbus Journal-Republican, for the co-operation of our elderly citizens and their descendents, to make an earnest effort to supply useful data, preferably in documentary form, has already been published.

It will take some time for that appeal to bring results, and more time for investigating and co-ordinating such material as may be supplied.

The story of Columbus can be only as good as the community, collectively, can make it, and should be in direct proportion to our combined effort.

The writer has agreed to devote sufficient time to research and writing the story, without financial compensation, purely as a service to the community to which he came nearly fifty years ago.

The publishers of the Columbus Journal-Republican, for their part have undertaken to supply space for an installment of perhaps a thousand words set up in the shape and size of a large book page, each week, as a contribution and service to their subscribers, who can, if they wish, by slipping each weekly installment, start a scrap book of their own, on the Story of Columbus.

In the beginning, then, what is now Wisconsin, the Vanguard State, admitted to the union in 1848, had previously been, first a part of Spains claims of dominion by right of discovery, which to be sure was only nominal, but from the time of discovery of the mainland some years after Columbus first landed on San Salvador in 1492. Spain's claim, on paper at least, should be noted.

However, as Turner states "Discovery was one thing; ability to occupy, possess and maintain possession of what has been discovered was quite another things."

It is doubtful if any Spaniard of the period ever set foot any place as far north as the Ohio river, for Spanish exploration and exploitation was mostly in the West Indies, Mexico, Central America and the North and Western portions of South America.

It was not until 1565 that Spain established a permanent colony in North America in St. Augustine, Florida, in which charming and quaint bilingual, city Spanish is still spoken, a Spanish newspaper published, and public notices appear in the two languages, English and Spanish.

Thirty nine years later 1604, the French established the second colony in America at Port Royal Acadia, now known as Nova Scotia. However it was not until 1634 when the French explorer Jacques Cartier sailed into the St. Lawrence river that France could lay claim by right of discovery, to all the lands, watered by the newly discovered river, which as we know includes at least a portion of Wisconsin.

(Continued next week)



Installment No. 3

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

We Become Part of Brown County

In October of 1818 Governor Lewis Cass of Michigan issued a proclamation creating Brown county and Crawford county in what is now Wisconsin, the dividing line running from Illinois due north "through the center of the portage", east of which to Lake Michigan being Brown county in which the major portion of present Columbia county lay, while a smaller western portion lay in Crawford county which ran to the Mississippi River.

The above division of the territory lasted until 1829 when Iowa county was organized which took what is now West Point, Lodi and portions of Arlington De Korra and Pacific away from Crawford county.

While we were a part of Brown County, the Michigan Territorial Congress in 1834 added to it, a large expanse of country west of the Mississippi, which included all of present Iowa, Minnesota, and portions of North and South Dakota.

In 1834, also the western boundry of Brown county was extended to the Wisconsin River, and also the county of Milwaukee was formed with the town of Milwaukee as the county seat, containing at that time scarcely 100 inhabitants.

Now Part of Milwaukee County

The county of Milwaukee extended to the Illinois line, which was then 61 miles farther south than the present line.

West far enough that it included "the six southeast townships of the present Columbia county" Fountain Prairie, Columbus, Hampden and Otsego, while the other two township probably were Courtland and Springvale which would line up with the north line of Milwaukee county, the present north line of Washington and Ozaukee counties.

By act of Congress, approved April 20, 1836, to take effect after the third of July following, the territory of Wisconsin was created. At that time, so far as is known there was not a white person within the borders of present Columbia county.

The area of the territory included all of the territory added to Michigan territory in 1834 previously mentioned above.

Dodge First Governor

Henry Dodge was commissioned governor in April 1836, by Andrew Jackson, President of the U. S. and all other territorial officers selected, and a government formed to be in readiness to take over administrative duties as of July 4th since the government of Michigan, as far as this territory was concerned, would cease as of that date.

Dodge, a Jacksonian democrat had settled illegally on Indian lands in the lead mining section in the southwestern part of Wisconsin, built buildings enclosed by a log stockade, supplied guns and ammunition to miners and others and defied the United States army when a detachment was sent to dispossess him.

He exercised great influence in the region and during the Black Hawk war and other Indian troubles, raised a company of 100 mounted volunteers and assisted the army in subduing the Indians.

He has been referred to as Major Dodge, but whether this was an assumed title or actual is not known to this writer.

It was because of his success and standing in the mining region and upon recommendation of Gov. Lewis Cass of Michigan territory who had been at Mineral Point to help in settling the Indian trouble, and the backing of George W. Jones of the lead region, a delegate to Congress, that prompted Pres. Andrew Jackson to name Dodge governor. He was empowered to decide where the first territorial legislature would meet, and to limit the period, a wise provision, that the session was not to exceed seventy five days in any one year.

Belmont The First Capital

Belmont, in present county of LaFayette, but then in Iowa county, previously mentioned, was Gov. Dodge's selection for the location of the first meeting of the legislature, and so became the first capital of the territory.

The act setting up the territory, provided for the taking of a census, by the sheriff of each county, to be done before the first election.

The figures were as follows by counties Brown county, which was north of Milwaukee county, from the Wisconsin river to Lake Michigan 2,706 — Milwaukee county of which we were a part 2,893 — Crawford county, west of the Wisconsin and north of Iowa county 850 — Iowa county, the southwest part west of Milwaukee county and south of Crawford 5,234. These four counties comprising the whole of present Wisconsin. But west of the Mississippi river were two counties covering the territorial addition that has previously been referred to Des Moines county 6,257 and Dubuque county 4,274, or a total of 22,214 in all of what is now Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and parts of North and South Dakota.

During the first session of the territorial legislature, with a total of 39 members in both the upper and lower houses, five new counties were "set off" west of the Mississippi and fifteen new ones in Wisconsin, namely. Walworth, Racine, Jefferson, Dane, Dodge, Portage, Washington, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, COLUMET, Manitowoc, Marquette, Rock, Grant and Green.

It will be recalled that our corner of what is now Columbia county was successively part of Wayne county, northwest territory, a part of Indiana territory but not a part of any county.

We and all Wisconsin became a part of Illinois territory, and when Illinois gained statehood in 1818 we were tossed back into Wayne county, Michigan for a few months, until Gov. Lewis Cass of Michigan had time to create Brown county, Michigan, which later became Brown county, Wisconsin.

(Continued next week)

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Then we were "moved" into Milwaukee county in 1834 where we were for two years.

When Portage county was formed in 1836 we found a new home, which sounds silly, for all that time there was nobody here.

Portage county as set up Dec. 7th, 1836 consisted of practically all of present Columbia county excepting a part of Caledonia plus portions of two townships now in Sauk county and four western townships of Dodge county, Elba, Calamus, Westford and Fox Lake.

The First Land Surveys

The lands lying east and south of the Wisconsin river were surveyed in 1832, 1833 and 1834 and the surveys were placed in two land districts with land offices at Green Bay and Mineral Point. Not all of the public lands to be sold were put on the market at the same time.

Nor does it follow that the person who made the "first entry" would also be the first settler on said land.

Some tracts were entered by speculators, as an investment. In some cases the first settler was temporarily a "squatter", believing that actual occupancy was sufficient for the time being, as it was not a wise thing to jump any settlers claim, and the filing of a claim could be done later.

There was some good reason for this too, for a claimant had to appear at the land office in person, and since this portion of the county lay in the Green Bay district it would require ten days to two weeks to make a round trip to Green Bay and back, on foot.

A snug cabin could be built in that time, so frequently the settler settled first and claimed later.

The earliest claim, to land in the county was, apparently an early French claim to Augustin Grignon at Portage, which required an act of Congress April 26, 1852 which was validated when signed by Pres. Andrew Jackson, but the earliest issued by the land office was Jan. 30, 1832, to David Butterfield, Otsego, followed by ten others in 1836, all of which were on or near the Wisconsin or Fox rivers, which indicates movement by water was used when possible rather than the faint trails through the heavy timber, the crossing of unbridged creeks and impassable swamps.

The second session of the first legislative was held beginning Nov. 6, 1837, not at Belmont, but at Burlington, county seat of Des Moines county, which is now Burlington, Iowa.

The message of Gov. Dodge, included recommendations for a codification of the laws and the organization of the militia (citizen soldiers subject to call).

Land For A University Granted

An act was passed providing for another census, and one abolishing improvement for debt. By a joint resolution Congress was urged to make an appropriation of twenty thousand dollars in

money, and two townships of land for a University of the territory of Wisconsin. Congress granted 46,080 acres of land which was the fundamental endowment of the present state university at Madison, but the requested money was not appropriated.

A bill was passed to regulate the sale of school lands, and to prepare for organizing, regulating supervising and perfecting schools.

This session lasted till Jan. 20th, 1838 during which time 105 acts and 20 joint resolutions were passed.

By acts of Congress in June 1838 a new territory called Iowa was set up covering all of Wisconsin territory west of the Mississippi. On June 25 the legislature after providing that the next session be at Madison, to be the capital of Wisconsin territory, adjourned sine die.

Madison, Then Nonexistent, Named As Capital

Madison, only a name with no town, had been designated to be the capital, by the first session at Belmont in 1836, persuaded no doubt by the promise of James Doty to build a city on the shores of Lake Mendota; his proposal won by one vote.

However it was not until June 1837 that signs of activity on the promised capital city began. When Augustus A. Bird of Milwaukee came with 36 workmen, a caravan of ox drawn wagons filled with tools supplies and a complete, saw mill, and began clearing a site for a building housing for the men.

A crude building to be used as a temporary capital slowly took shape but it was not yet ready more than a year later when the legislature of the re-organized territory of Wisconsin came to Madison Nov. 26th, 1838 for the first session of the second legislature, so it was necessary to find temporary quarters.

Their first meetings were in the basement of the "old" American house, which could not have been very old, but in a matter of days they moved into the new capital.

"They found the assembly hall floored with green lumber, icy from frozen moisture, the seats and desks cold and clammy, the room "heated" from one fireplace and one stove which could not drive out the chill.

The wet floor boards near the stove, dried out and warped leaving huge cracks through which the squealing of a drove of hogs quartered in the basement frequently interrupted the deliberations of the members.

Portage County Enlarged

A later legislature, in 1841 approved an act to enlarge Portage county of which we have a part northward, a strip 8 townships wide running north to the Michigan line, embracing all of the present counties of Adams, Juneau, Wood, and the eastern parts of Taylor, Price, and Iron, and the western portions of Marquette, Portage, Marathon, Lincoln and Langlade, as well as all of present Columbia.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 5

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

An effort was made to hold an election in newly organized Portage county in that same year 1841 for the purpose of choosing a county seat and electing county officers but the effort failed.

The First Election

Therefore the legislature in February, 1842 passed a special "Relief Act" which authorized and directed the sheriff of Dane county to call an election for county officers in Portage county. Three voting precincts were named in what is now Columbia county, one at Dickason and Strouds Mill on the Crawfish river at Columbus, one at the house of LaFayette Hill at Dekorra, the other at the Franklin House of Capt. G. Lowe at Winnebago portage. While other precincts were designated for the upper part of the county.

Plover, now a small place on the Wisconsin river near Stevens Point had been selected as the county seat, perhaps because it was near the geographical center of the county.

Ride and Tie

John Q. Adams, one of the early settlers in Columbus had been designated to take the election returns from Columbus to Plover. His journey is thus described in Turner's book.

"About 50 votes were polled in this precinct and about 125 in the county. He started the day after election with the returns. He went as far as Wyocena, with Major Dickason, the latter on foot, and himself mounted on a pony. This was Mr Adams' first experience in the pioneer mode of traveling called "ride and tie". One rode, a couple of miles or more, tied his horse to a blazed tree (a blazed tree being one conspicuously, marked by chopping off some of the bark some five or six feet above ground) and walking on along the trail until he was overtaken and passed, and afterward came upon the horse tied and waiting for him.

This was not a sociable way of traveling, so, often the party overtaken would trot along beside his mounted friend to get a few minutes chat.

One day on the trail satisfied Mr. Adams, that it was hardly worth while for him to make a trip of a hundred miles or more to carry the returns of fifty votes and handed his papers over to Charles Temple who was going with the returns of the Winnebago portage precinct.

James Doty Becomes Governor

September 13th, 1841 President John Tyler removed Governor Dodge from office and appointed James Doty in his place; Dodge and Doty had been political enemies for several years. When Doty who had been delegate of the territory to Congress was appointed Governor it left his seat in congress vacant. Dodge was elected to fill the vacancy September 27th, 1841 and took his seat December 7th: Dodge and Doty had simply changed places.

During the period that Dodge had been governor, the territorial legislature passed acts that became laws effective without review by Congress but when Doty became governor he maintained that "We have convened under an act of Congress establishing the territorial government of Wisconsin, for the purpose of enacting such laws as may be required for the government of the people of this territory, after their approval by Congress.

This construction of the organic act resulted in a lengthy and bitter warfare between the governor and the legislative assembly.

A Tragedy In Legislative Hall

On the 11th of February, 1842, a tragedy was enacted in the legislative council. Doty had nominated Enos S. Baker as sheriff of Grant county: there was considerable opposition to Baker, one of the most outspoken in his opposition being James R. Vineyard, a democrat, member from Grant county.

Charles C. P. Arndt, a member from Brown county, a Doty man, was speaking in favor of Baker and Vineyard called one of Arndt's statements a falsehood: The two belligerents came together but were separated by members.

When an adjournment was announced, they met again and Arndt struck Vineyard in the face, the latter drew a pistol and shot Arndt who died in a few minutes.

Vineyard immediately surrendered himself to the sheriff of Dane county, waived examination and was committed to jail; after a short confinement he was admitted to bail; He was indicted for manslaughter, tried and acquitted. Three days after the shooting Vineyard submitted his resignation as a member, but the council declined to receive the resignation but immediately expelled him.

Doty had a stormy career; his disputes with Michigan and Illinois over border difficulties would fill many pages: his feud with the legislature hindered or delayed legislation: he was vehement in his relations with congress, threatening to change the territory of Wisconsin, to an independent state outside of the union.

Doty Declares War

Congress paid no attention to his tirade, in the form of a document that one of his opponents in the legislature called "a declaration of war against Great Britain, Michigan, Illinois and the United States.

Doty's stubbornness showed up even in small things, as for example he insisted on spelling Wisconsin with a k and an a as Wiskonsan even long after the former was generally accepted as correct; It took a joint resolution of the legislature to overrule him.

Under Dodge's constant pressure, President Tyler removed Doty replacing him as governor with Nathaniel P. Tallmadge of New York.

The election of James K. Polk as President in less than a year brought Henry Dodge back to Wisconsin as governor of the territory.

The fourth and last session of the fourth territorial legislative assembly began January 5th, 1846 and one of the most important issues was the proposal of statehood, on which the members were favorable by a large majority. The session authorized a new census and provided for an election to approve a constitution.

The census taken in June, 1846 resulted in a total population of 155,277. The election on the proposed constitution rejected the same as not satisfactory.

Wisconsin Becomes A State

A special session of the legislature was called for September, 1847 to take action concerning the admission of Wisconsin to the union, authorized another census and a new constitutional convention.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 6

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

The census was taken which showed a big increase to 210,546. The election in March 1848 duly ratified the proposed constitution.

The final session of the territorial legislature began March 13th, 1848: some additional counties were "set off" making a total of 28 counties, at the time the bill asking statehood for Wisconsin was introduced in congress in March. The bill was finally passed on May 29th, 1848. Wisconsin had become a state.

The constitution provided for a town (township) system of government, rather than county only—therefore one of the first tasks of the county officials, known as commissioners court, would be to divided the counties into towns (townships).

The "Commissioners Court" held a session Jan. 9th, 1849 at Columbus, LaFayette Hill and John O. Jones constituting the court.

Township 10 became town of Columbus and the home of A. P. Birdsey was designated as the place of holding the first election.

The Indian Lands

At that period the Menominee Indians still held title to all of the land in the county north of the Wisconsin river and west of the Fox river and the portage between the two rivers.

The Indian title (in Columbia county) having been extinguished by the federal government, the state legislature in 1849 passed an act to annex these lands to be made a part of Columbia county. The commissioners court ceased and a county board of supervisors was installed to take its place, on the present general plan.

It was not until 1854 that the Indian lands were completely surveyed and the present 21 townships under their present names show up in a map dated January 1st, 1855.

Columbia County Organized

In February, 1846, the territorial legislature had "set off" Columbia county from the rest of Portage county, on approximately its present boundaries, except for the Indian lands, to become effective May 1st.

At the election in April, 1846, Solomon Leach, John Q. Adams and John Langdon were elected county commissioners, and in July they met at the house of Major Elbert Dickason at Wyocena and organized the board, (Major Dickason having left Columbus).

Mr. Leach became chairman and James C. Carr, clerk.

Election precincts were set up at several different places in the county. At Columbus it was the house of A. P. Birdsey, with Asa Proctor, James T. Lewis and Jeremiah Drake as judges. Asa Proctor being the grandfather of A. H. Proctor. The first strictly Columbia county election was held September 7th, 1846 for legislature, county and precinct officer.

The two political parties at the time were whig and democrats.

The results were as follows:

Member of Territorial Council—Mason C. Darling, whig; Members House of Representatives 2—Hugh McFarlane, D, Elisha Morrow, D; Members Constitutional Convention 2—Jeremiah Drake, W, LaFayette Hill, W; Probate Judge—Silas Wals-

worth, W; Who refused to qualify so in his place was appointed James T. Lewis, W;

Sheriff—T. Clark Smith, D; Clerk of Board County Commissioners—Nelson Swarthout, W; Who resigned in favor of—Wayne B. Dyer, W; Treasurer—James C. Carr, W; Collector—John Swarthout, D; Register of Deeds—Major Elbert Dickason, D; Surveyor—Albert Topliff, W; Coroner—Daniel E. Bassett, W; County Commissioners 3—R. F. Veeder, W, Nathan Griffin, W, John D. McCall, W.

There was some doubt as to the legality of the election, as it had been held under authority of the board of commissioners, which had perhaps, exceeded its authority, but the territorial legislature legalized the election in February, 1847 as a consequence of which Columbia county was fully and firmly established.

The county narrowly escaped being named "York" as petitions for that name had more signatures than had "Columbia" but James T. Lewis, with characteristic pertinacity, induced the members of the legislature to amend by striking out "York" and substituting "Columbia."

As, has often been the case, elsewhere, so likewise, Columbia county has had its county seat fights.

At the April 1846 election, six rivals received the following votes.

Columbus 97; Winnebago Portage 49; Wyocena 47; DeKorra 33; Otsego 10; Van Dver 3.

Since no place had a majority, an act was passed by the 1947 session of the legislature declaring the county seat be temporary located at Wyocena because of its more central location.

Columbus Becomes County Seat

Then the following year 1847 the legislature passed another act providing that for a term of five years the county seat of justice should be at Columbus.

However in the elections of April 1851 the popular vote was in favor of Fort Winnebago which become known by the name of Portage when on the 10th of March, 1854 Governor Barstow approved legislation to incorporate the city of Portage effective in April. However Columbus was the county seat for four years.

At the time of the April, 1946 election, the population of Columbia county was estimated at 1200 people, but in a household census taken in June, 1846 by Hugh McFarlane and William Donaghue, which listed the names of each family and the number of persons in each, there was found to be 1143 male whites, 825 female whites, 1 colored male and several hundred Winnebago Indians, or a total of 1969 excluding Indians, who were not counted.

Some Big Families

The largest household was that of Hugh McFarlane 30, second largest H. Carpenter 24 and quite a number with 13-12-11-10-9-8 in the household.

In 1847 James T. Lewis as chief enumerator with five assistants took another census by precincts which disclosed a large increase in population assuming that both enumerations had been substantially correct.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 7

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

1847 census figures, taken by James T. Lewis, and five assistants showed the following.

Precinct	males	females	colored	total
Columbus	514	434	—	949
Ft. Prairie				
Columbus				
DeKorra	104	97	—	201
DeKorra				
Caledonia				
Wyocena	253	222	—	475
Wyocena				
Marcellon				
Le Roy	515	464	1	980
Scott, Randolph				
Springvale, Courtland				
Dyersburg	238	228	—	466
Otsego				
Hampden				
Winnebago Portage	102	61	1	164
Pleasant Valley	110	93	—	203
Arlington				
Lodi				
West Point				
Lowville	190	163	—	353
Lowville				
Leeds				
Totals	2026	1763	2	3791

Portage The County Seat

The county records were removed from Columbus in 1851 and taken to Portage, and until 1856 county officials occupied the second story of Lemurel Berry's store on the east side of the canal, on the north east corner of Cook and Pleasant streets.

From the Berry store the county offices were moved to Vandercook's building where they remained until the present court house was completed in the fall of 1865. The contract price for the finished building was \$17,830 the contract having been let to Carnage & Prescott in Feb. 1864. The job with sidewalks, iron fence (since removed) grading, trees and presumably the furnishings, the total cost was about \$26,000.

Outside of Brown county, (Green Bay) of which for a time in territorial days the Columbia county area was a part, the Columbia county court house was the only one of any pretensions in the state.

Regular Federal Census taken at 10 year intervals beginning in 1850 show the county's population as 1850—9,565; 1860—24,441; 1870—28,802; 1880—28,065; 1890—28,810; 1900—31,121; 1910—31,129. From which it will be noted the most rapid growth was in the decade 1850 - 1860 which was the period of heavy emmigration to Wisconsin from Germany, Norway, Holland, Switzerland and other continental European countries and from Great Britain and Wales.

Hardwood Timber Area

This part of Wisconsin, when the early settlers first saw it was heavily timbered, with mostly hard wood, oaks, maple, hickory, walnut, elm, locust, beech, chokecherry, ash etc. and here and there some conifers such as pine and hemlock, with some aspen, poplar and birch.

There were occasional prairies such as the Arlington prairie and here and there smaller ones from one such where there must have been a lively bubbling spring came the name Fountain Prairie.

The Early Settlers

Most of the early settlers came from New York and the New England states, some coming overland with covered wagons drawn by horses or oxen, but many came by boat from Buffalo to Milwaukee or Racine, some on horseback, and not a few actually walked.

While there were, as a matter of course, a few speculators, sharpers and some undesirable characters among them, the big majority were filled with that pioneer spirit, so rare in this day, ready and willing to take up land which could be had from the Federal government for \$1.25 per acre, knowing that it meant years of hard work, privation, and sometimes actual suffering to do it, but they were unafraid.

Among them were doctors, lawyers, ministers, blacksmiths, wagon makers, merchants, printers and teachers, as well as farmers.

In even very small settlements, church groups were formed and religious services held in a humble log cabin home; Circuit riders came to preach at irregular intervals.

Schools were started even before there were teachers or a school house, as for example in Mrs. McCafferty's "Reminiscences" published in 1916 referring to the first school in Columbus she wrote "Through the efforts of Col. Drake, our first school was established. In the dark dingy blacksmith shop, our school opened with seven scholars. Before the winter was over it increased to twelve — Our school was so poorly warmed we had our feet frosted. Our teacher Benjamin Nute, was a pleasant young man of nineteen.

"I cannot remember of any other effort made for a school until Mr. Rowell had built his dwelling. They rented their front room for a school.

"That same summer, our first school house was built."

It is a matter of record this the first school house was built in 1846, on Ludington St. where N. B. Pomeroy's house now is.

Early Maps of Columbia County

A number of changes were made from time to time in the voting precincts in Columbia county: A map dated July 16, 1946 shows 8 precincts each and all of which were from two to four of the present township but the Menomonic Indian Lands, everything west of the Fox river and north of the Wisconsin were not a part of the county. One precinct called LeRoy consisted of what is now Scott, Randolph, Springvale and Courtland. Another called Dyersburg is now Hampden and Otsego while Pleasant Valley precinct is now West Point, Lodi and part of Arlington.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 8

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Another map of April, 1848 the same area is cut into 11 precincts and one dated January, 1849 13 precincts, 8 single townships and 5 of more than a township.

The 1848 map shows Portage Prairie where Randolph and half of Scott now is; Marcellon included the west half of Scott while Dyersburg was missing entirely and what is now Hampden was called Springfield.

The 1849 map shows what is now Courtland as Portage Prairie; Marcellon covered all of Scott; Springfield is changed to Hampden; Pleasant Valley to Lodi.

The 1850 map shows townships all of the east half, named as they now are except Leeds and the east half of Arlington was called Kossuth: What is now Fort Winnebago was called Port Hope; DeKorra included all of present Caledonia and Pacific while all of the Indian Land was Fort Winnebago.

The only change on the 1851 map of towns was Caledonia which covered all land west of the Wisconsin river, and Fort Winnebago was called Portage City.

The map of 1855 shows Newport and Lewiston instead of Fort Winnebago, and Port Hope became Fort Winnebago: Arlington was only five sections wide and Lodi was six. They later were changed December 10th, 1871 and present maps show Lodi five sections east to west and Arlington six. Pacific, the smallest township in the county shows for the first time on the 1855 map.

Dodge County

A story of Columbus must also be based on a portion of Dodge county, as Calamus and Elba and to a lesser extent Lowell and Portland are as much a part of the trading, area, our churches, schools and social life as are the nearby townships in Columbia; this is also true of York and Bristol in Dane county.

Butterfield, whoever he was, not only wrote the history of Columbia county published in 1880 but also one of Dodge county published in the same year.

One of the earliest settlers in Dodge county was Asmasa Hyland who first batched in what is now the town of Emmet, near Watertown in 1838; a little later he settled at what is now known as Hyland Corners, where there is a cemetery and schoolhouse both called Hyland. This is on highway 33 between Beaver Dam and Horicon where the Midway Air port now is.

We mention Hyland because it was he who is said to have plowed a furrow from Beaver Dam to Watertown, following an old Indian trail. This marking the first road in what is now Dodge county. No doubt a part of that early first road followed the high ground on ridges, when there were any, and was located, in part, about where highway 26 now is.

In March 1841, Thomas Mackie and his son-in-law came from Fox Lake and established Beaver Dam, named so because of the numerous dams in the area, built by beavers. The area was at one time called Grubbbville.

Lowell was settled in 1842 by D. F. Eldred, and in 1844 John Gibson settled at what every since has been called Gibsons Corners.

In Sept. 1845 Sam Reese settled at what has ever since been called Reeseville.

The area now called Dodge county, like Columbia, was a part of Brown county, and later of Milwaukee county.

Dodge county, named after territorial Gov. Henry Dodge, had an estimated population of 67 in 1840, two years later 239 and in 1846 — 7,787.

Fox Lake, Beaver Dam, Lowell and Danville were among the earliest settlements, in the western part of Dodge county, all of which no doubt, because of potential water power by means of dams.

The Indians and the French

Much could be written concerning the pioneer days of Columbia county, but having laid a foundation of territorial days, we want to move on.

Passing over the original inhabitants, very briefly, the mound builders and the various tribes of Indians who followed, without any attempt to be specific, we feel it is enough to say that during the control of the area by the French, many fur trappers, voyagers, and traders, mostly mixed breeds of French and eastern Indians found their way by canoe, made principally in the Indian fashion, of birch bark, to "La Bay" a general term covering that portion of Lake Michigan lying between the peninsula (Door county) and the mainland now called Green Bay, for the purpose of trading with the Indians.

Fox River Explored

There they found a sizable river now called the Fox, perhaps from the fur bearing animal of that name, but more likely for an Indian tribe called the Foxes.

They followed the river to a large lake on the shores of which there were Indians called Winnebagoes, a name these explorers gave to the lake.

A river emptied into this lake (where Oshkosh now is) which they ascended, and ignoring a much larger river joining in from the north (the Wolf) they kept on in a westerly and southerly course, past present Berlin, Princeton and Lake Puckaway to a point where the river, much smaller, turned back in an easterly direction, where they learned from the Indians that only a short distance away on the other side of a slight ridge was another and much larger river, (the Wisconsin.)

There is no positive knowledge as far as this writer knows of who may have been the first explorer, or what year it may have been, but "Jesuit Relations" of 1640 refers to explorations that had been made.

Nicolet

There seems to be general agreement among historians that Jean Nicolet, a white French explorer was the first white man to set foot on the soil of what is now Wisconsin, in 1643, and that he ascended the Fox river, but there is considerable difference of opinion as to whether to go to a point near the portage established by his half-breed predecessors, or not.

Butterfield says he only came to a point about 30 French leagues from the portage, which would be somewhere in present Green Lake county, and states further that he is confident Nicolet never got as far as present Columbia county.

Turner says "Perhaps he did not, but it seems incredible that Nicolet, when at the very threshold of the point where he could learn the most about the object of the mission upon which he had been sent, should turn back with having acquired but very little information of value to Champlain."

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 9

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Marquette and Joliet

In 1673 Joliet representing the "intendant" of Canada, and Father Marquette representing the Jesuits and the church, crossed the portage "of 2700 paces, leaving the waters which flow to Quebec, to follow those which will henceforth lead us into strange lands."

A granite monument on the right hand side of highway 16 in Portage marks the supposed place. The embankment on the left hand side, conceals the Wisconsin river, only a stone's throw away; this embankment is a true continental divide for rainfall on the slope facing the highway flows eventually into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, while on the opposite side it goes into the Wisconsin and into the Gulf of Mexico.

Fox River Begins in Columbia County

The head waters of the Fox begin on sections 4 and 5 in the north tier of Randolph township and flow north into Green Lake county then west across two sections 31 and 32 and then southwest across Scott township, across the south east corner of Marcellon into the lake at Pardeeville, west through Swan lake, west across Pacific township, turning north across Fort Winnebago township into Marquette county, and on into Green Bay, through the Great Lakes to the Atlantic.

In Scott, two small streams, Sand Spring Run, and Rocky Spring Run flow into the Fox in sections 20 and 21, and it was along these small streams that the Colony of English potters, settled in 1847.

Duck Creek Too

Beginning in the southwestern part of Randolph only four miles from the source of Fox river, which would be a mile or so southwest of Friesland, a small creek flows southwest through Cambria, to join two more small creeks to form the north branch of Duck Creek, which meanders west and south across Springvale township, picks up a small branch flowing in from the north, beginning in section 34 only one mile from Rocky Spring Run; this very crooked little creek flows on to Wyocena where it is joined by the south branch of Duck Creek which begins in section 18 of Courtland township, running almost due west through Springvale picking up a branch coming in from the south.

From Wyocena where the two branches of Duck Creek meet, the augmented flow goes westward, across Pacific township to flow into the Wisconsin some three or four miles below Portage; at no place from the source is the north branch of Duck Creek more than four or five miles from the Fox river and at a few places not more than two or three miles, as for example Wyocena on Duck Creek the water of which goes down to the Gulf of Mexico while from Pardeeville about three miles north the waters of the Fox flow into the Gulf of St. Lawrence joining the Atlantic ocean.

Another Divide

Draw a line diagonally across Courtland, Otsego and Leeds from Randolph to Leeds Center and you will find that here is another watershed that no creek or branch crosses.

All running water north and west of the line flows into the Fox or the Wisconsin. While all south or east of the line flows into the Rock river, mostly by way of the Crawfish river.

The Crawfish

The north branch of the Crawfish begins on section 32 in the southwestern part of Otsego and runs in a northeasterly course crossing six sections in Otsego and four in Fountain Prairie before there is any material change of direction, but on section 9 of Fountain Prairie the stream turns south for about two miles then east across four sections and on section 13 an abrupt turn almost due south west for about two miles into the mill pond at a point about two miles north of Fall River; a small branch coming in from the south west joined in on section 16.

The south branch of the Crawfish river begins on section 32 in Hampden near Keyser and flows in a northeasterly direction across seven or eight sections, picking up a little branch on section 27 and another five or six miles long joins in from the west on section 13, continuing on to section 5 town of Columbus where it turns south for a mile or two, then east and northeast to join the stream below the mill pond, on section 2.

The augmented stream meanders around for a couple of miles, crosses into Dodge county at the Whitney bridge on highway 73 and comes back into Columbia about where the highway angles to the left just beyond the cemetery.

A branch called Robbins Creek which begins in Dane county runs diagonally north east from section 31 to section 1 where it joins the Crawfish.

The critical eye of Major Elbert Dickason had perhaps noted this sizable flow of water during his military service when operating out of Fort Winnebago, where the Indian Agency House was located, north east of Portage, rounding up Indians and moving them beyond the Fox river. Upon his return to civil life he took the necessary steps to locate on the Crawfish at a point where a dam could be thrown across, to impound the water for power to drive a grist mill and a saw mill.

First Land Entries Here

Previous mention has been made of earlier entries of lands along the water courses in the western part of the county, but of the dozen or more such, only a few were boni fide settlers who built places of abode and began clearing the land: the majority entered claims on speculation, as for example there was James Duane Doty, second governor of the territory who entered for two quarters of section 34 near Poynette, Feb. 8th, 1837, but none of the records reviewed show that he was ever a citizen of Columbia county.

Feb. 18, 1939, at the land office in Green Bay, either in person or by an agent, appeared Lewis Ludington and John Hustis: the former entered the S. E. quarter of section 12 and the N. E. quarter of section 13 of what is now Columbia county: John Hustis entered the S. W. quarter of section 12 and the N. W. quarter of section 13: thus each had secured a half section adjoining each other.

(Continued next week)

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Ludington also entered a half section the E. half of section 21. It may have been a coincidence, but was more likely a result of preliminary exploration, but whichever it was, the result was the same: The Crawfish river, both sides of it, excepting the Oxbow which was Dodge county was Ludington's while the two quarters adjoining Ludingtons on the west, entered by Hustis just happen to be where the major part of the residential section of present Columbus now is.

Who Were These Men?

Lewis Ludington, the elder, according to Butterfield's history published in 1880, was sent to the territory of Wisconsin by an eastern capitalist named Nelson, for the purpose of acquiring land, it being known that government land was being offered for sale at \$1.25 per acre; choice quarter sections were selected here and there and elsewhere, largely along the water courses at points where dams for water power seemed possible.

Lewis Ludington, had two brothers, James and Harrison, and they maintained an office in Milwaukee from which they conducted their speculations in land, eventually acquiring tremendous holdings of timber lands in this and adjoining states.

Harrison Ludington later became governor of Wisconsin in 1876.

John Hustis, New York born, graduated from Yale Law School in 1833, was admitted to the bar in 1836, coming to Milwaukee in November of that year, two years after Milwaukee county was set off, at which time Milwaukee had less than 100 population. So it must still have been a very small place when Hustis came.

He speculated in real estate, practiced some law, but decided to acquire land, indicating that he must have had at least some capital or had some financial backing.

In August, 1837 he camped in the woods, along the banks of a river miles from the nearest cabin, in what is now Dodge county. After carefully examining the area around his camp fire and finding it to his liking he entered claim on 320 acres lying on both sides of the river, built a log cabin, plowed the ground in a little clearing, sowed some wheat, the first in Dodge county, that fall.

He apparently divided his time as he practiced law in Milwaukee, continued to speculate in land, and delivered the oration in Milwaukee's first 4th of July celebration in 1839.

Hustis returned to New York state that fall, where he was married August 29 to Miss Laura A. Ludington, a cousin of Lewis Ludington, at Carmel, N. Y., returning to Milwaukee with his bride.

Hustis was associated with both Solomon Juneau, and Byron Kilbourn in Milwaukee and was one of the Milwaukee and Rock River Canal Commissioners in 1840. The canal project failed because no market could be found for the bonds, but not until after a dam had been built at Milwaukee to furnish power, and two miles of the canal dug.

In 1846 the town of Hustisford was laid out by him and both town and township named after him. The name indicate that there must have been a ford across the Rock river at that place, which ford might have been the foundation upon which Hustis built the first dam on the Rock river in 1845 and 1846, followed by a saw mill first and in 1851 a flour mill: He also brought his family to Hustisford that year, after build-

ing a substantial home on a 320 acre farm.

Major Elbert Dickason

Butterfield's history devotes a page and a half to Major Dickason, the man all authorities agree was the actual first settler and founder of Columbus.

There is a very strong feeling here, that has come down through the years, that Major Dickason was robbed of his property, the fruits of his labor, and whatever cash he may have put into the project, revived too, by one of the dramatized episodes in our centennial celebration in 1940.

Jones's history of Columbia county says "The first settler to locate within the present municipal limits of Columbus was Elbert Dickason. In 1839, he came as the owner of a considerable tract of land on the west side of the Crawfish river, which he had purchased from Lewis Ludington, one of the great family of lumberman whose tracks are found in so many sections of Wisconsin and Michigan."

"Erecting a log cabin on his land not far from the present site of the St. Paul railroad depot, he commenced to dam the Crawford river and build a saw mill."

He evidently came to stay, for he brought with him a herd of cattle, a number of horses, with men to assist him in his work.

But his first winter at the site of Columbus was so severe that most of his live stock died, his supply of food reached starvation dimensions, most of his help left him and he was solidly "down on his luck."

This seemed to be the beginning of misfortunes which attended him during the succeeding four years.

"He finished the sawmill, and got it into operation, but he was not able to meet his payments on the land which he had purchased on time from Mr. Ludington and, like many another pioneer worker, passed over the fruits of his labors to a "watchful waiter." It is said that the major received only \$200.00 in cash from Mr. Ludington for all his rights in the property upon which he had spent nearly ten thousand dollars, and then departed for his new location at Duck creek, now Wyocena."

This may be a correct statement of fact, and it is the generally accepted version, now almost legendary.

Butterfield's Account

Butterfield's history has considerably more detail, the substance of which is that when Milwaukee was but a straggling village when James Ludington arrived from New York as the representative of eastern capital, authorized to purchase good land, well located, at the low price prevailing.

Major Dickason, who was familiar with the area now comprising Columbia, Dane and Dodge counties, was in Milwaukee at the time, and was able to give Ludington considerable information that was helpful.

Dickason, born in Virginia in 1799, he with his parents migrated first to Ohio and subsequently to McClain county, Illinois"; he was married to Obedience Maxwell at Bloomington, Illinois in 1831; there were at least two children, a son Jackson and a daughter Ruth Jane.

Dickason desired to purchase land but having been in military service through the several years of Indian trouble leading up to the Black Hawk war had been unable to accumulate any capital, therefore, he sought an opportunity to secure the backing of Ludington.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 11

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

John Hustis, is quoted by Butterfield, page 509, as saying "After considerable consideration, Lewis Ludington and myself, were induced to purchase for Major Dickason about 1700 acres of land on and about the site of Columbus, in the month of February, 1839, each of us taking about one half of that amount of land in our mutual arrangements about the several tracts."

"These tracts, near and including (what is now) Columbus, were at once contracted to Dickason on a four-years credit, and Mr. Ludington aided him in building a saw-mill, and afterward in constructing for him a grist-mill."

"Dickason was in occupancy of the property for a period extending over four years without paying either of us a cent of principal or interest, or any of the taxes levied thereon. We found that we had considerable of an elephant on our hands. Finally, Ludington gave Dickason some \$600.00 in cash and the income of the mill for one year, it having been leased to Col. Drake. With these means, Dickason made a purchase of what was afterward Wyocena."

Butterfield on page 665 refers to Dickason's deal with Ludington as follows "He came hither under an agreement with Lewis Ludington, as the purchaser from the latter of a considerable tract of land on time. Erecting a small log cabin upon the west side of the Crawfish river (a granite boulder across the tracks from the passenger depot near the river bank in a pleasant grove of oaks marks the approximate spot) he next turned his attention to the work of damming the stream and building a mill."

Alexander McDonald, a resident of Portage in 1880 "says he was in the Major's cabin about the last of May 1839. The house was of logs, covered with bark, and had Indian bedsteads around the sides.

It had no floor or fireplace, but the fire was put against the logs at one end of the house, which was all burned (charred). McDonald stayed all night. The major was absent, but his brother, the "Colonel" as he was called, was at home, and two Stroud boys. His nephews were also there. Mrs. Dickason had not moved there yet. They slept on the dirt floor wrapped up in Mackinaw blankets, with "smudges" around to keep off the mosquitos.

With McDonald were Daniel Hyer, and Mr. Palmer, they having been hired by Major Dickason to get out timber for a saw mill. They built a temporary shanty across the Crawfish, from Dickason's house, and went to work, while McDonald returned next day to Madison with the ox team." "McDonald said he thought the cabin had been built the year before."

"Dickason lost most of his stock by the severity of the winter and the scarcity of feed.

Dickason, after many fruitless efforts to fulfill his part of the agreement with Ludington, relinquished his claim the spring of 1843, giving up the broad acres of fertile soil he had tamed from the wilderness.

The saw mill, which had been in successful operation for some time, also became the property of Ludington. This particular account does not mention the grist mill, which was a part of Dickason's project and was also surrendered to his creditors. However it concludes with the statement "Dickason received \$200.00 in cash for his right and title to everything, and withdrew from the scenes of his greatest ambition comparatively penniless. It is said that he spent nearly \$10,000.00, all he had, of his own money in the enterprise."

This account, while similar in some respects to Butterfield's previous statement, page 509, differs radically as to the amount of cash paid to Dickason.

In 1843 Dickason moved on to what is now Wyocena, and took up a claim on Section 21 along a stream which he named Duck creek. The name Wyocena is somewhat obscure, as it is not an Indian name, according to Turner; One story has it that the name came to Dickason in a dream while he was cogitating over a name for the village he imagined was to spring up there.

It is an unusual and melodious name at least.

Dickason Settles Here

In another account, Butterfield writes, in 1880 "Not a few of our older residents" says a Columbus writer, "remember Major Dickason, and are familiar with many incidents concerning him. He was the pioneer of Columbus, and among the very first white men who wandered over these prairies and through these groves. The little log cabin he built upon the banks of the Crawfish river, near where the railroad depot now stands, (the present freight depot remained until a few years ago."

Still reflecting Butterfield's research Major brought with him, sixty or seventy head of cattle, upwards of twenty horses, and five wagons; He seemed to have had a Boone idea of retaining sufficient land for himself. He believed that the woods, little prairies, alone would be ample for all the demands of agriculture, and that the wooded ground would never be cleared and settled.

It is reported that shortly after he arrived here, he staked out twelve lots near his cabin for village purposes and called them Columbus."

The first ground broken by his plow, indicating that it must have been a more or less open area, but dotted with stately oaks, many of which remain, was from the vicinity of his cabin where several oaks still stand, to beyond the top of the hill or ridge up on which are now (1880) situated the residences of A. G. Cook, (now the American Legion); James T. Lewis (where the sisters home and chapel at the hospital now stands), and of William L. Lewis the brother of the Governor", and which for thirty four years has been owned and occupied by this writer.

Some place on what has long been called Cook's hill, the Major stacked his first harvest of wheat, and hay, and here the stealthy savage set fire to the stacks and burned them while the Major was away.

Blacksmith Shop and Mill

He built a blacksmith shop, followed by a saw mill, an up and down saw, and the dam necessary for power, on the site of the present dams: when the dam was finished, one of the early log, brush, dirt and stone combinations, the building of a grist mill was next in order: this stood where the present mill stands, but it is believed that no part of the original mill still exists unless it may be some of the stone foundations.

"The Major was of a hospitable and free-handed nature. Even in the months succeeding the period we have mentioned, when blazed trees were the only milestones and guides to the traveler on this frontier, the wave of civilization was flowing rapidly westward into the interior of this territory, and not a few men were exploring these wilds in search of future homes, and whoever stopped with the Major departed without charge. He was not by nature intended for a farmer, and was not successful. Unable to meet his liabilities, he gave up his claim of 1,300 acres, now partially occupied by the city of Columbus, receiving a small sum for what he had done. With a team or two, he removed to Wyocena, where he remained until his death, August 9th, 1848, aged 48 years, nine months and 9 days.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 12

" The Story Of COLUMBUS

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

He is buried in the cemetery at Wyocena, where a respectable slab bears his name and the above information about his age."

Wayne B. Dyer, once a resident here, coming from the east in 1843, is quoted in Jones's history to the effect that when he first saw Columbus, the cabin of Major Dickason and that of Hiram Allen, not far from the mill, constituted the entire village of Columbus.

Grubbing It

Mr. Dyer relates an incident in the experience of Dickason which illustrates the kind of trials and hardships he bore so patiently. "Once the major got out of hay and was compelled to drive his cattle to a point near Beaver Dam, and chop down elm and basswood trees for them to browse upon.

This operation was called "grubbing it", and what is now called Beaver Dam was then called Grubville."

"In that same spring 1843, the deer lay dead upon the Crawfish—starved to death, because the deep snow shut them away from their usual browsing ground."

Dyer was a great hunter and trapper in those days and killed many a deer in the vicinity of Columbus. It was said that for years after his arrival he could start out almost any day and return with one.

After Columbus had grown to be quite a village, he saw several deer run across its main street. (This would be James st. as the original town was mostly from Water street to the mill) He also trapped many otter and other fur bearing animals along the Crawfish."

Mrs. McCafferty

Mrs. Imogene St. John McCafferty, wife of Harvey W. McCafferty, in 1916 wrote and published "Reminiscence of the Early Days of Columbus, from which we quote a few extracts. "Major Dickason was a man of fine personal appearance, over six feet tall with a noble bearing, a man of sterling qualities, the greatest honor."

Our his way up from Illinois to his new home on the Crawfish "in the spring of 1839, with his helpers and the needed supplies, for to clear up the land, he stopped at our house, a few miles from the village, for dinner." "Late in the fall, on his return, he again stopped at our house, and remained over night. His whole theme was this new country and its possibilities. It, so interesting to his father, S. W. St. John, he was ready to accompany him back in the spring of 1840. He did. The same year his brother S. W. and family, a nephew, sister and followed."

"To the surprise and indignation of the settlers, he found the Indians had fed the ponies, and burned the wheat stack. But with his indomitable energy, he cleared more land and put in larger crops, such a blessing to the new settlers."

"My husband (to be), then a young man, accompanied the Major in surveying and plotting the village in 1843.

I vividly remember my first visit to the Major's pleasant home, a log cabin, situated on the banks of the Crawfish river.

I was a little less than 15; my two brothers and myself had been invited for this visit. It was a beautiful Sabbath morning in June. There was only a bridie path through to oak open prairie, jumping our horses over the little streams on the way.

"After a delicious dinner of fresh fish, venison, game, wild honey, and many other good things, we passed the rest of the day as young people are wont to do."

"Major Dickason and my brother M. G. St. John, were very intimate friends, both loving and respected."

hunting; they would spend days hunting deer—sometimes getting a bear—each returning with a barrel of wild honey, deer, pelts, and other trophies of the hunt."

"I shall never forget his last visit to our little home. I was seventeen then, and keeping house for my brothers. The Major seemed depressed, yet tried to be jolly. Soon after, he left his beloved Columbus, and seldom visited here thereafter."

These various accounts, with side lights, of Major Dickason, have brought together in one place more about him, perhaps, than present day people have known before. It is for each reader to judge for himself, from all the available information presented, whether the Major was "robbed" by unscrupulous schemers, as many have believed, or if he had undertaken too large an enterprise, for his limited capital, and through adverse circumstances, inaptitude, lack of farming experience or whatever his many difficulties may have been, after four years of effort he had not been able to pay anything in the way of taxes, interest or principal, he may have made a voluntary offer to his creditors, asking relief from his obligations.

Whatever the circumstances may have been Major Dickason had and has the sympathy of the community of which he was the first settler.

Other Settlers Arrive

It is impossible to trace all of those who came to this community, meaning the three or four townships in Columbia and two or three in Dodge County or to be sure of the year of arrival.

In county histories like Butterfield's of 1880 or Jones' of 1914 only a few biographies are found, only those who had subscribed for a copy prior to publication.

The writer has searched diligently, not only published histories, but church records beginning in 1850, and has turned up far more names than any published history he has seen, but even so he is sure that there were far more "unknown's" who would be mentioned if known, than there are names that will be mentioned.

Prior to 1843 there were not many here, besides those already mentioned, but the names of Noah Dickason. James Shackley and a Mr. Baldwin also show up: perhaps Noah was another brother or a nephew, and Shackley and Baldwin may have been associated with Major in his mill project for it is known that he was not mechanically inclined.

In 1843 came H. A. Whitney, 24 years old, a native of Vermont, who began peddling "Yankee Notions" at the age of 14 which he followed for a few years. In 1839 he went to Peoria, Ill. where he farmed two years, then to Rockford, Ill. farmed a year, coming here while Major Dickason was still here. He was married in Rockford; was the father of Alonzo H. Whitney, well known and familiarly called Lon, who died in 1929: his home became the present Albrecht funeral home.

There was also a daughter, Alonzo's sister Orlina, who became Mrs. Mack Lee, son of another old timer.

H. W. McCafferty, who later married Imogene St. John, farmed owned race horses, kept hotels, lived here a long time, had at least one child, his son Walter.

T. Clark Smith

T. Clark Smith, "who built the first log cabin northwest of of what was then the incipient village of Columbus, laid claim to 160 acres in June 1842 in Section 3, 7 and 8 town of Columbus, built his cabin, worked some land, cleared some timber, returned to New York for the winter, came back in the spring of 1843 with his family, found his cabin occupied by a squatter, Mr. Bushell, who gave peaceable possession.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 13

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

In Clark Smith's cabin, in 1844 Rev. Stephen Jones founded a pioneer church society, the first in the immediate area and which later became the Methodist church of Fall River: In the beginning it consisted of Clark Smith's family, E. J. Smith's family, the Aaron Houghton family and perhaps a few others.

A log school house was erected nearby a little later and in 1855 a church building was erected in Fall River.

Mr. Smith was the father of T. Jefferson Smith and grandfather of Sadie, Mrs. Rudolph Lueders; Laura, Mrs. George Bunsen; Carrie, Mrs. Harry Eichberg; Katharine, Mrs. John Albright; Clark Smith and Charles Smith.

There were therefore, locally, several great grandchildren, and not a few great great, grandchildren of T. Clark Smith, very early settler and first sheriff of Columbia county, 1847 and 1848. His farm was where the buildings of Wisconsin Academy now stand.

FLASH

We interrupt the story of Columbus at this point in order to insert some additional information and correct some errors in relationship, that has come to the writer in a letter dated June 28th from Mr. R. L. Hustis of Milwaukee, from which these excerpts are taken.

"My brother P. B. Hustis of Bay Pines, Florida, and I are much interested in your "Story of Columbus" as published in the Journal-Republican.

"P. B. H. and I are grandsons of John Hustis and Laura Ann Ludington, his wife, and so great grandson's of Lewis Ludington.

"In your account taken from Butterfield, there are some errors in relationship, etc. — James Ludington was a son of Lewis Ludington (not a brother) and Laura Ann, a daughter (not a niece) a sister of James.

"James was 15 or 16 when he came to Milwaukee and one of his first jobs was to drive a large freight wagon between the mill at Columbus and the Ludington and Co. store, situated on the N.W. corner of East Wisconsin and N. Water st., which Lewis Ludington had bought from Solomon Juneau, and replaced later with a brick block, (which was in turn) replaced by the Pabst Building, 110 E. Wis. Ave, now called the "110 E. Wis. Building."

"James Ludington later founded Ludington, Michigan.

"While Dickason was the first settler, he did not plan or start a village — somewhere I read that because of his treatment of the Indians, they burned his wheat and hay stacks, and ran off his cattle that first winter.

"I believe I still have among old family papers, the first map or plat of Columbus, and the original mortgage and agreement not to contest the note, signed by Dickason — and a picture of Lewis Ludington.

"If interested we might get together some time and I can show you the items as above and a "Life of Col. Henry Ludington" the father of Lewis Ludington, and we can talk over what little I have heard directly from John Hustis, Laura Ann and James Ludington whom I remember well as a child."

The writer had made an appointment Mr. Hustis in Milwaukee soon.

Jacob Swarthout came from New York settling on Section 28, Fountain Prairie in the fall of 1843 with his wife Rachel Smaully, places him among the very early settlers in the area: a daughter Mary became the wife of Lewis Birdsey of Columbus.

He married again in 1852 to Caroline Mathews of Columbus; there were two daughters and four sons, the latter being Andrew, Edward, John Jacob and William.

Several descendants live in the vicinity of Fall River. The names of W. Stewart, B. Campbell and W. Wade are mentioned by Butterfield as

1843 arrivals, but without comment: We find in church records of the first Congregational church the names James Campbell, Mrs. Julia Campbell, George W. Campbell, Mrs. Sarah E. Campbell, but no B. Campbell.

Clarendon Roys and two brothers, natives of Mass, came to the town of Hampden in 1843 locating on 160 acres in December 29 and 30. They specialized in Percheron horses and by 1880 had 1600 to 1700 acres of land known as Roys' plantation.

Aaron and Nancy Hoton and their son Charles, ten, came from New York in 1843 settling in town of Columbus, December 3. Charles married Alice McBurnie, daughter of another pioneer, in 1874 locating on 120 acres in Section 3, 9 and 10 town of Columbus which he had bought in 1859. They had two sons, Clarence and Jesse, the latter now lives at 346 S. Lewis St., Columbus.

Joseph Edwards came from New York in 1843 settled on 160 acres in Section 4, 9 and 12 town of Columbus being the second man to enter land in that part of the town.

He was the father of Theron Edwards, Civil War Veteran, who became a rural mail carrier after leaving the farm and moving to Columbus.

Of their several children, two, Franklin, secretary of Columbus Federal Savings and Loan Association, and Alice, Mrs. Frank Long, live in Columbus at 532 Park Ave.

B. F. Cooper from New York came to Columbus in the fall of 1843 when only 21 years of age; Six years later settled on Section 27, Elba, near Danville having married Miss Adeline Hawley of Jefferson county the year before. They had three daughters and two sons, one of whom, Frank, became a carpenter in Columbus, his home being the house at 442 S. Lewis St., purchased by the late W. L. Fritz several years ago.

Wayne B. Dyer, came from the east early in 1843, first to Columbus then later located land in Fountain Prairie, being the second settler in that township. He built a cabin in September none too soon for in October his wife presented him with a daughter, Martha, the first white child to be born in Fountain Prairie. He remained there less than a year, going in May 1844 to become the first settler in Dyersburg, now Otsego, where he built a cabin large enough to live in and also give shelter to travelers. He later moved to Durand, Pepin County.

James C. Carr, who made first entry in Fountain Prairie came from New York to Columbia county in 1842, selecting land a mile west of Fall River and built a cabin and did customary preparatory work. He returned to New York to be married to Mary Ann Self, returning early in 1843, and being joined a year later by John Brown and John Quincy Adams, both of whom took up land nearby, and being unmarried lived with the Carr's, who in the meantime had built a frame house. Mrs. Carr died in August 1845 leaving a 5 months old daughter who was raised by Mrs. Swarthout, the nearest neighbor.

Both Mr. Carr and Mr. Adams were active in political affairs, having important offices in county, territorial and state matters being educated men, former teachers.

Col. Drake Succeeds Dickason

Colonel Jeremiah Drake, from New York state, was brought here by Lewis Ludington in 1848, as his agent, succeeding Dickason in the management of the property on the Crawfish.

He built the first frame house in the settlement, near the mill, and it was usually referred to as the mill house.

His son, William W. Drake came with him and assisted in operating the mill until Ludington sold it to J. S. Manning.

Then W. W. Drake took up farming for some years, later moving to town, living in a house that stood where Lien's garage now is, his father, the Colonel, living with him.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 14

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Col. Jeremiah Drake is said to have assisted in building the original Erie Canal, and was a capable man. His son William must have been trained to use tools as he later operated a wagon and carriage factory where Kossov's garage, A.B.C. Cleaners and Tetzlaff's Paint Store now is: A map dated 1876 shows some of the buildings running back as far as the alley to the rear of the present Ford Garage.

Hiram Allen built the second frame house, which later became known as the Mills house when Robert Mills married the widow of Mr. Allen.

The Columbus Mill

Since the mill was of outmost importance to the area the story of the mill from its inception until the present day is given here.

Major Elbert Dickason, admittedly our earliest settler, (1839), built the dam across the Crawfish and established a saw mill and a grist mill, as has been related earlier in this narrative.

However hard he may have tried, he was not successful in his venture, and had little if any cash, therefore when his credit was overstrained, and not a dollar of either interest or principal had been paid on his obligations, long past due, he made settlement with his creditors by giving peaceable possession to the property in 1843.

A careful examination of the abstract of title shows clearly that the Major never had even as much as a land contract, and that Lewis Ludington held undisputed and continuous title for ten years from time of entry February 18, 1839, to the S.E. ¼ N.E. ¼ Section 13.

The abstract begins with a patent from the United States.

Lewis Ludington, the elder of at least three brothers, was a man with many irons in the fire, and therefore delegated to others, many of the minor details connected with buying selling, managing and leasing his extensive holdings of land.

When he became convinced that he would have to take over Dickason's "white elephant", Ludington brought Col. Jeremiah Drake of New York state to Columbus, as his representative or local agent and when Major Dickason had departed Col. Drake was put in charge of the property.

He repaired and enlarged the grist mill for Ludington, and then became operator of the mill as lessee.

Jeremiah Drake, who was then 59, and his son William continued to run the mill on a lease basis for five or six years, until the mill property was sold.

In February 1849 Lewis Ludington gave power of attorney to his young nephew Harrison, "to sell lands in Wisconsin." Harrison street is named after him and later on in 1876 he became governor of Wisconsin.

In December 1849 Harrison Ludington, under his general power of attorney conveyed to Joseph S. Manning, in a very complex legal description, "about 18 acres with all buildings and machinery on said mill premises whether affixed to free hold or otherwise—reserving a building owned by John Williams and granting "rights to flow" so much of grantors land adjoining Crawfish river and creek as may be neces-

" The Story Of COLUMBUS

By F. A. Stare

sary to full improvement of the waterpower here-in conveyed."

Manning paid \$9,000.00 in cash and gave a mortgage for \$5,500.00 with interest at 7%.

The abstract shows that \$3,000 of the cash was money supplied by Benjamin Campbell, Mary Campbell Manning, James Campbell jr., Edward Campbell and George S. Campbell and was to cover a 1/3 interest in the property, although the warrantee deed was issued to Joseph S. Manning only.

Mr. Manning, a native of New Jersey, born in 1819, went to New York City when only 14 to work in a dry goods store owned by his uncle, where he remained until he was 25: He then went west by Great Lakes boat, in 1844 landing at Southport, now Kenosha, where he clerked in a dry goods store for three years. In 1847 he took up farming in the town of Courtland, next township north of Fountain Prairie where he remained for two years when he came to Columbus.

He was married in Southport to Mary, daughter of James and Julia Campbell; the Campbell family later moved to Columbus.

Mr. Manning was 30 when he bought the mill, the operation of which was entirely different from all of his past experience, so it can safely be assumed that he must have had an experienced miller in charge of the mill.

The next entry in the abstract of title is December 8, 1856 showing that Harrison Ludington as attorney assigned the mortgage, then 7 years old, to Chas H. Chadbourn.

In August 1856 Mr. Manning platted a portion of his land into 26 lots on the north side of James st. running from the creek to the river, and 30 lots south of James st., a triangular block bounded by James, Waterloo and Mill st. (now Manning st.)

Manning's addition to Columbus took about 5 acres away from the mill property leaving only 13 acres some of which was across the river fronting on Campbell street, but much of which was the mill pond itself.

On September 25, 1857 Manning gave a 2nd mortgage to Seth H. Warner, borrowing \$3,000.00 for 3 years with interest at 12%, on 13 acres including flowing mill, saw mill and dam thereon. He must have been hard pressed to be willing to pay so high a rate of interest, although 12% was not the top, for this writer has run across at least two cases in which the borrower paid as high as 40%.

On October 1, 1857 Charles H. Chadbourn gave a partial release of the mortgage he held, upon payment by Manning of \$3,000.00 against the \$5,500.00 mortgage.

On October 2nd, 1857 entry on the abstract indicates a renewal of mortgage in an amount totaling \$6,977.00 on 3 notes to Chas. H. Chadbourn of that date and 2 of the original Ludington notes dated December 25, 1849.

April 12, 1858 Seth H. Warner assigned his \$3,000.00 note to Alson Norton, who held it for some years.

Manning sold a number of lots to various persons, and no doubt several houses were built, but he had spent considerable money for along with his financial troubles in connection with the mill, he was building a large brick house.

(Continued next week)

(Continued from last week)

Extensive litigation began against Joseph S. Manning, Mary C. Manning and some 19 or 20 other defendants, on a suit to foreclose, the outcome of which was a sheriff's deed to Chas. H. Chadbourn, February 28, 1861.

It appears to have been caused by several suits by these 19 or 20 individuals at different times from December 1857 to October 1862 for damages and costs, in which Manning was defendant, and judgments totaling over \$7200.00 were entered against him. It is believed these suits were in connection with lots in Mannings addition, besides the mortgage to Chas. H. Chadbourn.

In August 1868 the interests of Chas. H. Chadbourn, were conveyed to R. W. Chadbourn, by a Quit Claim Deed.

It is assumed that for all this time, that is from December 1849 until the end of the litigation in October 1862. Mr. Manning was in charge of the mill as the owner.

When Chas. H. Chadbourn acquired the property a relative, Mr. Frank Ross, of Minneapolis came to Columbus and took charge; however the actual operator of the mill, was Mr. Nute.

On February 26, 1868 Chas. H. Chadbourn transferred his interests to R. W. Chadbourn in a Quit Claim Deed, a simple transfer from Charles to Reuben Chadbourn, and it is possible that in acquiring it. Charles may have done so on behalf of his brother.

The mortgage given by Mr. Manning to Alson Norton, April 12, 1858, which was for \$3000.00 drawing 12% interest apparently had not been paid for the record shows that as of July 22, 1862 it had been assigned to Smith W. Chadbourn, another brother, whose home was what is now 651 West Prairie. A week later, July 30, is now 651 West Prairie. A week later, July 30, to Charles T. Haynes.

Neither of the last two assignments were recorded at the office of register of deeds until April 15, 1878, sixteen years later.

The next entry in the abstract is dated July 9, 1884 in which Chas. F. Haynes gives power of attorney to Michael Adams for the purpose of selling the afore mentioned mortgage at public auction, and foreclosing on the property.

The sale was held, and the auctioneer, Mic Adams, issued a certificate of sale dated July 14, 1884 to Chas. L. Waldo, who evidently was acting on behalf of Reuben W. Chadbourn, for the next entry is for a deed to the property to Mr. Chadbourn by Charles F. Haynes, dated July 27, 1885.

June 13, 1890 Smith W. Chadbourn petitioned the County Court asking that the will of R. W. Chadbourn be admitted to probate. The R. W. Chadbourn home was the house at 654 West Prairie now owned by Dr. Oviatt.

The mill property remained in the estate for several years, and presumably the mill was managed for the estate by Mr. Ross and operated by Mr. Nute, until April 27, 1897 when a warranted deed was made by Mrs. Catherine Chadbourn and her son Frederick A. Chadbourn, sole heirs and residuary legatees of Reuben W. Chadbourn, to John Holloway for the mill property and also lots 9, 10 and 11 Block 1 and lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of Block 3, Manning's addition to Columbus. Mr. Holloway was also owner of the Fall River Mill and a lumber yard there.

When he bought the Columbus mill, he moved a part of his lumber to a lot near the mill, where the home of Mrs. Mayme Eichberg at 355 E. James now stands, but soon sold the lumber to George Holtz who together with Alex Schouler, owned a lumber yard on the site of the present Walker Lumber Co.

Mr. Halloway died intestate July 11, 1897, leaving his widow Inez Mable Halloway, a daughter Pearl, twenty years of age and the wife of Burr Hobart of Fall River, and a son Dean Halloway age 17.

The widow petitioned the court for the appointment of Capt. M. C. Hobart of Fall River as administrator of the estate of Mr. Halloway.

In the Petition she avers, among other things, that the interests of her minor son require and will be substantially promoted by a sale of all his said right and title and interest in and to said Real Estate for the reason that it is being exposed to waste and delapidation, that the same is Mill property and if leased for a term of years would rapidly diminish in value, and would soon be unproductive as such property requires constant attention from experienced Millers, and the investment of means from time to time in improved machinery."

Mr. Hobart was appointed special guardian of Dean Halloway as well as administrator of the estate, and as of September 15, 1899 he sold an undivided one half interest in the mill property to C. M. Brown for \$2766.85 cash.

About the same time, Pearl Hobart, nee Halloway sold her half to Mr. Brown who thus became sole owner of the Columbus Mills, and the lots previously mentioned in Mannings addition to Columbus.

Oct. 16, 1899 Mr. Brown sold an undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in the mill property, to Myron G. Udey, "except certain portions, lots, heretofore sold to Geo. Eichberg, G. Breuning, Wm. Killian and August Zucker. Subject to right of way over lot 9 for the above mentioned and also Louis Zick, and also excepting that part of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 13 heretofore sold to Herman Blumenthal and W. R. Turner.

Mr. Udey became at once the active Miller and in April 1911 he obtained a deed to the other undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ of the property, on which he had had a land contract since 1900, from Mr. Brown. Thus Mr. Udey became the sole owner as well as the active operator of the mill.

M. G. Udey was active in civic affairs, and opened up Udey street, a half block long running from James street to the mill yard through lot 9 block 1 and also served as mayor of Columbus.

May 1, 1918 Mr. Udey conveyed the property by warrantee deed to George Fick and Louis J. Lange.

May 17, 1920 George Fick, for a consideration of \$14,000, conveyed his undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in the property to his partner, Louis J. Lange, but in August of the same year he bought back a half interest.

Apparently no further changes in ownership took place until after the death of George Fick April 7, 1931. His widow Ida Fick was appointed administratrix, and was his sole heir. Then on August 11th the same year Mrs. Ida Fick died.

Her brothers, George and Henry Lange were appointed administrators of her estate, in which they were both beneficiaries, as well as three children of a deceased brother Louis J. Lange.

The final accounting to the court July 27, 1932 shows that, the mother as guardian for the daughter and two sons of Louis J. Lange deeded their interests, for a suitable cash consideration to Henry B. and George H. Lange who thereby became sole owners, each owning a one half interest.

In November, 1946 Henry B. Lange and wife sold their $\frac{1}{2}$ and issued a warranty deed, $\frac{1}{2}$ to Eugene G. Lange and wife Sylvia Lange and $\frac{1}{2}$ to John W. Tramberg and wife Vera Tramberg.

Thus George H. Lange held his half and his son Eugene $\frac{1}{4}$ and his daughter Mrs. Tramberg each have a quarter interest in the property.

Eugene G. Lange is the active manager of the property as his father is less active than formerly.

(Continued next week)

Installation No. 16

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

The sawmill has not existed for a long long time, as mention of it in the abstract of title, ceased during, the Manning ownership.

The grist mill, greatly improved over the years, is a very active place, as a great deal of feed is ground there daily.

Manning who evidently went into debt unwisely, too deep, lost his property, not only the mill, his addition, but his own house as well. It was the substantial brick house at Ludington and Prairie streets, which was acquired by E. S. Griswold, one of three brothers, successful general merchants in the early days of Columbus, and is now a duplex occupied by Lloyd Paust at 113 W. Prairie and Joseph Weiler on Ludington street. An insurance map showing the business and manufacturing establishments of the city as of 1876, before there was a fire department, was recently found in the walls of the Griswold Block.

This map indicts that the mill at that time had four grinding stones, 1 smut mill, 1 branduster on the second floor, 1 wood stove heater on ground floor, was lighted with enclosed oil lamps, and operated night and day—24 hour service.

There was a 60 h. p. steam engine and boiler for power when the water was too low, or when frozen up in the winter.

There was a detached office building, a coal shed and a horse barn, making a total of 7 buildings.

At that time it was still J. S. Manning's mill.

When this writer first came to Columbus and for several years afterward the steam plant was still there but was later discontinued when electric power became available.

Alderman Reese Roberts can tell you all about it as he was engineer at the mill when he was a very young man.

We now return to 1843 and discuss the village plat.

Conference With R. L. Hustis

As a result of a conference with R. L. Hustis of Milwaukee recently, this writer is able to introduce at this point, considerable information about the Ludington's, of whom there were several that were active in the development of Milwaukee, and Wisconsin, and in particular the Columbus area.

A correction is in order concerning the relationship of the three Ludingtons having close contact with early days in Columbus. The statement in a recent installment, written earlier, to the effect that Lewis was the elder of at least three brothers, is incorrect as will appear shortly.

Having read portions of a 235 page book entitled "Colonel Henry Ludington" a Memoir, written by Willis Fletcher Johnson, A. M., L. H. D. and published in 1907 by two of Ludington's grandchildren, Lovina Elizabeth Ludington and Charles Henry Ludington, a little background taken therefrom, is a good starting point.

Much of the forepart is devoted to the Ludington's in England going as far back as the will of Rev. Thomas Ludington, M. A. a Fellow of Christ Church College, Oxford, dated May 28, 1593, which is still preserved in the archives there.

Authentic mention of many other Ludingtons, honorable and often distinguished, may be found from time to time in English history, especially in the annals of the Tudor and Stuart reigns.

The earliest record of a Ludington in America occurs in 1635; In the old granary burying ground in Boston on tomb No. 108 appears the name C. Ludington.

William Ludington

William Ludington was living in Charlestown, Mass. in 1640, in that part that was later called Malden, where he became a considerable land

owner, and might well be called the founder of the Ludington family in America.

His children were seven in number 5 sons and 2 daughters, all of whom married and were prolific.

The sixth child William, 2nd, was twice married and his children were 4 sons and 7 daughters; His first born was Henry Ludington born in 1697 who became a carpenter, married Sarah Collins and they had 8 sons and 4 daughters.

Henry's second son, was named William, born in 1702, married Mary Knowles in 1730; This William had 8 children the third being Henry who later became a Colonel of Militia in Dutchess county, New York of whom the book is a memoir.

Thus we have, the second Henry, who was the third child of William, who was the second child of the first Henry who was the first child of the second William, who was the sixth child of the first William, the founder of the Ludington family in America.

By this time there were Ludingtons and progeny on the distaff side, scattered in many places in Mass., Vermont, Conn., and New York, mostly east of the Hudson river.

The Militia

The part performed by the Militia and Militia officers in the war of the Revolution does not seem always to have received the historical recognition which it deserves. It was really of great importance, especially in southern New England and the middle states, at times rivaling and often indispensably supplementing that of the regular Continental Army.

It was made up largely of men who had fought in and survived the French and Indian wars, and were at that time British subjects, and were largely farmers and farmer's sons.

The book is full of records of Ludingtons and in-laws, who fought in the wars between the British and the Colonials, against the French and the Indians; and many did not live to come back home.

Henry Ludington had been such a soldier and when the Colonies revolted, he became Colonel of a regiment of New York Militia, whose field of operations was the area lying between the Hudson river and the border of Conn.

Space does not permit more than the broad outline given as to the background of the Ludingtons.

Henry Ludington, married his cousin Abigail Ludington, daughter of his father's younger brother Elisha and shortly went from Conn. to Dutchess county, New York. Their children were six daughters and six sons, the last son and twelfth child being Lewis Ludington, born June 25th, 1786, and his 5th son and 10th child was Frederick born June 10th, 1782.

These two sons became merchants when they built a general store at Kent, Dutchess county, New York in 1808: Frederick's son Harrison, born in 1812, who was named after General William H. Harrison, later to become President of the United States, learned merchandising while working as a clerk in the store of his father and uncle.

When his uncle Lewis Ludington came to Milwaukee in 1838, Harrison then 26 years of age, and another man, from Carmel, New York, named Harvey Burchard, accompanied him.

They made several long trips on horseback through the interior of Wisconsin, for the purpose of selecting government lands, which were being offered for sale at \$1.25 per acre. They purchased extensive tracts, largely parcels of heavy timber and along water courses, in various parts of Wisconsin, including considerable land in what is now Dodge and Columbia counties, the latter having been "entered" in February 1839.

(Continued next week)

Installation No. 17

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

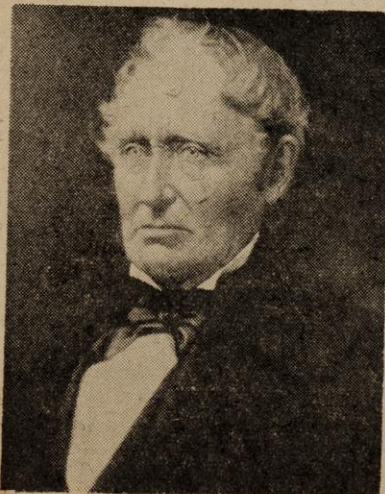
In 1839 they bought a lot in Milwaukee from Solomon Juneau, east of the Milwaukee river at what is now the north west corner of East Wisconsin and North Water, on which they built a store in which they opened a general merchantile firm known at first as Ludington, Burchard & Company.

A year or two later Burchard retired from the firm, and Nelson Ludington, a younger brother of Harrison came in; also the firm then became Ludington & Co.

Lewis Ludington was a member of the firm until he died in 1857 at Kenosha: His burial was

in Raymond Hill Cemetery, Carmel, N. Y.

Butterfield's history states that Ludington had been sent here by a New York capitalist named Nelson to purchase lands, and this writer has so stated in a previous installment of this narrative, but is glad to make a correction, as Mr. R. L. Hustis a great



Lewis Ludington

grandson of Lewis Ludington says "he was not sent to Wisconsin by anyone, and came of his own accord and was at all times acting in his own behalf."

Quoting from the memoir previously mentioned, "For nearly twenty years Lewis Ludington was head of the firm of Ludington & Co., which was one of the foremost in Milwaukee, and which conducted what was for those days a business of great magnitude.

"The firm also had lumber mills at Oconto, Wis., and docks at Milwaukee; In 1843 Lewis Ludington laid out (what is now) the City of Columbus, Wis.

"For many years he encouraged the development of the new community, which grew to be a city of considerable population and wealth."

The records show that the two nephews, Harrison and Nelson Ludington attained prominence: Harrison formed a partnership with D. Wells and A. G. Van Schaick and built extensive lumber mills at Green Bay, but does not state what year.

Harrison Ludington served two terms as alderman and in 1872-75 was mayor of Milwaukee.

His administration was such that he was elected governor of Wisconsin 1876-77; after serving one term he returned to private life to resume his manufacturing and merchantile activities. He died in 1891.

Nelson Ludington, for many years was head of other large and successful lumbering and manufacturing interests and was prominent in the commercial life of Chicago where he became president of the Fifth National Bank of Chicago.

Getting back to Lewis Ludington, he was married in his early twenties, to Polly Townsend, whose family had come from Long Island to Dutchess County, New York and for several years the young couple lived in a cottage near the Colonel Henry Ludington's homestead in Fredericksburg, now called Kent.

In 1816 they moved to the village of Carmel, New York where soon after he bought the property which is still in the family: In the fall of 1855 he completed and occupied the house which (as of 1907 at least) was still the family homestead. The wood from which this house was built was cut on lands owned by Mr. Ludington in his extensive holdings of pine, was made into lumber in his mills at Oconto, and shipped from Green Bay to Buffalo, New York, in the lake schooner Lewis Ludington, which is proof that he was a man of many interests and great talent.

A picture of this house shows it to be a large square two story flat roofed brick house, with wide outstretched cornish supported by massive and impressive scroll shaped brackets, and topped by a central cupelo. It is almost identical to the writers home, the William Lewis house, at 711 West James, St., built about the same time, except that the Ludington house has a matching flat roofed verandah or porch across the front and on both sides.

Nothing has been found to indicate that Mr. Ludington had ever lived in Wisconsin, even though his interests here and elsewhere were large and extensive as has been shown; Nor has the writer found a list of his children, although

two sons, Charles Henry, born at Carmel, Feb. 1st, 1825 is mentioned as the 5th child, and James, born April 18, 1827 is mentioned as the 6th.

Also we know that a daughter Laura Ann, was married in 1839, at Carmel, to John Hustis and immediately came to Milwaukee, where her husband had established himself as a lawyer and land owner; It may be assumed that Lavina Elizabeth Ludington, one of the two sponsors of the book, was another daughter.

But this accounts for only four, leaving the reader perhaps to wonder, as does the writer, who the others were, and to think that perhaps they did not survive to adult age.

Charles Henry Ludington became a clerk in a wholesale dry goods store in New York City, and later was for years a member of a leading dry goods house, the firm of Lathrop, Ludington & Co., at first on Courtland St. and later on Park Row. He retired in 1868 and interested himself thereafter in personal enterprises, and in 1907 was one of the two sponsors of the book previously referred to; he was also engaged in research and collecting information about his forbears.

James Ludington came to Milwaukee in 1843 when about sixteen, worked for Ludington & Co.



James Ludington, after whom James St. was named, a son of Lewis Ludington, as he appeared about 1890 when he was in his sixties. The city of Ludington. He died in April 1891.

John Hustis

John Hustis, who married Laura Ann Ludington was graduated from the Yale Law school,



John Hustis taken about 1900 when he was in his nineties, the oldest living graduate of Yale.

He was founder of Hustisford, and original owner of about one half the land now covered by the residential section of Columbus.

hereabouts, and was therefore responsible for Lewis Ludington's coming to Wisconsin territory.

John Hustis built a large and comfortable home at Hustisford, to which he brought his family, which consisted of Mary E.; Josephine Lewis, Florence Lavina and Charles Jasper Hustis; But returned to Milwaukee to live in 1868.

(Continued next week)

both in Milwaukee and in Columbus, and became in fact, his fathers agent here.

Later in Milwaukee he was treasurer of one of Wisconsin's early railroad companies, and was vice president of the Bank of the West, an early Madison bank.

In 1859 he acquired extensive sawmills at the mouth of the Pere Marquette river in Michigan, where the family had large timber holdings, and there founded the

was one of the early lawyers in Milwaukee and delivered the oration on the first 4th of July celebration held in the village of Milwaukee.

He founded Hustisford in what later became Dodge county, on land that he entered in 1837.

It is the writers belief, arrived at by deduction, that Hustis having come to Wisconsin at least one year before his prospective father-in-law did, may have sent back favorable reports of the opportunity that existed

Installation No. 18

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Charles J. Hustis married Eda Freund, granddaughter of General Joseph Freund, a general in the Austrian Army, and later Chief of Staff with Garibaldi in Italy.

The children of Charles J. Hustis were Roland Ludington, once in the hardware business in Hustisford, later in the automotive field in Hustisford and Milwaukee, still later practicing his profession of mechanical engineering with the A. O. Smith Co. and now retired, and to whom we are obliged for considerable information, and the loan of certain documents for further research. His children are Mary Jo and John Ludington Hustis.

Second son of Charles Jr. is Percival Bathori, now in a Veterans Hospital at Bay Pines, Florida.

Third son was Lawrence Freund, killed in action in France June 6th, 1944, and fourth son Gerald Walbridge Hustis, a flier.

R. L. Hustis, greatly interested in this series of articles about Columbus, contacted the writer, resulting in a conference in Milwaukee.

Some 25 or 30 years ago, Mr. Hustis wrote to certain parties in Columbus, offering to the city an oil portrait of his great grandfather, Lewis Ludington, and several documents having to do with the early days here, provided assurances be given that they would be preserved for posterity.

He says he received a curt letter informing him that these mementos were not wanted, for Columbus wanted nothing to remind them of Lewis Ludington.

He therefore concluded "well if that is way they feel, to heck with them" and these historical documents and the portrait were given elsewhere, and are unfortunately not now available.

The records of the Government Land Office at Green Bay, show entries on February 18th, 1839 as follows:

S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12 and N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 13 township 10 N. in what was then Portage county, now Columbia, and the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 7; the W. $\frac{1}{2}$ of the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 18 and the W. $\frac{1}{2}$ of the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 18 and the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 19, in township 10 N. of Dodge county entered to John Hustis.

Also the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12 and the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 13 in township 10 N. of Portage county to Lewis Ludington.

This makes a total of five $\frac{1}{4}$ sections in both counties bought by Hustis and two $\frac{1}{4}$ sections in Portage county bought by Ludington, and collectively gave absolute control of the flowage rights of the Crawfish river as a glance at a map will show.

Without question, this was in fulfillment of a plan to assist Major Elbert Dickason to eventually become the owner of the major portion of the land described, as has been previously mentioned earlier in this narrative and on page 509 of Butterfield's history.

The Deal With Dickason

Two days later, February 20th John Hustis and Elbert Dickason entered into a "Sales Contract" covering a total of 695.44 acres for \$1738.60 at \$2.50 per acre, of which 640 acres was in Portage county, now Columbia and 55.44 acres in Dodge (the land bordering the river).

The document consists of what might now be called a Trust Deed, a combination of an agreement to sell and give title at a future date provided payment including interest and taxes had been made; an agreement to the effect that if in case of failure of performance of the covenant or agreement by the party contracting to buy, the seller has the right to declare the contract void, and to recover any unpaid interest as rent for the use and occupancy of said premises; to consider the parties in possession as tenants; to take immediate possession; and to recover all damages sustained by reason of any unnecessary destruction of timber or trees; or by holding over without permission.

The note, also embodied in the document, called

for payment of interest at 7%, the customary and legal rate, annually on February 20th, and the payment of all taxes on the property.

This note and agreement, now temporarily in the writer's possession, has been photographed, and will shortly be returned to Mr. Hustis. It bears not a single indorsement showing payment of interest or any part of the principal; but does have a statement written in pencil and signed by L. Henry Bird, acknowledging receipt of \$12.80 paid by John Hustis for a tax receipt on the two quarters in Portage county.

Therefore as far as the Hustis part of the land sold Dickason, here is indisputable documentary evidence that there had been no payment of interest, principal or taxes in the four years for which the note was drawn.

Presumably the same lack of payment existed on the Ludington land, for it stands to reason that any prudent man would have made payments of interest and principal, alike to both if any payments at all had been made.

Also that if Dickason had put in as much as \$10,000.00 of his own money, or any sum of money whatever, as has often been said, he would have paid at least the interest, the taxes and at least "token" payments on the principal.

In telling the full story as disclosed by documentary evidence, we feel that we have taken away nothing whatever from the memory of our first settler, who against great difficulty, and without capital of his own made a valient struggle to achieve, and failed in his effort. But on the otherhand we feel that we have performed a service to the community in trying to dig up the actual facts, not knowing or caring what they might be, but to report them when found.

No matter how much we collectively may feel sorry for Major Dickason, and sympathize with him in his misfortune in failing to realize his ambition to become the owner of a sizable tract of land, a dam and a mill, a careful appraisal of the facts proves that his creditors took no undue advantage of him and that he was not tricked or cheated, as so many have heard was the case, the story having been told so often and for over a hundred years that it had become legendary.

It is not for this writer to judge, but to observe the scriptural injunction "Judge not lest ye be not judged" and another to "Let the dead past bury its dead."

We end this particular episode in the story of Columbus by quoting from the final page of the book a memoir of Colonel Henry Ludington.

"In addition to the impress thus widely made upon the military, political, business and other history of the United States by members of the family, the name of Ludington, in memory of the influence and achievements of those who have born it, is honorably inscribed upon the maps of no fewer than four of the States.

A village of Putnam county, New York, at the site of the old homestead of colonial and revolutionary times bears the name of Ludingtonville, at once a tribute to the Ludington family and an unfortunate example of the unhappy American habit, now less prevalent than formerly, of adding "ville" to local names.

Far better was the bestowal of the simple and sufficient name of Ludington upon the lake port in Michigan.

The same name is born by a village in the parish of Calcasieu, in southwestern Louisiana, while the part the Ludington family played in the settlement and upbuilding of the State of Wisconsin is commemorated in the name of a village in Eau Claire county, which retains an old and familiar variant of spelling Ludington."

And to this, the writer adds, the names of such streets in Columbus as were named for different members of the family.

Ludington street for the family name, Lewis street for Lewis Ludington, James for his son James, and Harrison for his nephew who became governor of this state.

(Continued next week)

Installation No. 19

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

First Plat of Columbus

Mrs. McCafferty's little book says that H. W. McCafferty, had assisted Colonel Dickason to survey and plat the village in 1843, and in one of the other reference books mention was made that Major Dickason had staked out about a dozen lots, but assuming the above is true, no record of either has been found.

However in Jones's history he says "Ludington's plat was the first official evidence of the existence of Columbus, and it was recorded by Lewis Ludington in the Brown county archives at Green Bay, on the 11th of November 1843."

"The original plat of the village presented a fine picture on paper, passing through the eastern limits, the Crawfish marked its winding course.

Leading away to the southwest from the rivers oak-fringed banks to the borders of clustering groves in the distance were broad avenues, with other wide streets crossing them at right angles. Near the rivers edge was an entire block marked "public square" and not far away a "park," "schoolhouse," "church," and "hotel" — all donations from the proprietor of the village."

There is no copy of this first plat in the archives at our city hall, and while the writer would like to see a copy and verify the statement in Jones's book, he has not felt it important enough to go to Green Bay to satisfy his curiosity.

The earliest plat to be found locally is a certified copy of a plat showing lots 1 to 9 which was recorded in Portage county July 25th, 1844.

It shows the lots to have 60 ft. fronts and a depth of 150 ft., with the streets all 70 ft., in width,

Instead of running due north and south, Ludington and all other parallel streets run $47\frac{1}{2}$ E for the reason that the trail from Madison to Fond du Lac came into town from the southwest along the top of a slight ridge, which became Ludington st., and all cross streets are at $42\frac{1}{2}$ N.

Therefore the corners of a square room or house would be very nearly the points of the compass.

There are a few "angling" streets. Manning, Fuller, Hamilton, Maple Ave., Mechanic, Chapin Sturges, Poet and Folsom that do run due east and west, and Farnham, John, Center, Ann, Dix and Line sts. run north and south: also the river road runs south for about a mile.

The 1844 plat shows Levi P. Drake as surveyor and Lewis Ludington as proprietor of the village: the streets are named Water, Ludington, and Madison, and Mill, James and Harrison.

Obviously James and Harrison were named for Lewis Ludington's son and nephew who were partners in their large ownership of lands in this and other states.

The next map is dated August 6, 1849 with H. S. Haskell as surveyor, and shows Pleasant street which is now Prairie, and School street taking in blocks 10, 11 and 12 from Spring street to Water, and block 13 containing only six lots the other side of School street. Madison street shows as Broadway which had been widened to 99 feet, the extra width coming off of blocks 3, 4, 9 and 10.

In October 1850 Ludington's second extension was recorded with A. Topliff surveyor, taking in six blocks, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, nad 18 from Mill street to Church to Newcomb street, and from Water, to Ludington, to Broadway to Spring street with all streets in both first and second extensions shown sixty feet wide except Ludington and James 70 feet and Broadway 99 feet.

An epidemic of 15 or more additions took place within a few years and will be discussed subsequently.

1844

1844 brought many more settlers to Columbus and surrounding townships, but unfortunately no local records showing them all are available.

However, the following are known to have arrived. Jacob Smith, Lewis Smith, Dennis Smith, all brothers of T. Clark Smith; E. J. Smith a minister who is believed also to have been a brother for there was a brother John who was a minister; the Stroud family, H. W. Hamilton,

John Swarthout, H. Cady, A. Lasher, Capt. Asa Proctor, Benjamin A. Sage, Charles D. Stiles, James H. Sutton, Alfred Topliff, George Robinson, John Q. Adams, John Brown, Isiah Robinson, Samuel Austin, A. P. Birdsey; also the following who settled in Fountain Prairie. John Boutwell, L. Pearson, Julius Higbee, Enos Grout, Alison Horton, A. A. Brayton, S. M. Smith, John, O'Brien, J. D. Bullis, Issac Bennett, Phineas Underwood, Edward, Tripp, James Ketchum, about most of whom nothing can be found except the name and as coming in 1844 or a few years later.

Jacob Smith, learned the tailors trade in New York but when he came here he took up land near the village, perhaps adjoining his brothers, where he farmed for a few years. When he came to Columbus and opened the first merchant tailoring shop in Columbus: There were no surviving children. They were Presbyterians and Mr. Smith was also a Mason.

One reference has been found indicating that Jacob Smith and another brother Lewis came to Fountain Prairie with T. Clark Smith in 1843 rather than 1844; Lewis Smith settled and remained in Fountain Prairie, moving to Fall River from his farm some years later; there are several descendants living in or around Fall River.

Dennis Smith, likewise settled in Fountain Prairie, later coming to Columbus.

He had three sons Hiram, Emmet and Whitney, all of them mechanically minded.

Whit became the first superintendent of the city Water plant, when it was established in 1896 by means of a \$25,000.00 loan from the State at 1½ % interest.

In 1899 another loan of \$45,000 at the same rate was secured to build and equip a direct current electric steam generating plant, which Whit operated very efficiently until 1909 when he resigned to go with the ill fated Badger Motor company. After the closing of Badger Motor company, Whit Smith and family moved to the state of Washington where he established a service repair shop specializing in the Franklin, a highly regarded car at the time, using an air cooled engine.

Whit was married to Jessie Turk and lived in the old William Eichberg house at the corner of Church and Water Streets. Their daughter Ethel became Mrs. Knapp and lives at Olympia, Washington, and is a grandmother. The son Sidney Smith, married and also a grandfather, lived at Pendleton, Oregon.

Hiram and Emmet Smith both worked at the plant of Water & Light Dept., as engineer and fireman, where, when this writer first came to Columbus, 1902. Hiram married Margurite Donner, who later, after her husband's death, married Harry Jenkins, and lives at 233 N. Lewis Street.

Emmet married Therese Donner and his widow, Mrs. Therese Smith lives at 331 W. Harrison.

Dennis Smith also had two daughters, Lydia, who married "Cap" Richards, and Ella who first married Wilson Vanaken, and later after divorce, she married a Beaver Dam man.

Methodists Organize A Church Society

It was in the modest log cabin house of T. Clark Smith, on the farm where the Wisconsin Academy buildings stand, in 1844 that Rev. Stephen Jones organized a Methodist church society, a part of a circuit known as the Aztalan circuit that held services in outlying settlements.

The original members were Rev. E. J. Smith, Martha Smith, Clark Smith, Sarah Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. Aaron S. Houghton. Rev. E. J. Smith a retired minister and settler, was appointed leader.

A little later a log school house was built and church meetings were then held in the school house. The society grew in size as more settlers came, and in 1855 a modest frame church was built in Fall River at a cost of \$2,000.00, which in turn was rebuilt and enlarged in 1875 at a cost of \$1,200.00.

Not much detail can be found about the most of the 1844 arrivals mentioned above but we have something about a few.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 20

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Correction In Story

The writer, because of lack of information which has since been received, omitted an item in installment 19 that should be included, as follows.

Hiram Smith was twice married; his first wife was Miss Lizzie Allen, better known as Mrs. Bonnett who operated a Millinery store, and to them was born a son Lee Smith who was long associated with the John Topp and Brother Co. Lee was married to Miss Martha Giese, and they had a son Earl, married and now living in Madison.

His widow Mrs. Martha Smith, is well known and still lives in Columbus.

John Swarthout

John Swarthout became a druggist in Columbus and it was in his store that James Quicken-dent obtained his experience and later became a partner and still later sole proprietor.

An amusing story is told concerning Mr. Swarthout, when he first arrived he was dressed in the height of fashion, in striking contrast to the work-a-day clothes worn by the early settlers.

A citizen named George Graham, who claimed to be able to tell by looking at a new arrival what his business or profession might be, was seen eyeing the stranger on the opposite side of the street.

Another person said to him "George, what do you make of that flashy dressed man over there"; his reply was, "why he's a regular blackleg" a name applied to a sharper, or swindler: But how wrong he was.

Swarthout's first drug store was located about where Lohr's Buckhorn tavern now is, and during the Civil War it was the place where news was read to those assembled, whenever the mail brought in a newspaper.

A chair would be placed up on a counter and some good reader would be asked to take the chair and read the news from Washington, Madison or the front.

Swarthout's home was the house facing James st. next to the library, one of three houses having Colonial Columns that were built in Columbus, two of which still stand, the other being the Kelsey house on Ludington, owned and occupied by Ed Evans.

The other was the beautiful home of Governor James T. Lewis, torn down to make room for the Sisters home and chapel at St. Mary's Hospital.

A Lasher, an early settler at Fall River may have been a relative of Samuel Lashier who came two years later, although the names in the records are spelled differently, a common occurrence in those days.

Asa Proctor

Captain Asa Proctor of Vermont, grandfather of Ellen, Mrs. S. W. Andrews, John S. of Minneapolis, Willie R., Mary E., Walter A., Clara M., Alfred H. (Fred) and Adelaide, all of whom will be remembered by old timers, came to Columbus with wife and children in 1844 settling on Section 30 Fountain Prairie, died in 1848. His son Wm. H. Proctor then 17, took over the farming operations remaining on the home place which had been increased to 160 acres; His mother died in 1855 and in 1857 he married Angeline E., daughter of Samuel Lashier to whom was born the sons and daughters mentioned. This writer had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Proctor when with her daughters Clara and Adelaide, they were next door neighbors on Prairie st., living in the home now owned and occupied by her son A. H. Proctor, and a sweeter old lady never lived.

James H. Sutton came from New York in 1844 with his wife and several children, a carpenter by trade, and settled on 160 acres in Section 26 Hampden, building a crude log cabin with a thatched roof of prairie hay. This house burned the next year and was replaced by a larger log house.

In time there were a total of fourteen children born into this family, the most famous locally being John J. Sutton, of whom more will appear in later issues. James Sutton was great great grandfather to Ruth Sutton Doland, Harvey Sutton and other descendants in the area.

Alfred Topliff was 45 years of age when he came to Columbus in 1844 settling soon after on land in Hampden, on which he built, and cleared and planted before returning to Mass., in 1846 to bring back his wife and three daughters. He was an educated man, a surveyor and a teacher. Many surveys of land and lots were made by him in the early days as he was elected county surveyor while he was away to bring back his family. He moved in to Columbus in 1855, and died in 1879. In 1852 he was elected a member of the Wisconsin legislature.

One of his daughters became Mrs. Charles Henry Chadbourn, another Mrs. Waterhouse whose daughter became Mrs. A. S. Waldo. Mr. Topliff was great grandfather of the several Waldo children of which Doris Waldo is the only one living here; great, great grandfather of William and Philip Leitsch and their sisters Roberta and Janet (Mrs. Eugene Sullivan) and great, great, great grandfather to their children.

George Robinson came from Mass. when 20 years of age in 1844 being one of the three first settlers in town of Columbus, being neighbor of T. Clark Smith, the land being part of the Wisconsin Academy farms. His brother Isaiah Robinson was a pioneer lawyer in Columbus, and also to a limited degree carried on the business of the first money exchange, before there were any baking facilities, loaning and sums to those in need of same.

John O. Adams was 30, an educated man, when he came from Mass., in 1844 taking up land in Fountain Prairie, temporarily living with his neighbor James C. Carr. He was married in 1846 to Miss Lucy Pomeroy, lived on the farm until 1867 when he moved to Columbus, but continued to own his 350 acre farm. He became active in local, territorial and state affairs having held numerous positions of trust and responsibility both appointive and elective. His home in Columbus, where his daughter Lilly, Mrs. George Hasey lived, is now the home of the Arthur Jorgensens, 459 W. Harrison st.

The Austins

Samuel M. Austin and his second wife Mercy Miner Austin of Grafton county N. H. together with their children moved to Penna in 1832 and went to Ohio in 1834 where they stayed for ten years, coming to Jefferson county early in 1844 and finally located on land in section 34 town of Elba "entering" same at the usual \$1.25 per acre. The patent from the U. S. Government is signed by President James K. Polk.

Samuel's first wife who died in 1825 was Abigail Martin, by whom there were three children Mary Ann, who married Chauncy D. Taylor in 1839, died 1859; Mases T.; and Hannah M., who married R. P. Loveland in 1841.

Children born to Samuel and Mercy Austin were Ariel T.; Samuel M.; Manly; William Harvey; and Hiram S.; Sarah L.; and Edward J. Mercy Miner Austin died in 1853.

Moses T. when 25, married Catharin Hothaway in 1846 settling on land in Elba. A son Allen was born in 1850 and may have been an only child. He married Kate Morse, and as of 1880, still lived on the home place, and had three children, Lee, Raymond and Florence.

Ariel T. entered 220 acres of government land in 1846, settling on it the next year; was married in 1853 to Sarah Hathaway. Their children were Thaddens T.; Mercy D.; Abraham S.; Gracie D.; Frank; James W.; and Charity S. This branch of the family are written up in a subsequent installment.

Samuel M. married Philena, daughter of George and Mary Keller Adams, neighbors in which family were also George H. Mic and William Adams.

At that time this Samuel was called jr. but after his father's death in 1876 he became sr. and his son took on the jr.

The children of Samuel M. and Philena, sometimes called Polly, were Martha, who became Mrs. Chas. Conklin Abbie, who became Mrs. Albert Breyer, later going to Waupun.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 21

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Mr. Breyer became a member of the firm of Breyer Bros. and Whiting; Addie, who married a cousin George Adams; Manly who married Abbie Wright, a sister of Dr. Leslie A. Wright; Anna, who became Mrs. Frank Blecker; and Samuel M. Jr.

Manly's living children are Wright, who married Mildred Reinhard, of Reeseville, and have a son Samuel. They live on the Manly Austin home place of 640 acres, a part of the second Samuel's land which at one time was nearly a thousand acres.

Manly, hale and hearty at 85 lives with his son Wright.

Another son is Stanley, who married Marion Vine, who are parents of Gloria, recently married; they live on "Uncle Sam's" farm on county trunk K, the stone quarry road.

Vera, Manly's daughter is Mrs. Warren Maddox, a Y.M.C.A. secretary at West LaFayette, Indiana.

Samuel M. (III) Jr. farmed on 190 acres, part of the home place, until 1916 when he sold the place and moved to Columbus, building a fine brick home on Park Ave. In 1918 he bought his present farm which he farmed himself for several years, building up a fine herd of Holsteins. His life has been a busy one, and even now, in addition to supervising his own farm, he is a director in four different co-ops. He has been married twice but has no children.

William Harvey, usually called Harvey, married Sarah Rogers or Rodgars as spelled in her obituary, and lived on the farm now owned by their youngest son.

According to the obituary published at the time of her death at age 82, Mrs. Austin was the mother of eleven children, two of which Eliza and Delbert preceded her in death. The others were Edward, of Elba; Harry, of Austin, Minn.; Hannah, Mrs. Chas. Cripps, of York, at whose home her mother died; Burr, of Elba who married Emma Younke; Herbert, of Austin, Minn.; Robert, of Byron, Minn.; Myra, Mrs. Dodd, of Kalispell, Montana; Ernest, of Waterloo; and Lewis, then of Elba.

At the time of her death, there were 29 grandchildren, and nine great grand children; obviously too many to trace or mention since time and space does not permit.

Lewis now lives in Columbus at 639 S. Main St. with his son Harvey L. — His daughter, Loraine, Mrs. Chas. Wright and family have recently moved from Sioux Falls, S. D. and live on the farm; Mr. Wright is away most of the time in charge of several crews erecting a chain of high towers across the country, for transmission of A. T. & T. calls and T. V.

Another son, Roger lives at 666 Park Ave. The name Miner that appears frequently either as a first or middle name in several Austin families, traces back from Mercy Miner, through three or four generations of Miners, in which are also found the names of Desire and Thankful, back as far as 1735.

A. P. Birdsey

A. P. Birdsey, born in New York, married at 18, in 1831 to Janette Bell who died within a year married again in 1832, his oldest son Walter born before the father was 21; farmed in New York until 1839 when he ran a hotel for a year. Came to Prairieville, now Waukesha in May entering 40 acres 2½ miles from the village, on which he built a log house and tavern.

By hard work and thrift he owned 8 forty's when in 1844 he sold his 320 acres and the "old yellow tavern, and moved to 40 acres near Columbus.

His first venture was to go "South" where he purchased fifty cows, which he drove to Columbus, where all were sold before the following spring.

Later he sold the land and moved into the village buying the "Whitney" tavern from Mr. L. Thomas, perhaps about 1850.

This building stood at the corner of James and Ludington sts. where the Blackhawk tavern now is.

Birdsey moved a portion of it across the street, and the remainder subsequently burned some years later.

He purchased a store, with its stock of goods but soon sold it.

He then bought farm land north of James st. and west of Broadway, and upon it, on the "high ground opposite the Governor Lewis home" he built the Mountain House which he ran as a tavern for some time before selling out.

Published accounts from which the above has been culled do not give the dates.

However in January 1854 Birdsey's Addition was recorded; it consisted of 9 blocks between James and Newcomb, and Spring and Lewis sts. His second addition was recorded June 4, 1855 consisting of blocks, 10 to 27, three of which were west of Lewis st. between the present railroad viaduct and the cemetery, three or four blocks east of Lewis st. to the river and north Middletown st., and all of "Mexico" west of Broadway, now known as Dickason Blvd.

It is therefore assumed that his sale of the land was after both additions had been platted.

Immediately after selling the farm land he built the Birdsey house (the exact location of which has not been ascertained, by diligent research) which he operated for two years and then traded it for land in Fountain Prairie where he erected a residence and made many improvements.

In the fall of 1860 he "returned to the hotel" (or perhaps it returned to him) and was its landlord until the next Spring, when he again returned to the farm, living there till 1865.

He then moved to a farm near McGregor, Iowa where he died in 1869. He was buried in Columbus with Masonic honors.

Mr. Birdsey donated lot 1, Block 13 Birdsey's addition to the German Lutheran's upon which the first Lutheran church building was located.

His career was a varied one; he was impulsive if not impetuous and erratic, and was full of generous impulses.

This writer knew one granddaughter Jenny and one grandson Frank L. Birdsey who ran a grocery store for many years, where McNulty's grocery now is.

Benjamin Sage, really came to Fountain Prairie in 1843 and selected land, but returned to Vermont after his family settling in the Spring of 1844. He was a blacksmith as well as a farmer, and in time retired from the farm to Fall River where he purchased a blacksmith and wagon shop.

His wife was Margaret Bassford, and they had eleven children one of whom, Benjamin A. was also a blacksmith and served in the Union Army.

A. A. Brayton, one of the early settlers, founded Fall River, built the mill dam, operated the first store, coming from Aztalan, details of his activity being covered in the story of Fall River mill which will soon follow.

Enos Grout was the father in law of Mr. Brayton, coming from Aztalan.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 22

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

The Mill Gets Busy

Col. Jerimiah Drake, Ludington's agent here, and his son William, leased the mill from Ludington, and after putting both the sawmill and the grist mill in better shape enjoyed a rushing business.

While the sawmill was busy its output was largely for local use, but the grinding of grain became the leading feature. A fourth grinding stone had been added but even this added capacity could not keep up with the accumulating grists.

People from Madison and from as far as Stevens Point and other remote settlements came to the Columbus mill. The various grists, always brought in bags, frequently on horse back, were numbered and each had to await its turn, many of them lying over for two weeks at a time.

This was serious, to be short of bread when there was neither flour or a loaf of bread in the settlers house.

The capacity of the four stone mill was only about one hundred bushels of wheat per day light run.

Six years later when J. S. Manning bought the mill he put it on a 24 hour basis.

The First Hotel

Ludington's plat indicated lots and blocks to be donated for various purposes, including a hotel at the corner of James and Ludington.

H. A. Whitney secured absolute title to the hotel site by erecting a one and one half story frame structure, the lower floor of which was a tavern and store, while the upper floor contained sleeping accommodations.

While the sawmill built by Dickason could supply rough timbers and material for framing, it apparently could not supply boards of suitable material, as Butterfield says "Most of the lumber of which it was built was hauled from Aztalan."

Aztalan, almost unknown to present day people was an early settlement on the Crawfish river a few miles above its junction with the Rock river. It was a few miles east of Lake Mills, and had a sawmill and grist mill a few years earlier than Columbus.

Aztalan today is mostly a memory, except for the extensive excavating now under way by archaeologists on 100 acres recently acquired by the state of Wisconsin, being the location of an "ancient city of the mounds".

Mr. Whitney operated the store and tavern, along with various other activities, including the post office he having received appointment in 1845 as the first postmaster of Columbus.

In 1848 he sold the business to a Mr. Thomas who ran the hotel for a year or two, then selling it to A. P. Birdsey, perhaps about 1850.

Birdsey built an addition to it and conducted it for some time, then cut off a portion and moved it across the street to be used as a store.

Hotel Burned And Rebuilt

Whitney and McCafferty were the next landlords for a year or more, then it was rented.

October 8th, 1857 the hotel burned to the ground, and as Columbus needed a hotel, the others being only boarding houses, the work of rebuilding began at once.

Butterfield says "Winter was approaching and Columbus was without a hotel. There are few instances to record where so much energy is displayed, as was the case in the construction of the hotel. Within 18 days from the time the first shovel of earth was removed in excavating for the foundations, a substantial four-story brick building had been erected, and workmen were engaged putting on the roof.

Mr. Whitney surprised himself as well as his friends. The following spring, it was rented to a Mr. Gardiner, and not long afterward Mr. Whitney took the management upon himself.

At the end of four years (about 1862), he sold to G. Fuller, but was soon compelled to take it back.

Later Enoch Pulver purchased it and a man named Graves bought of Pulver and Julius Fuchs (Fox) was the owner in the late 1870's, changing the name to the Fox House.

Land Given For Cemetery

When Lewis Ludington platted the original nine blocks shown on his first plat, recorded in Brown county, before there was a Columbia county, he was the owner of two quarter sections running northward from what is now Fuller st. and Manning st. for a mile, and his attorney, his son-in-law, John Hustis owned two quarter sections just west and adjoining his.

Ludington set aside about 10 acres, about a half mile away to the north "for the use of the citizens of both township and village for burial purposes, on the most appropriate spot, the ridge that ran parallel with the river."

The first burial made there was that of the body of Hiram Allen, an early settler, who died in 1845. The cemetery has entered into the early politics of the township, and after the incorporation of Columbus as a city, there was bitterness that resulted in lock outs and litigation.

The matter was settled by legislative action when the state legislature passed a regulation to the effect that "Whenever any town cemetery shall become embraced within the limits of any city, the duties and powers (heretofore) of the town board relating thereto shall be exercised by the Common Council."

Travel Difficult

Travel was most difficult and anything but a pleasure at the period of which we are now writing.

Butterfields history published in 1880 says, "In 1844 when necessary to go to Plover the county seat of Portage county, it was a horseback pilgrimage of many days duration, on which the solitary traveler guided his course through the wilderness "by the blaze."

There are many men today (1880) who remember how difficult a trip to Milwaukee really was when made by team and wagon, mostly ox teams, for the trip frequently required as much as two weeks through mud and rain and swamp and woods.

The trail was usually two muddy ruts, crooked and winding through the woods, usually following old Indian trails. Whenever possible, the higher ground of ridges were used, but most of the ridges ran from south west to north east which did not help much when going from here to Milwaukee.

There were several corduroy roads across marshy stretches, consisting of tree trunks laid close together crossways thus forming a quaking bumping road.

Produce was carted to Milwaukee and goods and supplies brought back. Sometimes, during the muddy season as many as six or eight ox teams were necessary to insure arrival of the load.

The principal route from here was by what was known as the old government road by way of Waterloo, Lake Mills, Aztalan and east to Summit. The route from Watertown joined this route about 12 miles south east of Watertown.

The Watertown plank road from Milwaukee westward to Summit followed roughly where "old" highway 30 is.

Plank roads were heavy planks laid crossways fastened to heavy stringers; they were privately owned and usually belonged to "share companies, which was also the case with bridges of some length. There were frequent toll gates where fees were collected, similar to toll bridges and a few turnpikes today. Many settlers were too poor to pay the toll and had to use other and poorer roads.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 23

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

In particularly bad weather, travelers sometimes had to go farther south through Palmyra and Waukesha.

Men who were on the road in those days told of being stuck in the mud, and after ineffectively laboring for long hours, would mount a horse and try to find assistance, sometimes not getting back until the next day.

Later the route from here shifted to Lowell and Watertown.

Local merchants were dependent upon teamsters to cart their produce to market and bring back supplies.

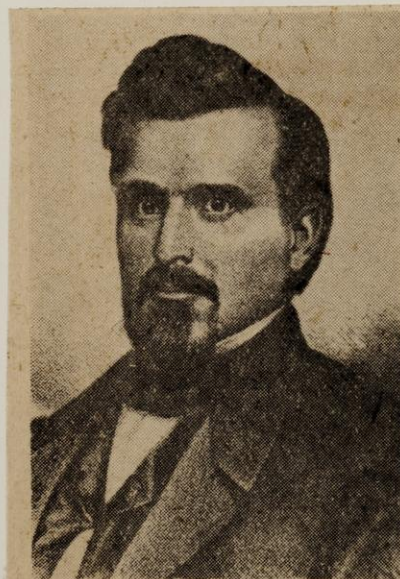
Henry Zick's grandfather was one such teamster hauling grain for Churchill and Sexton and returning with whatever goods were most urgently needed, but his period was a few years later, perhaps in the 1850's.

1845

1845 brought many newcomers to the area, some of whom became important figures in the political and business life of Columbus, the county and the state. Also this year came the vanguard of the many Welsh that followed.

The following names of arrivals have been found through extensive research, but the list is by no means complete.

James T. Lewis, Dr. J. C. Axtell, merchants J. E. Arnold and Daniel E. Bassett, Warren Loomis, W. C. Spencer, Jesse Rowell, father of Harvey Rowell the gunsmith, E. Thayer, W. M. Swarthout, Thomas Swarthout, Nelson Swarthout, Richard Barrows, Zenas Robbins, George W. Tripp, Peter B. Hoyt, John Yule, John Hasey, Samuel Hasey, David Laskey, Perry Lee, Matthew



James T. Lewis

Buffalo for the trip to the west. On ship-board he met a young doctor, J. C. Axtell, who left the boat at Detroit to make his way overland to wherever he might find a suitable location.

Lewis remained on board and several days later left the boat at Southport, now Kenosha where he purchased an Indian pony for \$30.00 to

Lowth, Oliver H. Luey, James McCounell, James Webster, brickmaker. William W. Williams, Rev. Hugh Jones, Richard Jones, John Jones, David G. Evans, Robert Owen, Hugh Owen, Daniel Roberts, William R. Williams, David R. Williams, Griffith Edwards, Williams P. Griffiths, Wm. R. Hughes, Benjamin Hughes, Robert Pritchard, Wm. & Ellen Pritchard, Owen R. Owen, Richard Jones, John Davies, Uriah Davies.

James T. Lewis

Of these early settlers, the one to become most famous, was James T. Lewis, a young lawyer of 26, engaged to be married to Miss Orlina M. Sturges of Clarendon, New York.

He had studied law in the office of Governor Selden of New York after finishing high school. He was admitted to the bar of the United States District Court in New York in 1845. He came west seeking opportunity and a suitable location for the practice of his profession, to which he would bring his bride.

It was in the summer of 1845 that he left Orleans County, New York, taking a boat at continue on his quest.

"Civilization had scarcely more than begun to touch the western shore of Lake Michigan, and as he passed along through the rude and hardly discernible beginnings of the future cities and villages of the state to be, he little thought that within 20 years the population would approach a million, and that he would one day be its chief magistrate, during a portion of its history so important as two years of the rebellion."

Milwaukee was the most important place and must have had a population of some 5000 to 10,000 people — (Milwaukee county had 5,605 in 1840 and 31,077 in 1850).

As Lewis rode on northward along or near the lake shore, following the trail to Green Bay he found little encouragement, and upon arrival at Green Bay which was but little more than it had been, a French trading post, and conferring with a lawyer friend Charles D. Robinson, who had recently located there, he decided to locate at some place nearer the state capitol.

Heading his pony south along the military road connecting Fort Howard, near Green Bay with Fort Winnebago he passed where Appleton, Neenah, Menasha and Oshkosh now are; the latter appeared to have made a slight start where the Fox river entered Lake Winnebago, with nothing whatever at the first three places mentioned. Fond du Lac was a small village and the whole trip thus far gave little promise of a near hereafter.

Lewis journeyed on towards the south west and found one solitary log cabin where Waupun now is, and Beaver Dam a little village. There was a faint trace of a trail like road from Beaver Dam to Columbus where upon arrival he found besides four houses, a tavern, sawmill grist mill and a few log cabins.

"It was upon the termination of this journey on the travel worn pony, and with the evidences of the trail and the bush about himself, that the few settlers obtained their first impression of the man that was to be the first lawyer here, and in eighteen years was to be the Governor of the state.

Dr. Axtell Arrives

By a strange coincidence, the ship board acquaintance Dr. Axtell who had left the boat at Detroit, had made his way to Chicago, overland and thence to Madison from where he walked to Columbus, arriving on the same day.

These two men drawn together, as if by personal magnetism, decided to locate here and for several years they occupied an office together, on the second floor of a building in which John Swarthout started the first drug store, about where 119 E. James now is.

Mr. Lewis was active in political and governmental affairs, in town, county, territorial, state and even national affairs, having held the office of county judge, district attorney, member of constitutional convention, member of the assembly, state senator, lieutenant governor all of which time he had been a Democrat.

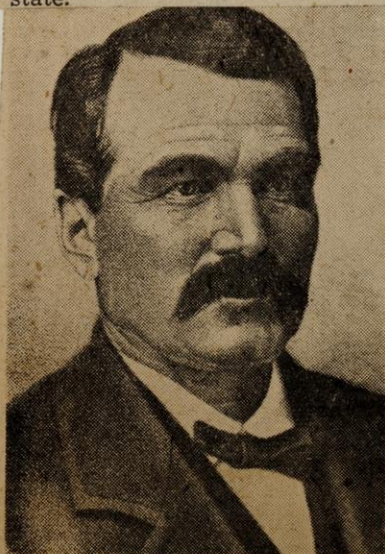
However with the outbreak of the Civil War he became restless under the drift of the party, declaring that "he who is not a faithful friend of the government of his country, in this trying hour, is no friend of mine" he at once threw the weight of his name and influence in support of the war.

In 1861 he was nominated and elected secretary of state on the so called Union Republican ticket, and in 1863 he was elected governor on the same ticket with the largest majority (over 25,000) that was to be voted to any candidate for that office until 1896, when the population of the state had more than doubled.

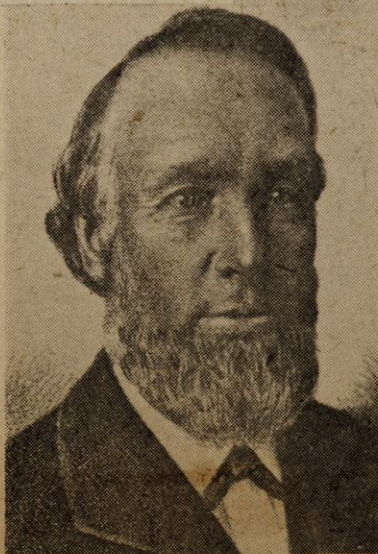
Relative to Dr. Axtell, Mrs. McCafferty says, "The coming of a much needed physical was another stirring event of the settlement, and well remembered by me. One very hot day in August, a weary foot-sore man, boots in hand, appeared at our door asking for food and rest. (The St. John family of which Mrs. McCafferty was the daughter, settled a few miles south west of the village.

He had walked from Madison. He was well dressed, a fine looking young man, who gave his name as Dr. James Axtell. My stepmother being away, it fell upon me to prepare his dinner. After dinner and a few hours rest my father drove him to the little village, stopping on the way at Richard Barrow's, whose son was very low with typhoid fever. He saw at once what it was, but had no medicine with him. (The Barrows place was near the stone quarry on county trunk K.)

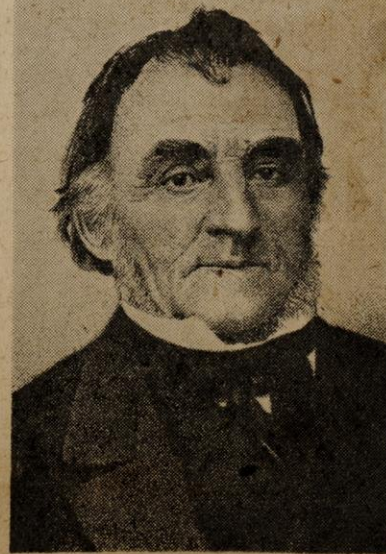
(Continued next week)



M. C. Hobart



W. H. Proctor



Jeremiah Drake

Installment No. 24

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

"The next day my father, Samuel St. John went to Madison for his effects. This was his, the doctors first patient, and he saved him."

This was period when so called practical jokes were in order. Sometime after Dr. Axtell had located here, a citizen told him of a remarkable case in which a man had broken his leg and within two hours he was walking on it again. The Dr. said this was a physical impossibility.

The citizen then proved his statement. It was a wooden leg that broke and was repaired and walking again within two hours.

Arnold and Bassett

Daniel E. Bassett and Josiah E. Arnold had engaged in operating a store in Janesville for a year or two, and had reached the conclusion that the demands of the trade were fully met at that place.

Arnold started northward on horseback in August 1845 to find a new location, coming by way of Lake Mills and Waterloo. Night overtook him about six miles south of the hamlet of Columbus at a double log house then occupied by a man named Paddock, where he obtained lodging.

This was probably a little below Danville which was then nonexistent.

Arnold came to Columbus the next day, and according to Butterfield purchased a lot with 150 feet frontage, across the street from the Whitney tavern, for \$30.00, upon which Bassett and Arnold built a store that fall, being the second store in Columbus, bringing up from Janesville only a portion of their goods.

It has been said by a number of people, including James Quickenden, that Daniel Bassett had a store a few miles down on the Crawfish and gave his name to the location which has every since been known as Danville, even before he came to Columbus.

Whether the Danville store was before, or at the same time or later than 1845 is not clear. It is quite possible that two stores were opened by the partners, with the goods from Janesville divided between them, with Arnold at Columbus and Bassett at Danville.

The \$30.00 lot with 150 feet frontage across from the tavern must have been lot 6 block 1 which is the only lot opposite that had that much frontage as the lots were 60x150 feet with the 60 feet fronts facing Ludington and the length parallel with James.

If this surmise is correct, it would have been the frontage on James st. now occupied by the Sport Shop, Dulek's grocery, Quentmeyer Bros., Western Auto stores, Buckhorn tavern and Columbus Milk Co. and would also account for the many buildings facing both sides of James st. being only 60 feet or less in depth, as to have greater depth would have required portions of the lot adjoining in the rear to be acquired, which in some instances is the case.

James Quickenden, born here in 1855, has a very keen memory, and has supplied much information absorbed in his boyhood days, about the early happenings before his own recollections could have been formed.

He states that when Daniel Bassett moved to Columbus from Danville, he also had his house moved here, located on lot 10 block 8 facing on Broadway, now Dickason Blvd., where the Post Office now stands.

When the government bought the property, the house was moved to a lot in the Briesse pasture at the south end of Dickason and facing Fuller st., where it stands today.

Josiah Arnold, elected clerk of Circuit Court, moved to Portage in 1851 when the county seat was moved from Columbus. He later became register of deeds; then opened a hardware store in the Verandah block in Portage in partnership with Bony Fargo about 1853 and as of 1880 was mayor of Portage.

Bassett apparently was not politically inclined although he was elected coroner 1847-50, but confined his attention to merchandising in which business he was engaged for many years. In 1868 and presumably for some time previously the firm was Bassett, Davis and Price. In 1875 the name Price does not appear in the advertising.

Elba and Danville

The first settlements in township 10 range 13 E Dodge county, began about 1843, the names of those pioneers we have been able to find being Lawson Trobridge, Miles Burnham, Morris Burnham, George Adams, Mr. Jarvis, James Webster and a Mr. Robinson.

An election was held in Robinson's cabin in the Ox-Bow of the Crawfish and there were two tickets in the field for town officers, one ticket representing the land owners, the other the "squatters", a name applied to those who built a cabin and began to clear the land and start farming without the formality of first "entering" a claim.

The result was a tie so the business of the town was transacted at Lowell. In the next election those who owned their land were victorious and the town was organized. No agreement was reached for a suitable name for the township so a conference was held with the secretary of state and the name Elba was agreed upon.

Miles Burnham filed on a 40 acre tract lying on both sides of the Crawfish across which he, with the assistance of his cousin Morris, and Samuel Hasey, built a dam and erected a saw mill in 1844.

Presumably this dam and sawmill was what inspired Daniel Bassett to build a store there, and had it not been for the coming of the railroad twelve or fifteen years later, with a station at what was then called Elba, now Astico, Danville might have become a more important place.

It is impossible to find data on all of the 1845 pioneers previously mentioned, or to give space if found, but in many cases the reader will connect names of settlers with persons living here now, but there are a few at least about whom we have facts justifying special mention.

James Webster

James Webster came to Dodge county from Jefferson county in 1845 and located on 96 acres in Lowell and 40 acres in Elba. Six years later he bought the better known Webster farm 3 miles east of Columbus, on which his son Samuel R. Webster and later his grandson Ralph, lived until recently.

James Webster, born in Oneida Co., New York, in 1814, married there when 22, had learned the trade of brickmaking which he followed for several years. He had also kept hotel at Rome, N. Y. for two years.

Thus it was that he not only knew farming, and stock raising at both of which he was successful, but also having a trade and knowledge of making brick which in those days were hand made, his knowledge and services must have been in great demand in this community, for it was many years before Hayden Bros. brick yard across the river was established.

He undoubtedly made the red brick of which the Webster house were made, and the brick for many other homes of that period.

For example, the Wm. Lewis house, which has been the writer's home since 1916, was built of hand made brick, made on the site in 1854. It is a safe bet that James Webster supervised the making of the brick.

As of 1880 Mr. Webster had lost four sons, and had three children living, Jennie, Mrs. A. M. Watson of LaCrosse, Samuel R., who later took over the large farm, and John P.

He was grandfather to S. R. Webster's children Winnie, Mrs. A. H. Proctor, Ralph, Edwin and Harold, and therefor great grandfather to their children, and there are several children of the fifth generation.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 25

" The Story Of COLUMBUS "

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)
More About Ludington

Let us digress and interrupt the narrative for a moment. This writer has just returned from a three weeks absence in New England and Quebec.

Enroute to Boston on route 6 he passed through Carmel, New York, having gone that way purposely in order to absorb anything that might be picked up locally, regarding the Ludingtons.

Highway markers indicate points of historic interest and one of these near Carmel read as follows.

"SIBYL LUDINGTON RODE HORSEBACK OVER THIS ROAD THE NIGHT OF APRIL 26, 1777 TO CALL OUT COLONEL LUDINGTONS REGIMENT OF MILITIA TO REPEL THE BRITISH AT DANBERRY, CONN."

It must have been a ride similar to that of Paul Revere, and of considerable length as two more markers reading the same way were encountered at intervals of several miles.

Raymond Hill is a well kept cemetery of some five or six acres about half a mile from Carmel, a one street village about like Fall River, on the shores of a beautiful lake.

The Lewis Ludington lot is a large one dominated by an obelisk perhaps thirty feet tall mounted on a beautiful block of granite about five feet square and five or six feet high, which in turn is on a suitable and well proportioned base.

On the four sides are inscribed the names and dates of birth and death of Lewis Ludington 1786-1857 — Polly his wife 1791-1878 — Della 1819 — Lavina E. 1829-1910 — Emily wife of Victor E. Tull 1832-1917 — Victor E. Tull 1846-1921 — William E. Ludington 1818-1838 — Robert Ludington 1822-1880.

Also on the same lot is a mausoleum, of granite consisting of steps and two bases for columns hewn from a single block of granite.

Two Ionic fluted columns with cap and base support a Greek facade upon the face of which are carved the two names Tull and Ludington.

Within the mausoleum are three cripts of marble marked simply Victor, Emily and Lavinia L. and another reading Amelia, wife of John C. Angell daughter of Polly and Lewis Ludington died November 29, 1870.

Some seven or eight miles away, lies a small hamlet called Ludingtonville, once known as Kent, and still earlier as Fredricksburg, consisting of six or eight houses, a filling station and the old country store once owned and operated by the Ludingtons in Revolutionary War days and later by Lewis and his brother Frederick.

Also here is the Ludington mill built in 1760 by Col. Henry Ludington father of Lewis and several brothers and sisters.

The mill is no longer active, and is now, in part, used as a residence, and in part as a storehouse. The building is in good repair, recently painted with the date 1760 prominently displayed.

Upon inquiry at Carmel, there are no Ludingtons now living there but there are descendants living in Patterson, New York some 15 or 20 miles away.

The Hasey's

John and Rhoda Hasey, originally of Vermont, emigrated to Genesee county, New York in 1828 and to Wisconsin in 1844, settling first in Dane county, then in town of Elba, Dodge county in 1845, and still later came to Columbus. Their first home in Columbus was the stone house at 1158 Waterloo St.

Their oldest son John jr. was born in Vermont in 1817 and Samuel in 1822. There were two other sons, Alfred and David Austin.

John jr. took up land in Columbia county two years later, while Samuel remained in Elba, and became owner of the dam and sawmill at Danville.

John jr. married Miss Albina Farnham, and they had no children. He left the farm in 1856 and moved to Columbus where he engaged in buying and selling farm produce for about 20 years.

Later in life he built and operated a cheese factory located at School and Hibbard sts.

He died in 1914 at the age of 97, his wife died in 1906. Their home was the house at 208 S. Ludington st. now the office of Dr. Mudroch.

Samuel sold the sawmill in order to join the gold rush to California in 1849, and upon his return took up farming near Danville.

He was married in 1852 to Mary E. Anderson, and their son James was born in 1853; their next son was George E. and then a daughter Rhoda. In the late 60's they acquired 160 acres in Hampden, and later moved to Columbus, their home being 415 W. Prairie now the home of Edward Quentmeyer.

James married Elizabeth McBurnie, and their children were Ray who married Miss Unga Johnson, lives in Milwaukee and have two sons and a daughter; Fred living in Hampden, married Miss Hattie Brewer; their children are Harold who married Miss Jane Daniels; Irene, Mrs. Wayne Moore, and Floyd at home.

The only daughter of James, is Miss Marybell, a nurse. The youngest son is George, of 452 S. Ludington st., whose wife was Miss Ruth Karow; their only daughter Katherine died a few years ago. The James Hasey house was at Harrison and Dickason, next to the Methodist church.

Samuel Hasey's second son George E. became a mining engineer spending several years in Mexico and other Latin American countries and in Colorado. Rather late in life he married Miss Lillian Adams, daughter of John Q. Adams, whose home was the house at 459 W. Harrison st. now the home of the Arthur Jorgensen's and before that, of S. R. Webster. After the death of his wife, George married a widow, Mrs. Knowlton of Waterloo.

Rhoda, the daughter of Samuel, married Frank Austin and lived on the West Coast, and was brought here for burial when she died early in 1951. There was a daughter Josephine.

Third son of the original John, was Alfred whose wife was Miss Adaline Robinson daughter of Noah Robinson. They had one son Charles whose wife was Miss Della Mortrun and they had a son Guy, and a daughter Hattie who became Mrs. Wm. Briese, who died in recent years. After leaving the farm, the Alfred Hasey home in Columbus was 107 School at Ludington.

The fourth son was David Austin whose wife was Caroline Whipple. Their children were Emma, Mrs. Curtis Sheppard, mother of Miss Edna, librarian of Columbus, and Rodney of Beloit who married Miss Edna Lashier of Fall River and have a son Curtis and a daughter Caroline. Frank who married Miss Dora Genung is the father of Lotta, Mrs. Walter Bock, and a son Ralph; and John, who married Miss Anna Hauser; they went to Oklahoma in the land rush years ago. Their children were Frank, Nettie, Maud, Nina and Thelma.

The Welsh Arrive

It was in 1845 that 52 people came, in family groups, from Wales to settle in Elba and Calamus, Dodge county, as well as in Columbus.

These family groups often were made up of three generations, husband and wife, their children and frequently one or more grandparents of either husband or wife or both.

The migration from Wales was extensive, centering in mid-New York state and in Wisconsin.

To many Welshmen, and to the poor and oppressed of many European countries, this was indeed, the land of promise.

There were already colonies or groups in Racine and Waukesha counties, so the new arrivals usually came to Racine by lake boats, and proceeded overland to take up land in locations previously selected by countrymen who had come on in advance for that purpose.

Similar groups settled around Randolph and Cambria in the same year 1845.

An account in considerable detail, in connection with the story of our churches will follow in a later installment; suffice it to say here that descendants of many of the pioneer Welsh families mentioned are an important segment of our community at this time.

Three more Swarthouts, probably brothers of Jacob and John Swarthout, came to the area in 1845, settling in Fountain Prairie, William-Thomas and Nelson, descendants of whom reside in Fall River and elsewhere.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 26

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The First Post Office

In 1845 the only communication between Columbus and Beaver Dam was a mere Indian trail, and the only means of transportation, other than walking, was on the back of a pony. Before the establishment of the postal route from Green Bay to Madison, there existed a primitive line from Aztalin to the Portage near Ft. Winnebago.

Letters were dropped at Columbus by the carrier, who made the trip on horseback, and also, when any of the people of the settlement went to Aztalan, famed "village of the mounds" for supplies, they brought back with them any mail found there addressed to any one in this area.

Late in 1845, a post office was established at Columbus, with a mail arrival once a week.

The first building used as a post office here, was a small one room shack that stood about where Paul Baerwald's barber shop now is, in which, one Sylvester Corbin, sometimes called "Old Hyson" lived.

There was a spirited contest between Col. Drake and H. A. Whitney as to who should be the post master.

Because of the local feeling that Major Dickason had been unfairly treated by Lewis Huntington, whose agent Col. Drake was, Mr. Whitney was the winner.

Mr. Whitney, besides having a combined store and tavern, with sleeping accommodations on the second floor, was also a live stock dealer, ran wagons for hauling supplies, furnished horse and oxtteams for logging operations which frequently took him to the "pineries" on business.

Corbin, an employee of Mr. Whitney, also carried letters in the crown of his hat and delivered the mail to nearby places of business.

Fred F. Farnham, who came to Columbus about that time thus described Corbin's abode, "The apartment was partitioned by the aid of blankets, hung from a line, and behind the blankets lay "Old Hyson" prone upon his bed, shivering with ague. In one corner stood a barrel of whiskey, a grocery much in vogue in those days, and in another corner was a 7 inch by 9 inch glass box, the contents of which constituted the post office, which the patrons rummaged at leisure." This little building later became an outhouse for Hotel Whitney.

When Whitney knew he would be away for some days, he would leave the contents of the box with lawyer James T. Lewis whose office was across James St., above Swarthout's drug store.

Josiah Arnold became postmaster in 1847 and the post office was in the Bassett and Arnold store, a frame building that stood about where

Wesley Gray's Western Auto Supply store now is at 115 E. James st.

A chronological story concerning the postal service will appear later on in this narrative.

1846

The following are names of some of those who came to this area in 1846.

B. F. Hart and S. Wright, both blacksmiths, opened the first public blacksmith shop, although Major Dickason had a crude shop and employed a blacksmith while building his sawmill and grist mill.

Later Hart and Wright sold out to Amasa Silsbee and J. Huntington and they in turn sold to D. D. Kelsey.

The Adler family, John Kluperdanz, Henry J. Clark, John Derr, and George Reidner all came in 1846.

Robert Gamidge, born in England, settled on 80 acres i section 23, and by 1880 owned 200 acres.

He was the father of Jennie, and Charles R. Gamidge, who was city assessor of years, and also once served the city as mayor.

Isaac C. and Sally Hancock, and son Harmon, age 13 came from New York settling in Fountain Prairie; Harmon R. married Mary R. Stiles whose parents Danforth W. and Emily came from Vermont in 1847. Their children were Ed., Herbert, Willis, Nellie, Lydia, Cora, Matilda and Laura.

Thomas Jones and his father also Thomas Jones came from Wales, settling on section 27 town of Columbus; the father died here in 1849.

Dexter Blanchard, 20 year old son of John Blanchard, came from Vermont with his father, a tanner, settling on land in section 28 and 29 town of Columbus; Father and son built the usual log cabin with hay roof, returning to Vermont to bring the family in the spring of 1847.

Dexter became the father of John, William and Marrietta, and grandfather of John's daughters, Lina now married and living in the east, and Helen, now Mrs. Ed Martin, Milwaukee.

Montgomery

James Montgomery, whose grandfather came to Mass. from the British Isle of Man, came from Vermont in 1846 at the age of 26 and took up land on section 30 town of Columbus, moving a year later to section 25 town of Hampden. He was active in town and county affairs, served as assessor, deputy sherriff, town treasurer and member of county board. His children were Cyrus; Mary (Mrs. A. Sanderson); Sarah (Mrs. Wm. McBurnie); Ella (Mrs. Albert Welton); Emma (Mrs. Wm. Curtis); Hannah (Mrs. Milan Brewer); Adelia, Henry, William, Adeline and James.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 27

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Lashier

Samuel Lashier and wife Mary, came from New York settling on land in town of Columbus, June 12, 1846. He had been a wagon maker and mechanic, and after four years on the land he moved in to Fall River.

Those were five children, Harvey, Ellen, Angeline who became the wife of W. H. Proctor, and mother of Nellie (Mrs. S. W. Andrews); John, Walter, Willie, Clara, Alfred H., and Adelaide; Mary (Mrs. J. E. Stittman); and George S., storekeeper, and miller, father of Mrs. Ralph Webster and Mrs. Rodney Shepard.

Marvin R. Thomas, 23 years of age, came to Columbus from Ohio, setting up the second blacksmith shop. It was set up out of doors, under a tree, and a shop built around it later.

He operated his shop here for several years, frequently walking over 30 miles to Jefferson county (probably Aztalan) to get supplies, carrying plow shares on his back.

He moved to Fall River in 1857; "When Mr. Thomas settled in Fountain Prairie it was sparsely settled and times were hard, he relates that Mr. Proctor once invited a neighbor to take supper with him; they had bread and milk, and he afterwards discovered that Mrs. Proctor went without, as there was not enough to go around."

Brossard

Jean Baptiste Brossard and his wife, both, born in France, but then living in that part of Switzerland bordering on France, together with 8 sons and a five weeks old baby daughter emigrated to America in 1834, locating in Little France, New York north of Syracuse.

There the family lived for thirty three years; but in 1846 two of the sons, Venuste twenty four years old and Victor two years younger, ventured away from home and got as far as Columbia county where after working several months Venuste entered 80 acres the W½ of the SW¼ of section 24 in Fountain Prairie, paying \$100.00 to the U. S. government for the same.

Victor entered 80 acres in an adjoining section: Neither of the brothers had expected to locate in the west, this being an exploratory trip, and both returned to New York for some years.

Venuste married Adaline Hepp, also French, in New York in 1853 and returned to Fountain Prairie to his land on which there was a crude house, built of Ash slabs, that is boards sawn from logs but not edged.

An older brother Francis also came, so there were three Brossard families, the only French people in the area. In 1867 after the death of the mother, the father and a bachelor son left New York and came to make their home with the sons and brothers in Fountain Prairie.

Like his father, Venuste had 9 children, Christine, born in 1854, who became Mrs. John Dargin, and mother of Adaline, Mrs. Melvin Dunn; Clara, Mrs. Leo Tobin and later Mrs. J. E. O'Brien; Agnes, Mrs. Robert Jones; and a son Venuste living in California.

Clara, born in 1856; Wm. Adolph; John; Eugene E.; George; Lana, Mrs. Miller, Fall River; Louis, and Clarence.

The Brossard family tree, now being written by E. E. Brossard, its roots so far reaching and so many wide spread branches, will not be attempted by this writer, except to cover briefly E. E. Brossard.

Gene Brossard was born on the farm in Fountain Prairie in 1863, grew up a farmers son, and was a farm hand during farming months until he was 27. He was well educated in the district school which he attended each winter term, later teaching in Marcellon and Fall River.

In his father's home, French was the language spoken unless there were neighbors present when English was spoken. At that time there was but one Irish family and no Germans in the neighborhood, most of the early settlers being New Englanders or New Yorkers.

When his father first came here in 1846, he worked for a time for T. Clark Smith, one of the earliest settlers.

Gene entered the University in 1883 when twenty and graduated in 1888, working as a farm hand each summer.

He married Miss Emma Lowth, daughter of Matthew Lowth, a pioneer, farmer and school teacher, and to them were born two sons, Matthew and Eugene.

Mr. Brossard practiced law in Columbus for many years and is the senior member of Brossard and Zeidler although not now active. He has lived in Madison for many years, having only recently retired after long service as Revisor of the statutes. He is now in his 88th year and still as strong in mind and body, as most men many years younger.

Christopher Lueth and his family came to Columbus from Germany in 1846; his son Frederick was 9 years old at that time; they resided here until 1876 when Frederick purchased a half interest in the mill at Danville, from John Roberts and about the same time August Reddemann, father of August Reddemann of this city, purchased the other half.

J. T. Sweet and his wife Esther originally from Ohio came to Elba in 1846 settled on land in sections 35. Their son Dodge Sweet married Susan Crawford in 1848, took over the 80 acres a year later when her parents moved to Columbus.

John Storer, son of Joseph Storer was 12 years old when his parents settled on land in section 4, Elba. He married Kate Conklin and there were four children, Nora, Hattie, Charles and Matie. One of the daughters became Mrs. Coughley who together with her sister Matie lived in Columbus for many years before passing away.

Evans

William W. Evans, son of Evan Evans, native of North Wales, was 26 years of age in 1846 when he came to Calamus where he entered 80 acres in section 23; selling it in 1847 he bought another 80 in section 29 which he held only a few months then bought 130 acres in section 31. His wife was Jane, daughter of Thomas W. and Mary Parry of Carnarvowshire, N. Wales.

There were four sons who lived, Thomas W. William W., John W. and Hugh W. also an adopted daughter. John W. was the father of Will J. and Margaret (Mrs. Hugh Roberts) and therefor grandfather of Bill and Joe Evans and Roger Roberts.

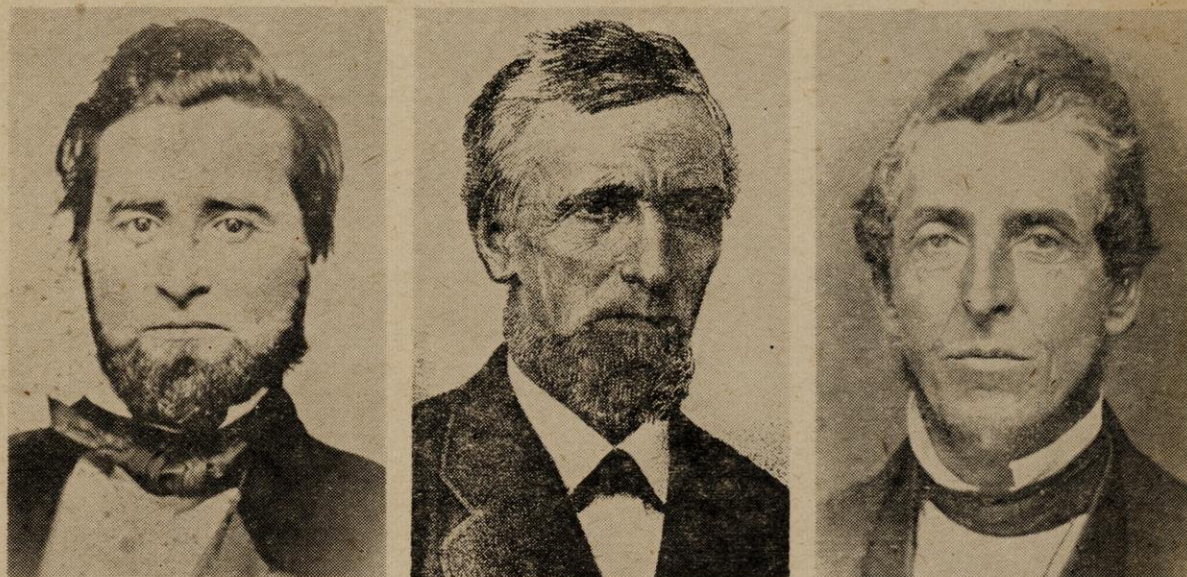
The 130 acre farm of Wm. Evans bore the Welsh name Fron-Hu-Log. It has come down through three generations and is still in the Evans family after 102 years. John W. Bill's father lived on the farm until 1910 when he moved to Columbus, where he died in 1927.

Bill Evans' grandparents on his mother's side were Margurite Jones, daughter of Rev. Hugh Jones, and David R. Owen, both of whom came from Wales in 1945 in the first group of pioneers.

Thus John W. Evans, and his decedents are doubly related, on both sides, to many Jones' and Owen families.

Moses T. Thompson, settled on section 4, Columbus in 1846 but nothing else about him can be found.

(Continued next week)



These three 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 a assemblyman, and state senator; right, Rev. Cyrus E. Rosenkranz, a missionary in 1849, and first minister to the Congregation church in 1850. He was president of the Columbus Colegate Institute in 1855.

Installment No. 28

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The Feelyaters

Nicholas Feelyater, a 1846 settled in the town of Columbus has an extremely interesting history.

He was born in France in 1805, son of Francis Feelyater who lived to be 104 years of age. When he was 26 in 1831 he and an older brother decided to come to America.

They walked the 300 miles to Paris to visit another brother there and again on foot went on to LeHarve where they boarded ship, arriving in New York in June 1831 with combined cash resources of ninety five cents.

Nicholas was just over five feet in height and his brother still shorter but were strong of heart and body. They mutually agreed to pool their earnings and equally share profits or losses, in health or adversity and very strictly observed this pact.

They remained in New York state for two years, working their way westward to the new state of Ohio where the brother married and became a prosperous farmer and lived until his death in 1876.

Nicholas married Miss Margaret Shear, in Ohio in 1834 and settled on a farm there; Later he turned the management of the farm over to his wife and took work on government contracts, assisting in building the Fort Wayne and Wabash Canal, which connected Lake Erie with the Wabash River, and other public improvements.

His brother, likewise sought this additional work to augment their income. They worked in Chicago when it was but a swampy village.

There the elder brother came down with fever and ague which put a heavy burden on Nicholas to take care of his brother in his illness, and continue to work for their joint support, until his brother could be taken back to Ohio.

Nicholas decided to migrate west, and accordingly sold out in Ohio, and loaded his family and a few household articles into his wagon and made the long journey entirely by team, coming by way of Michigan, a round about way to be sure, but he wanted to make no mistake in relocating.

Arriving at the very small hamlet of Columbus, he left the team, wagon and family, camping near where the Lueders residence at 338 East James St. now is, while he went on foot to the region beyond the Wisconsin, looking for suitable land still available.

On his return trip, thoroughly disheartened he chanced to meet up with the elder Mr. Sowards, who happened to know that Harvey McCafferty had filed on some fine land and was willing to sell.

Sowards went with him to show him the land on which there was a fine budding spring from which they both drank.

Feelyater bought the 200 acres for \$475.00, and gradually but steadily added to it until he finally owned over 800 acres all in one body.

He drove his covered wagon out to his land and began life there, which was to be hard for awhile for there was no structure of any kind and the family, with seven children, one only three weeks old, had only the wagon in which to live, and to make matters worse, Feelyater himself was sick, and all the children had whooping cough, Mrs. Feelyater being the only one of the family not sick.

This was the situation for three weeks until one day Zenas Robins, a settler, who lived on the stone quarry road about 2 miles away, came that way, and taking in the situation, said "This will never do". The next day, several settlers, got together, cut logs and erected a comfortable log cabin which for many years stood near the fine large brick residence Feelyater, later built.

It is said that when these kind hearted neighbors, rendered this service, was the only time in his life that Feelyater was known to shed tears.

He was eccentric in many ways: for example, he had no use for doctors, as such, and never took a dose of medicine in his life. He always preferred walking to riding and always carried a cane and frequently walked to Columbus and back, ever at times when his own teams were making the same trip; He had an aversion to a buggy and never rode in one if he could help it; He would ride in a wagon but never on the seat, always on the floor; He was in a railroad train only three times in his life, once going to Milwaukee, and twice to Watertown.

In this family there were many children but only six living at the time of his death, Nicholas, Adam, Frank, one daughter who became Mrs. John Beckwith, Clarissa, Mrs. Grube of Ohio, and Rozena; His sons Dominick and Samuel, and a daughter, and one young child having preceded him in death.

He was sick for only a week, and died of pneumonia in April 1880. His wife lived until 1892 his daughter Rozena, unmarried continued to occupy the old homestead, which became her property after the death of her mother.

His son, Nicholas jr. was twice married and had no children as far as this writer can ascertain. In his later life, together with his second wife, they operated the old Northwestern Hotel, the building that is now the Locker plant; he also once owned the building now the plant of the Journal-Republican.

Adam, married Miss Jennie Jones, who together with two brothers, one unmarried and David, married, formerly owned the Biederman farm, David was the father of Clint, Ernest, Walter and Evaline Jones who is now Mrs. Carl Vearus.

Frank, married Miss Ada Leffingwell, daughter of John W. and Amanda Wiseman Leffingwell. In later life they moved to town, their home being at the corner of Water and Mill sts., diagonally across from a seed warehouse Frank operated north of Wohlfeil Bros., on Water st.

Their children were, Earl, now a veterinarian at Randolph, and is owner of the home place on section 17; Bernard; and Winnefred, Mrs. Max Wendt, the Wendts living across the road from the home place.

Clarissa, Mrs. Grube lived in Springfield, Ohio, as of 1880; another daughter who became Mrs. John Beckwith, lived and farmed on two forties, where Sam Austin now lives; Rosa previously mentioned and Samuel whose wife was a daughter of Oliver Rodney Luey.

They were the parents of William Rodney Feelyater, who died in this city only a couple of years ago, an only child.

A Columbia County Atlas, vintage of 1890 shows nine different pieces of land, all touching each other in sections 17-18-19 and 20, and an adjoining forty in Hampden, totaling over 800 acres belonging to Nick, Adam, Frank and Rosa, and two forties in section 23 belonging to J. E. Beckwith.

Buried in the older part of Hillside are Nicholas whose age is given as 73 which is not in agreement with the figures given in his obituary in 1880. Also the name of his wife as shown on the monument is Elizabeth M. so it may be that Margaret as given in the obituary was her middle name.

Other graves on the same lot are indicated as Dominick, died in 1857 age of 20; Luey, died 1857 age 7; Samuel died in 1873 age 26; Clarissa, Mrs. Grube died in 1884, age 40; an infant child of Oliver and Clarissa Grube; and Rozena, died 1922 age 81.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 29

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Mr. and Mrs. Max Wendt (Winnefred Feelyater) have four children, Kathryn (Mrs. Douglas Hartman) of Washington, D. C. whose husband is an attorney; Robert E. Wendt, a Master Sergeant in the regular army, in which he has served fourteen years, now stationed at Ft. Sheridan, having only recently returned from Korea; John and Donald both single and living on that part of the Feelyater homestead laying west of the highway, with their parents, and have taken over the farming operations.

The father Max has been engaged in carpenter work since turning the farming over to his sons, the 4th generation to farm the land which has been in the family for about 104 years.

First Columbus School House

1846 marked the building of our first school house, prior to which school had been held first in a blacksmith shop, then in a room in Jesse Rowell's house.

It was a one story wood building about 25 ft. wide by 60 long and stood about the middle of the block facing Ludington St. below School St. about where Mr. Pomeroy now lives 426 Ludington. It was built at a cost of \$400.00 on land donated by Lewis Ludington. It has been said that Columbus never had a log school house. The building also served as a church whenever an itinerant preacher of whatever faith happened by. It was used for dances, political meetings, social affairs and as a town hall.

It was not until about fourteen years later that the first brick school house was built.

By 1850 there were residing in the school district 47 male and 45 female persons between the ages of four and twenty years. 66 pupils attended the four months winter term and 62 the summer.

E. E. Randall taught four months for which he received \$100.00 and Agnes N. Butts five months for which she received \$56.00.

The text books used were Sanders' speller, Sanders' Series of Readers, Rhetorical Reader, New Testament, Colburn's Arithmetic, Morse's Geography, Smith's Small Geography of the Heavens. and Comstock's Philosophy.

In 1853 the number of males of school age was 100 and of females 185. The number of pupils attending school was 173 and the total cost of operating the school was \$321.50.

The Welsh Settlement and the Welsh Churches

When the writer first came to Columbus, in January 1902, Guy V. Dering, who had a coal yard, and whose office was in the end of his coal house on Ludington street next to the railroad, was the part time bookkeeper for the canning company, so we were in his office frequently.

As part of our duties frequent calls, now performed by fieldmen, were made on farmers, and since we knew nobody, Guy Dering would do the driving, this being still in the horse and buggy days.

We had never before come in contact with Welsh people, and were intrigued with them and their language, for even their English was, at first, almost unintelligible.

Guy told us something about them, the relatively few family names, their love of music, their thrift, their bent towards farming, their deep religious convictions and the way they clung to the mother tongue.

There were, at that time, three Welsh churches in the country, two on the Beaver Dam road and one on a cross road between the Beaver Dam road and the Randolph road.

There was also one Welsh church in Columbus which is now the Presbyterian church.

In order to get the facts regarding these churches, request was made of Rev. Dr. E. Edwin

Jones, a retired minister, to whom we are indebted for most of the following information.

In 1845 some half dozen or more families direct from Wales, an advance group to be followed by larger numbers later, arrived in Elba township, Dodge county and took up land on both sides of the ridge of high ground on which the road from Columbus to Beaver Dam, now highway 151 is located.

On the very first Sunday following their arrival, religious services were held in the open under a large tree which still stands on the John J. Jones farm. Butterfield's history (1880) says "There on the first Sunday after their arrival, they planted the seeds of Calvinism in the then sparsely populated wilderness, holding religious services in a wagon box."

The two statements, while differing are not at all incompatible for both statements could refer to the same time and place, as, perhaps, the leader could have stood in a wagon box to speak to the small group under the large tree.

In that same year, a small log church was erected on a slightly elevated spot cross the highway from Bethel Cemetery, somewhere near where George E. McGilvra lives. Each of the families furnished their quota of logs with which to build this, their first house of worship in their new land of promise.

Among those who arrived in 1845 was the Rev. Hugh Jones, an ordained minister, who became their spiritual leader and community minister until his death in 1854.

With Rev. Jones, when he arrived were his wife, daughter and sons; also the following; John P. Jones, (Coedtyno) John D. Jones (Garegwen); Richard Jones (Bryntiron) who was a brother of the famous preacher, John Jones (Talysarn); David G. Evans, a song leader who was the grandfather of David Evans and Mrs. D. S. Parry, and therefore great grandfather of Pearl and Carroll Evans. David G. Evans was also the father of Mrs. Elizabeth Evans Garland, who more than 75 years ago became a missionary, the first to go out to work among the negros in Austin, Texas.

Robert Owen, his wife and sons William and David A.; Hugh Owen (Gwredog); Daniel Roberts, William R. Williams (Henbant), William W. Williams, (Gorphwysfa), David R. Williams, Griffith Edwards, William P. Griffith (Plas) who gave the land for the Salem church; Wm. R. Hughes known as the "Cancer Dr." Deacon Benjamin Hughes; Robert Pritchard, (Cefnycoed), Williams and Ellen Pritchard, (Penydaith); Owen R. Owens, (Coedmarian); Richard Jones, (Salem); John Davies and his son Uriah Davies.

David R. Owen one of the sons of Robert Owen married Margurite, a daughter of Rev. Hugh Jones, their children were Anna, (Mrs. Evans) Kate, unmarried, and Ellen (Mrs. Robert D. Roberts) Twins; Maggie, (Mrs. Ed Roberts), William, Robert D. Owen, Hugh J. Owen, David Owen.

Robert D. Owen married a daughter of Wm. O. Morris, and their children were Margurite, wife of Dr. J. J. Roberts and Willard E. Owen, whose wife was Marion Thomas. Therefore the children of Dr. Roberts and Willard Owen are 5th generation of the Welsh pioneers.

The same is also true of Dave D. Owen's children Dave, Pearl, (Mrs. Henry Roberts) and Nan, (Mrs. Frank Lueders Jr.) Henry Roberts and his wife Pearl have one daughter Daisy who married Hugh Caldwell, and their children would be 6th generations removed from Welsh pioneers, which is also true of Dr. J. J. Roberts son, Dr. Warren Roberts' children, and no doubt of many more descendants of the Welsh pioneers of which the writer has no personal knowledge.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 30

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

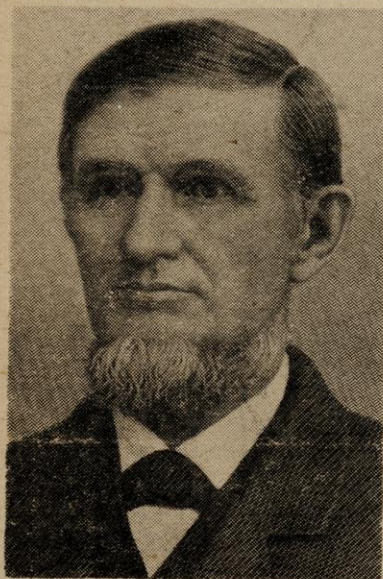
By F. A. Stare



Also among the early arrivals were John Roberts and his son J. J. Roberts.

During the first year J. J. Roberts was ordained and became, like Rev. Jones, a community minister, among the Welsh churches in this and other communities for 44 years or until his death in 1890. He must have been a power in the church, as Rev. Dr. Jones showed this writer a book published in the Welsh language, that was exclusively devoted to the life work of Rev. J. J. Roberts.

Elliot, John, Hannah and Mary Roberts, residing with their mother, Mrs. Wm. J. Roberts, and operating a large farm about a mile from town on highway 151 are grandsons and granddaughters of Rev. J. J. Roberts.



Rev. J. J. Roberts

In 1850 a splendid frame church called Bethel was erected across the road from the log church, where the first well kept cemetery is located.

Bethel church became the mother church operating a large farm about a mile from town on highway 151 are grandsons and granddaughters of Rev.

J. J. Roberts.

from which three other churches developed, as the settlement grew in area and population.

The next or second church to be erected was some three miles farther out on the Beaver Dam road, but for a few years before, the expanding settlement, perhaps because of inclement weather, impassable roads at times or maybe because the original log church could not accommodate them all, Sunday School and young peoples' meetings began in the home of Owen Owens (Coedmarian) in 1847, he being the grandfather of John Owens who now owns and lives on the farm, the first buildings on the right on the road running east from the Beaver Dam road at the cheese factory corner near Salem cemetery.

A log church was built and cemetery laid out in 1848 and a church congregation organized. Owen Owens, an elder of Bethel, the mother church, was appointed to supervise the work in the Salem community.

A frame church called Salem, which is no longer there, was built in 1857, seven years after Bethel was built.

On a cross road running in a westerly direction from the Beaver Dam road just beyond Bethel cemetery at the Jones (Garegwen) farm corner and which crosses the Randolph road at viner station no. 6, about midway between the two roads mentioned which are now highways 151 and 73 another Welsh group, all members of Bethel under the supervision of D. G. Evans and Thomas Williams, both of whom were elders in the mother church, Bethel, began holding prayer meetings and young peoples' meetings in the home of Mr. Evans and perhaps others in the neighborhood.

This continued for about 9 years when a Sunday School building was built in 1856 for by that time the group of young people was so large they could no longer be accommodated in homes.

In 1878, another building, a church called

Moriah, was built, and a church was organized.

In Butterfield's book (1880) we find "In 1866, J. J. Roberts, a young divine who had assisted Rev. Hugh Jones since 1846, and, upon the latter's death (1854) became his successor, took spiritual charge of a meager congregation of his Welsh brethren in Columbus.

Meetings were held over the store of Uriah Davies. In May 1868, a small frame church called Nazareth, was erected on the corner of Mill and Spring streets at a cost of \$2,200.00 including the lot.

The Rev. Mr. Roberts has supplied the pulpit ever since the organization; he preaches, also, at Salem church, town of Calamus, and Bethel church, town of Elba, both in Dodge county.

There are forty-five members in the society, which is free from debt and in a prosperous condition."

This church building has been enlarged twice and greatly improved since this writer first came to Columbus, and is the only one of the four Welsh churches mentioned, still standing or in use, and only recently has again been improved.

It was made possible in the first place because of the strong spiritual and financial support of Uriah Davies, a great church leader, and sometimes referred to as a merchant prince.

Welsh churches of that period were all Calvinistic Methodist churches (Welsh Presbyterian) and all services were held in the mother tongue, up until long after the turn of the century.

The Welsh ministers, were ordained ministers, but were community ministers, that is they were not pastors as we think of pastors of today, assigned to one church only, and usually served two or more congregations.

For example Butterfield's history says "The collections of the three folds under Mr. Robert's charge amount to about \$600.00 per annum, \$400 of which is applied to the salary of the minister, the remainder being about equally divided for the support of home missions and the Bible Society. It is a notable fact that the Welsh churches frequently contribute larger sums, annually, to the support of the Bible Society than all other denominations in the state together."

From the above figures, which seem so unreal at the present time, when costs are sky high and the purchasing power of a dollar so low that many elderly people living on pensions, annuities, or income once adequate, now find it almost impossible to keep on living, it is easy to see why the ministers served three or four churches.

They were all small congregations, very few of the members were men of means, and even though they were cheerful givers, many following the system of thything it would have been impossible to have supported a minister for each church. Rev. Dr. E. Edwin Jones, now living in retirement on School st. in Columbus, states that all Welsh churches were each on their own, and received no church aid from any source outside their own congregation.

With the death of many of the older members, and the younger generation all speaking American English, even though some of it had a pronounced Welsh accent, and the moving to town of many who had sold their farms to incoming home seekers of other nationality the three churches in the country ceased to function and were sold and torn down.

Services in Nazareth became English and having no longer any tie with the mother denomination in 1920 the Calvinistic Methodist church (Welsh Presbyterian) several relations and united organically with Presbyterian U.S.A.

There had been no Presbyterian church in Columbus since 1894 but in 1920 the former Welsh church in Columbus became a Presbyterian church.

Installment No. 31

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



Referring again to Rev. J. J. Roberts who devoted his adult life to the ministry, was the father of several children, the writer does not know just how many; however among them were the following.

John P. Roberts, his eldest son graduated from Princeton University in the same class with Woodrow Wilson, who not only became president of Princeton, but also President of the United States.

Other sons were Joshua R., jeweler of the firm of Jones and Roberts, Drugs and Jewelry store here in Columbus. His widow Mrs. Sarah Roberts, the former Sarah McLean, mother of Roscoe N. Roberts of New York City, and Catharine, Mrs. Donald Le Claire, is still living residing at 240 West Harrison.

Robert J. Roberts, who in his later life lived in Columbus, and was a deacon in Nazareth church.

William J. more often called Bill J. who until his death some years ago, lived and farmed where his widow and four unmarried children still live and farm about a mile out on the Beaver Dam road.

A daughter Maggie May, was the wife of John A. Jones, and mother of Edwin Jones.

Another daughter Kate, was the wife of Rev. John R. Jones who was at one time, the minister at Nazareth church.

This is by no means a complete story of the Welsh pioneers and their descendents, but it will serve as an outline, which readers can fill in from their own greater knowledge of some of them.

Early Preaching Services In Columbus

In 1846 Elder Winchell, Baptist, arranged for religious services, in the Whitney Tavern, then the only public meeting place in the village. A few of the villagers, both men and women gathered to hear the word and refresh their memories of religious services back home, before they had come to the frontier, but the congregation must have been very small as all of the residents of the entire hamlet would not have made a large group.

The minister was just nicely started on his discourse when the attention of his few listeners seemed diverted to something going on outside. One listener silently left on tiptoe, then another, and soon they were all gone, leaving the minister alone.

Bassett and Arnolds store was just across the street, about where Wesley Gray's store now is, and Dan Bassett, who had been east to replenish the stock of goods had just arrived with a load of mixed merchandise.

The listeners were more interested in seeing what Bassett had brought than in the sermon.

While there had been occasional services held in homes, the first public church service held in the newly built school house in 1846 is thus described. "A well groomed young man put in an appearance on Saturday afternoon and posted written notice on the four corners, announcing that on the following day he would conduct divine service in the schoolhouse." A congregation made up of both sexes occupied the benches. A good prayer was offered and the scriptures were well read.

"Then the young man started on the delivery of his discourse, but after rolling out a single paragraph, he hesitated, and at once fell over the fragments of a sentence and finally went back to the beginning and started again.

He broke down again at the same spot, which provoked some smiles. He started over a third time briskly enough until he reached the same pit fall where he floundered again, and this time there was hearty laughter.

The speaker then said "I have always believed

that I could preach, and being among strangers, I thought I should take advantage of the opportunity.

It's the first time I ever tried it, and ladies and gentlemen, I haven't done near as well as I expected." He picked up his hat and vanished and was never again seen in these parts.

The Glorious Fourth of July

1846 also marked the first 4th of July celebration in Columbus. "Most of the settlers for miles around were present and expressed their patriotism in various ways." The tavern stood about where the rear end of the Blackhawk now is, and there the dance, an indispensable part of the celebration was held.

"In those days most of the settlers were young men, many of them unmarried. Partners were in great demand and all wearers of petticoats were impressed into service.

Many of those who were noted for their grave and dignified deportment passed the night of the 2nd decorating the dining room, danced all night of the 3rd and spent the day and night of the 4th in general jollification.

The portico of the office on the second floor across the street, jointly occupied by James T. Lewis, lawyer and Dr. J. C. Axtell, was used as a rostrum for the speakers. Mr. Lewis was the orator of the day and Dr. Axtell read the Declaration of Independence. The ordinance consisted of two anvils, one set on top of the other, confining a charge of powder which was ignited by a long iron rod red hot at the far end; the noise of such an explosion was very much like the firing of a cannon. Doubtless the anvils belonged to Messrs. Hart and Wright and were fired by them.

The martial music to stir the patriotic breast included fife and drum, the latter manipulated by A. P. Birdsey."

Fall River Founded

The village of Fall River was started in 1846 by A. A. Brayton who had come from Aztalan, and taken up portions of sections 26 and 27 in Fountain Prairie on Patent from the United States on June 26th, 1845, building a cabin to which he brought his family.

Mr. Brayton came to Wisconsin with his parents from New York state in 1837 and in 1838 settled at Aztalan.

He must have been of adult age, for the following year he was married to Miss Elizabeth Grout of Aztalan.

Aztalan was the site of a prehistoric Indian village on the banks of the Crawfish river in Jefferson county east of Lake Mills, and was discovered by Nathaniel F. Hyer, a land surveyor as well as a lawyer, who with his nephew, James Brayton was following an old Indian Trail from Milwaukee westward in 1837 when they came upon the unusual mounds.

Upon examination Hyer concluded they were the work of the Aztecs, a long forgotten race.

He decided it was the proper location for a town and then and there named it Aztalan, and in short order a dam was built and a saw mill, and later a grist mill erected, and a flourishing village came into being.

The place thrived and later came within one vote of recommendation as the first capitol of Wisconsin.

Laura, a sister of Hyer, became the wife Thomas Brayton, widower, who had two sons, Alfred A. and James C. and a daughter from a previous marriage, and several sons and daughters from his second marriage, including one son George Hyer Brayton, a captain in the Union Army, a half brother to Alfred A. Brayton. The G.A.R. post in Fall River was named in honor of Capt. George Hyer Brayton, (unmarried), who made his home with his half brother there.

Installment No. 32

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

From the above it is easy to see how Thomas Brayton and his family happened to settle in Aztalan which was founded by his brother-in-law, N. F. Hyer.

Alfred A. Brayton, operated a store in Aztalan for some years and doubtless knew of the settlement Columbus, as Aztalan for a few years was a source of supplies for Columbus merchants and others from this neighborhood, and lumber from its sawmill was the nearest source, until Dickason built his mill in 1840.

Aztalan's grist mill likewise was the nearest place to the settlers hereabouts for having their grain ground.

A. A. Brayton must have been an educated man, and may have worked with his uncle, N. F. Hyer, as did his brother James, and may have had knowledge of dams and water power.

His step mother died at Aztalan in 1843, but history does not record the death of his father Thomas.

The first settler in Fountain Prairie, the township north of Columbus, was Chester Bushnell who built a shanty on section 33 in 1843. James Carr entered claim July 15, 1843 to land in section 34 the railroad depot stands on part of it. Wayne B. Dyer came in September that same year and in the fall John Brown and Benjamin Sage came and selected land on section 34.

Brown built a cabin and stayed while Sage went back to Vermont, returning in July 1844 with his family. During 1844 and 45 several more came, among them being A. A. Brayton.

He probably came in 44 and looked over the possibilities, and may even have built a cabin, but his first entry of land is a patent from the United States, covering the $W\frac{1}{2}$ of the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 26, on June 26, 1845. His second entry was October 3, 1845 and covered the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 27 and his third and last was the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 27 March 20, 1848 which gave him 160 acres on both sides of the Crawfish river for half a mile.

In 1846 he built a log and earthen dam across the Crawfish on the site of the present dam, and installed a sawmill.

The mill was in a rather deep pit from which the earth for the dam had been taken, and it is believed that the power was generated from an "overshot" water wheel which while requiring considerable difference between the water level in the pond and the ground on which the wheel is mounted, is relatively easy to install and keep in repair.

Mr. Brayton built the first house made of sawn lumber in what is now Fall River.

He also built and opened the first store in the town that same year 1846. The store being built of slabs, that is of the cuts from a log, without trimming the edges.

Town Meeting

The first town meeting was held April 3, 1846 in the Brayton store. Enos Grout, father-in-law of Brayton was chosen Moderator and there were 62 names on the poll list, that is of men of voting age.

The officers chosen were Alfred A. Brayton, chairman; Stillman R. Dix and Calvin Martin, supervisors; Silas M. Smith, town clerk; Benjamin Sage, assessor; John Q. Adams, superintendent of schools; Nelson S. Green, treasurer.

The meeting voted to raise \$125.00 for current expenses; \$175.00 for school purposes and \$30.00 for bridge plank.

Those assembled also took it upon themselves to enact a few local laws, among which were, that $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height shall constitute a lawful fence; and that fence viewers shall determine whether a fence is lawful, provided it is $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high.

That any male swine running at large shall be forfeited; that hogs shall not be free commoners except in the months of Oct., Nov. and Dec.

To allow "orderly" horses, cattle and sheep to run at large, except stallion horses and buck sheep, and that a fine of \$5.00 be imposed on any person violating the foregoing by-laws.

A few years later, another by-law was put upon the record that "hogs running at large shall not be considered as property, but shall become the property of any man who will take them up and keep them confined.

Mr. Brayton continued to operate the sawmill for several years, and also the store as well.

He also began the excavating of the long canal or mill race to bring the water at pond level, or nearly so, to the grist mill which he erected and put into operation in 1850, which was well patronized by the farmers of the vicinity.

E. E. Brossard says he can remember the original grist mill which was powered by an overshot water wheel—the more efficient turbine wheels having been placed at a much later date.

Money was scarce and times were hard but the village continued to grow.

Mr. Brayton, who at that time was easily the foremost citizen of the village, platted a portion of his land and called it Fall River, on September 17, 1850.

Two small additions were platted by others subsequently, Bradley's addition and Grout's addition. A third, Batchelder's addition was on both sides of the street beginning near the railroad.

The long stretch of lots between Batchelder's addition and the original plat, with substantial homes on both sides of the street must have been platted by some person or persons, but their names do not show on the plat book.

Fall River, with its long stretch of a single street with its sharp angles, is very like many New England towns, a mile or more long.

In 1853 Mr. Brayton sold a half interest in the mill property to Wesley Kinney, described in the deed as "Undivided half of Hydraulic reservation No. 1 — 10¼ acres, with ½ of the sawmill and mill dam thereon; undivided ½ Hydraulic reservation No. 2, 3-20/100 acres with grist mill thereon, also ½ of the water power and mill race above and below said grist mill, so far as we ourselves have a right to convey."

For something over three years the mill was operated by Brayton and Kinney.

Brayton from time to time sold portions of land of which he had more than 140 acres besides the 13½ acres known as the mill property.

In June 1856 he sold the other half of the mill to James B. Kellogg and Marcus Kellogg subject to a mortgage which he held.

Presumably the firm was then Kinney and Kellogg with the Kellogg's each holding a one fourth interest.

Brayton assigned the mortgage to John J. Morris in March 1859, and Morris assigned it to Edmund Mortimer in December 1860.

James B. Kellogg sold his quarter interest in October 1859 to Sarah M. Curtis, wife of Henry Curtis, and three days later Wesley Kinney sold his half to Edmund Mortimer.

The ownership then was Mortimer ½, Marcus Kellogg ¼, Mrs. Curtis ¼.

In 1862, Marcus Kellogg died and Mortimer holder of the mortgage the Kelloggs had given to Brayton, who was also dead, began foreclosure proceedings against James Kellogg; the widow of Marcus Kellogg; and Mrs. Curtis.

Evidently his foreclosure suit was won as far as the Kellogg's were concerned but not as to Mrs. Curtis, as the abstract shows that Mortimer gave a Quit Claim deed to Mrs. Curtis in April 1863 to an undivided ½ interest.

A Quit Claim deed is an instrument often used to quiet title, that is to remove any cloud and make a title clear.

This left Mortimer owning ½ and Mrs. Curtis the other half.

In September 1864 Mortimer agreed to sell his half to Henry D. Cotton on a land contract and in June Cotton assigned his land contract to Mrs. Curtis, thus making her sole owner but subject to Mortimer's interest in the land contract.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 33

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

On that same day Mrs. Curtis and E. Mortimer contracted to deed, that is agreed to sell on a land contract, their interests to O. B. Prime, William T. Jones, and Evan T. Jones, presumably each to become a 1/3 owner.

Five months later, Nov. 7, 1866 Mr. Prime assigned his 1/3 to Wm. R. Hughes, and six months later, May 7, 1867 Hughes assigned his one third to Wm. T. Jones and Evan T. Jones which makes them equal partners, each to own ½, subject to the land contract.

Mrs. Curtis, evidently acquired Mortimer's interest in the land contract, and the Jones's had evidently prospered, for in June 1867. Mrs. Sarah M. Curtis and her husband Henry Curtis conveyed title by making a warrantee deed to William T. and Evan T. Jones, on the 13-45/100 acres comprising hydraulic reservations No. 1 and No. 2 and all the water rights and the grist mill. Nothing is said about the sawmill, which in all probability had disintegrated and no longer existed.

In May 1870 William T. Jones conveyed to Evan T. Jones by W. D. an undivided ½ interest subject to three mortgages. On the same day Evan T. Jones, conveyed a half interest, also subject to the same mortgages to William R. Hughes, which in effect makes Evan Jones and Wm. Hughes equal partners.

These mortgages, were owned by different people, and also in some cases had been assigned to others.

Notice of foreclosure was served on both William T. Jones and Evan T. Jones and on Wm. Hughes in April 1873.

Sheriff Wm. Drake held a sheriff's sale in July 1873 and evidently the property was bought in by Mrs. Mary Hughes, wife of Wm. Hughes.

In August 1874 sheriff's deed to the property was issued to Mrs. Mary Hughes, who thus became the owner, but subject to a mortgage.

Some years later Mrs. Hughes died, and in her will requested that her niece, Martha Jones, wife of Fredrick L. Jones be appointed administratrix of her estate.

However the court ruled, that since Mrs. Jones was named in the will as residuary legatee of the property, she was not eligible to serve, but her husband was named administrator.

The estate must have operated the mill, for it was not until July 1881 that the county court issued a deed to the property to Byron Brown, and a month later August 18, 1881 Brown sold ½ to John Holloway.

Brown and Holloway were equal partners until August 1882 when Brown sold his half to F. H. Gault. Holloway and Gault operated as partners until September 1, 1888 when Holloway bought Gault's interest, thus becoming sole owner.

In April 1896 Holloway sold ½ to William Saunders and ½ to William Hurdis, each of whom giving mortgages to Holloway, who died in July 1898.

His widow petitioned the court to appoint Capt. M. C. Hobart as administrator of the estate, and he was so appointed September 12, 1898. Pearl Holloway, a daughter, had married Burr Hobart, son of Capt. Hobart. The son Burr was killed in a hunting accident.

Attorney Wm. C. Leitsch had represented both Saunders and Hurdis, and the records show that as of October 15, 1898 a quit claim deed was given by W. C. Leitsch to W. J. Hunt "to the whole premises".

The Holloway estate was not closed until 1910, when Mr. Hobart as administrator for the heirs, sold the mill property to George S. Lashier, a warranty deed, being issued October 26, 1910.

The writer has learned, from Fred Proctor, that during the 12 years from 1898 to 1910 the mill was operated for the estate by Frank Hunt, a good man, who later went to California.

George Lashier, son of one of the early pioneers who was a brother of Fred Proctor's mother, ran the mill until it burned to the foundations about 1913 or 1914.

He sold the property, water rights etc. to Julius H. Frederick October 16, 1914, who built the present mill building on the former repaired foundation, but never operated the mill, but sold it to George H. Lange March 15, 1915 who operated the mill until he sold it September 1, 1943 to the present owner Thomas A. Seaton who came to Fall River in 1939.

This writer has never examined an abstract with so many entries, 140, nor one so difficult to trace actual ownership, due to so many mortgages, court actions, frequent assignments of so many land contracts etc, but he believes the story as written as substantially correct.

1847

Among those who came to this area in 1847 are the following. Anthony Snowden, Elisha Tripp, George Noller, Joel Winch, Merrit A. Thomas, John Leffingwell, James McTiernan, Joseph Derr, Harrison H. Haskell, Josiah J. Guppy, and Adam McConnell, and there were no doubt many more.

Anthony Snowden, came alone, from England when only 17, took up land in section 17 Fountain Prairie. He lived and worked with neighbors, Pearson and Whitfield for two years while he was building a house and clearing his place. He got his mail and did his trading at Columbus. His entry was for 160 acres, of which he cultivated 100. He never married.

Tripp

Elisha Tripp, a farmer in summer and a shoemaker in winter, was 64 when he arrived in Columbus from the New York in 1847; he took up land in Fountain Prairie where he farmed and plied his trade until his death in 1856.

His son George W. Tripp who was 26 when he came here in 1845 was a blacksmith and farmer, who remained in Columbus a few weeks and then went to Beaver Dam where he opened the second blacksmith shop there. Two years later he moved to Madison and worked at his trade until 1854 when he came to Columbus, but in 1856 he located on a farm on section 9 in Hampden where he farmed for 12 years. In 1868 he came to Columbus until 1879 when he bought a farm in section 2 in Otsego. His wife was a sister of Mrs. Chestnut, who lived with two daughters Jessie and Nona in the house at 354 W. James st.

When the writer came to Columbus with his wife in January 1902 they roomed and boarded with the Chestnuts for a few weeks until a suitable house could be found.

Noller

George Noller came here in 1847 from Wurtemberg, Germany and entered a claim on section 8 Fountain Prairie, when he was 26. His wife was Julia Frey of Milwaukee. His oldest son Fred, born in 1856 became a printer working for the Columbus Democrat in the late seventies.

Mr. Noller, trying to find wheat like they had in Europe, sent to Alsace, then in France for a quart of seed, about 1877. From this quart he raised 3 bushels, which when planted produced 45 bushels. From this the yield the third year was enough that, after reserving seed for his own planting the following year he sold 250 bushels at \$4.00 per bushel.

He died in 1889 and his wife in 1909. His son Fred was born on the farm in 1856 and in 1895 married Augusta Diepke. There were three children George, born in 1897; Anna, 1906 and Fred 1909. Fred and Anna both unmarried still live on the old homestead where the mother died in 1949. George, married, lives in Columbus, is father of Wallace who lives in Chicago and a daughter Lorraine, married in 1950 and died in May 1951.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 33

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Joel Winch

Joel Winch, born in New Hampshire, in 1808 was the oldest of 8 children born to Joel and Sarah Sessions Winch, received an academic education and engaged in teaching in the winter months and farming the summer months.

When 39 years of age he emigrated to Wisconsin settling in York township, Dane county with his wife and one son, George D., then ten years old.

In 1872 Mr. Winch retired from the farm and moved to Columbus. His son, George read medicine with Dr. Earll and later graduated from Rush Medical College class of 1863-64, became a surgeon in the 36th Wis. Vol. Inftry. and in 1865 located at Blue Earth, Minn. One daughter, Harriet, became the wife of E. Churchill, a Columbus dentist, whose home was the house at corner of Ludington and Prairie, now the home of Frank Schmied.

Mr. Winch served as a Justice of the Peace and also as school superintendent of York township while living on the farm.

Thomas

Merrit A. Thomas and his wife Julia came from New York state in 1847 and settled on land in the town of Columbus where they lived until 1876 when they moved to Albert Lea, Minn. Their son Charles H. Thomas was seven when the parents came to Columbus.

He lived at home helping on the farm until he was 18 when he began farming and trading for himself. In 1860 he began the profession of a horse farrier, a smith who shoes horses, and later became a veterinarian.

In 1863 he bought 55 acres on section 8, town of Columbus which was his home of his lifetime.

In 1864 he joined the United States army and was assigned the duties of a veterinary surgeon until he returned home in Feb. 1865.

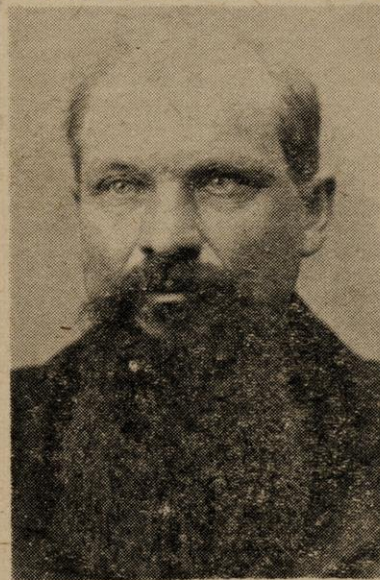
He married Martha Loveless in 1859 and there were six children, Merrit, Clara, Nellie, Edwin S. Melvin J. and Edith.

Merrit and Edwin had a slaughter house not far from school house district No. 4 on the Square Deal Hatchery road, and conducted a meat market in Fall River for years.

Melvin worked for Starkweather's for years and is now retired, living in Beaver Dam.

Edith married Frank H. Lange and they run a filling station on highway 60 at the present time.

Clara became Mrs. Ritter of Rio and still lives there and Merrit, Edwin S. and Nellie are dead.



Charles E. Thomas, son of Edwin S. married Anna Selje and lived on the 55 acre farm until he moved to Columbus in 1947 since which time he has worked for Stokely Foods. They have six children who are of the 5th generation of Merrit A. Thomas.

**Charles E. Thomas
Leffingwell**

John W. Leffingwell, a boy of 15 came from New York state, with his parents Lemuel and Ruth Leffingwell settling on land in York, Dane county, but a few years later moved to a farm in section 33 town of Columbus where the father lived until his death in 1877. His children were George, John D. and Orrissa.

John W. married Amanda Wiseman, daughter of Orlanda Wiseman, a pioneer in York, Dane county.

As of 1880 he was the owner of 230 acres on section 33 town of Columbus; he was assessor for two terms, and chairman of the town board.

Their children were Luella, who became Mrs. C. J. Fairbanks, Ada who became Mrs. Franklin Feelyater; Arthur L. and Milton F.

The 1916 plat book shows 40 acres belonging to Arthur Leffingwell, and 73 marked J. W. Leffingwell Estate, in section 21, but none in section 33, which no doubt means that sometime between 1880 and 1916 a move was made and considerable land sold. Mrs. Max Wendt, is a daughter of Ada Leffingwell and Frank Feelyater.

McTiernan

James McTiernan came from Ireland about 1836 and lived in Vermont and Mass. for several years. In 1847 he came to Columbus purchasing 60 acres in section 25 from William Drake.

He later purchased 42 acres more making his farm 102 acres. He married Mary Kelly in 1850; they had 3 sons and 6 daughters.

The 1916 plat book shows 102 acres belonging to T. F. Manley in section 25 and it is likely that this is the same land, as Ella McTiernan, one of the daughters became the wife of Thomas F. Manley. Mrs. Manley and sons Thomas and John live on and have worked the farm, since Mr. Manley's death some years ago. Another son James became a Catholic Priest and is stationed at Lake Geneva, Wis. Miss Mary, the only daughter is with the First National bank of Columbus, and lives with mother and brothers on the farm.

A. T. Austin

A. T. Austin, son of Samuel Austin of New Hampshire was 20 when he entered claim to 220 acres in Elba. Here he lived for 20 years devoting his attention wholly to agriculture.

He sold out there in 1867 and bought 250 acres on section 14 town of Columbus. He was married in 1853 to Sarah Hathaway of Jefferson county but originally from New York.

Their children were Thaddeus T., Mercy D., Abraham S., Gracie D., Frank, James W., and Charity S.

Ariel, named after his grandfather; James now at Brandon; Glen: Wayne (Badge) now dead, and Phillip are all sons of James W.

Frank only living son of A. T. Austin, who is now in the 90's lives in Los Angeles. Walter, a son of Thaddeus, bought the farm, when the estate was being settled after the death of James W. His brother Frank was killed by a stroke of lightning on the farm. Charity became Mrs. Ned Darrow and lived in the house on 30 acres, part of the farm nearest to town. They died some years ago.

J. J. Guppy

J. J. Guppy, a native of New Hampshire, graduated from Dartmouth, class of 1843 admitted to the bar at Dover, N. H. 1846, came to Columbus, Wis. and began practice of Law in 1846 or 1847 in partnership with H. H. Haskill. He was appointed Colonel of Militia of Columbia county in 1847 because of previous experience as Capt of a military company at Dartmouth.

Was appointed Probate Judge in 1849, and in September that year was elected to a four year term as County Judge of Columbia county.

When the county seat was changed from Columbus to Portage in 1851 he moved to that city, with which he was closely identified for the rest of his life.

He was elected supt. of schools 1858 and resigned in 1861 to become Lt. Col. of the 10th W.V.I. He saw active service and became Col. in 1862 being assigned to 23rd W.V.I. Wounded and taken, prisoner but exchanged shortly. In March 1865 was breveted Brigadier General for Gallant and meritorious services during the war.

Even before his return to Civil life he was again elected County Judge and apparently also served as supt of schools by successive elections up to 1873.

(To be continued next week)

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Derr

Joseph Derr and his wife Magdaline Schmidt, came from Bavaria, one of the German states in 1845, bringing 9 of their 11 children with them. They landed in New York, came on to Detroit, and the next year settled on land in section 36, town of Hampden.

The mother died in 1877 and the father in 1879, both as well as 4 sons are buried at the cemetery at East Bristol. Their son John born in Bavaria in 1828 was 17 when the family emigrated, was the oldest and made his home with his parents until he was 28, when he married Mary Rinck of Bristol but a native of Bavaria.

There were 2 other sons, Michael and Joseph and 5 daughters Ursula Klubertanz, Mary Weiner, Magdaline Barth, Dorothea Fox and Eva Winkler.

John's children were John jr. and Annie who married Henry Schey. Michael became the father of Michael jr, Joseph J., Henry, William, Jacob and 5 daughters, Mrs. Anton Link, Mrs. Andrew Weisensel, Mrs. John Prosser, and Tillie and Francis Derr.

Joseph's children were John T., Frank, Mrs. Val Seltzner, Mrs. Tillie Conrad, Mrs. F. X. Wedel, Mrs. Frank Strauss, Mrs. Hauser, Mrs. Wm. F. Renk and Mrs. August Kroll.

Oscar F. Derr, great grandson of the original Joseph, and son of John jr. together with his own sons, live on and operate a part of the original homestead which has been in the family 105 years. The present generation of descendants of Jacob Derr are many, too numerous to include in this article.

Harrison S. Haskell

Harrison H. Haskell, a young lawyer located in Columbus in 1847. He was a native of Vermont, where he received the limited common school education of that period. Practically unaided he prepared for college, entered the university of Vermont from which he graduated in 1845 when he was 27.

He studied law in Vermont for a year, but in 1846 he went to Beloit, Wis. where he studied law in the office of Noggle & Spandling long enough to be admitted to the bar, then coming to Columbus he formed a partnership with J. J. Guppy, which lasted until 1851 when Judge Guppy moved to Portage. When the county seat was changed from Columbus to Portage.

In 1853 Haskell, having been elected County Treasurer, also went to Portage where he resided until his death in 1879.

He later became cashier of Columbia county bank at Portage. He later was a dealer in Real Estate, Justice of the Peace several terms, and in 1874 was appointed postmaster of Portage which office he still held when he died.

McConnell

Adam McConnell, born in County Armagh, Ireland in 1824, spent four years in the constabulary in County Kildare, Ireland. In 1847 he was married in Kilcock, County Kildare, to Miss Anna Walsh, and immediately came to America, coming directly to Columbus, to which small settlement his father James McConnell had emigrated from Ireland in 1845. The young couple located on a farm where they lived until 1865 when they move to town. McConnell had been a town supervisor, village marshal for several years, and deputy sheriff for many years.

Their children as of 1880 were Anna M., then the wife of R. M. Turner of Philadelphia; Thomas

H. then in the R. W. Chadbourn bank at Rochester, Minn., having received his training in the First National bank of Columbus. Charles H. then with the First National bank of Leadville; Morris J. then in a store at Birds' Island, Minn.; and Jennie, unmarried at home.

In Hillside Cemetery are graves of several other McConnell families believed to have been sons of James and brothers of Adam, as follows, John and his wife Rossannah; Samuel and his wife Martha and children Samuel, Jane, Anna, Jessie and Martha; Nevan and wife Adeline and children Frankie and Josephine; Andrew and wife Isabelle and daughter Isabelle wife of C. T. Rockefeller.

So far as can be ascertained, there are no descendants of any of these families living here now.

Holt

Among those who settled in the area in 1847 were Elisha Holt, born in Vermont, married Cornelia Dutcher in New York in 1838, and they came directly to Jefferson county. They are listed as residents of Aztalan in 1844. In 1846 Elisha came to the town of Elba, Dodge county, acquired part of the land which is still the Holt farm, built a log cabin on the river bank and moved his family there in 1847. There were five children, three sons and two daughters. The youngest son and the daughters died in early life. The oldest son, Theron P. married Theresa Genung in 1866 and settled in the town of York. There were three daughters, Caroline Mrs. Guy Loomis, of Arizona; Louise Mrs. Walter Johnson of Columbus and Edith, Mrs. Harvey Philip of Waukesha.

The other son D. Bennet, after his father's death in 1872. took over the home farm. In 1884 he married Ella Williams. They had three children, Gertrude, Milwaukee; Ethlyn, Los Angeles, and Donald on the farm in Elba.

Donald married Miss Mary Gowell, a teacher in Columbus. They have three daughters, Mary Louise (Mrs. Hugh Knickerbacker); Janet in Madison; Frances (Mrs. Alvin Matz) of Arlington and one son Bennet, at home.

The Methodist Society

1847 also marks the beginning of a Methodist church society in Columbus, although it was not until eleven years later 1858 that a church of their own became a reality.

"When the Rev. Stephen Jones succeeded Rev. Gallop at Lowell in 1846 he began holding meetings in the settlement of Columbus. These meetings were held in the Buxton Wagon shop which was located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Ludington and Harrison streets.

The Rev. N. S. Green and his associate Rev. W. Randall, organized the "First Methodist Society" in Columbus in 1847, and in the same year it was made the head of a circuit."

While not in our immediate trading area another event occurred in 1847 of sufficient interest to be recorded here, as it was in Columbia county.

The English Colony of Potters

The only large group of emigrants except the Welsh in 1845, of which the writer has found a record, coming to Columbia county in the early pioneer days, was in 1847 when about fifty unemployed potters of Staffordshire, England, located in the township of Scott, Northeast of Pardeeville and northwest of Cambria.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 34

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The Potters Joint Emigration society and Savings Fund, an English organization was designed to encourage the purchase of lands in the western states of this country for homesteads and permanent settlement by unemployed members and their families or to get away from crowded areas in England.

The families of unemployed, selected by ballot, would be moved at the expense of the society.

Members in good standing and able to move at their own expense could also come.

Each family was to receive 20 acres of land as a homestead.

In 1846, three members were sent to America to collect information and locate lands. Coming to this state they carefully looked over different areas and finally selected 1640 acres in one body lying in the town of Scott, along Sand Spring run, Rocky run and the head waters of the Fox river.

This was surveyed into 20 acre tracts, on each of which was to be erected a dwelling, according to the regulations of the society.

In Easter week 1847 a colony of 52, among them representatives of the eight branches of the Potters union, left Staffordshire following a send off by a band of music and several thousand people many of whom hoped to follow them later.

The eight representatives and their families were, Isaac Smith, who was also a minister and exhorter, Henry Dooley, Enoc Pickering, George Summerfield, Joseph Cloous, Samuel Fox, George Robertshaw and William Bradford.

Taking ship at Liverpool they landed at Castle Garden, New York harbor, went up the Hudson river to the eastern terminus of the Erie Canal near Albany, across New York state on the Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by lake steamer to Milwaukee, where the party was met by James Hammond, one of the advance committee, who was to conduct them to their future homes.

Arriving there, they found but four cabins erected and none of them completed, so the first task for the men was to build houses for each family.

Great privation followed, lack of food, which was hard to obtain with or without money, days and sometimes weeks without bread, potatoes too were scarce, butter unknown and the outlook was dreary indeed.

Discouraging reports went back to England which discouraged many who had hoped to follow.

Other trades were then invited as well as the potters. In the first year a total of 134 persons were in the settlement which was called Pottersville.

New rules adopted by the society granted each family, in addition to twenty acres of land, that five acres be cleared, plowed, planted and fenced and a credit for twelve months at the colony store, be given.

In 1849 Thomas Twigg was sent over with full power to purchase 50,000 acres of land, and as agent for the society he bought extensive tracts in the township of Fort Winnebago, Columbia county and Moundville, Marquette county.

On section 4 in the northern tier of Fort Winnebago Twigg established a society store and blacksmith shop and the rather high sounding name of Emancipation Ferry, to cross the river. This point became known as Twigg's landing, and was some twelve or more miles west and north of Pottersville.

The venture proved to be a failure and some of the emigrants returned to England but the majority remained, some of whom entered other lands in Columbia and other counties, and became substantial citizens.

Even today the map of Scott township shows some twenty five or thirty small plots of land.

1848

Among the many settlers who came to these parts in that year, specific information on only the following has been found.

A. Louis Braucke, John A. Bowen, Bernard Conlin Stephen, Waldo, Henry, O. W. and Wm. E. Field, E. E. Jones, Jacob Jussen, Wm. T. Turner, and Benjamin and Joseph Woodhead.

Jussen

Jacob Jussen, established the first Brewery in Columbus in 1848, on the south bank of the Crawfish facing Ludington st. on out lot 18 about where the houses on N. Ludington now stand. between the railroad and the bridge.

The brewery was small and for local consumption only. The writer has no information as to Jussen's age or where he came from, although his name indicates that he was probably from one of the German state.

Brauckle

A. Louis Brauckle, brewer, who worked for Mr. Jussen came from Wurtemberg, Germany in 1845 when 31 years old. He learned the trade of brewing in Wurtemberg, and found work in a Milwaukee brewery operated by a Mr. Braun where he worked for two years, then went to Racine where he worked till the fall of 1848 in another brewery. He then came to Columbus working for Jussen for about one year.

In 1849 he bought the brewery from Jussen and operated it for a number of years.

A son Peter was the only surviving child, Pete operated the brewery for several years but discontinued operations about 1898.

The writer knew Peter Brauckle who lived, for a number of years, in the first house to the left after crossing the bridge into Mexico.

The brewery burned in 1898 just one day after the insurance had expired. This was a blow from which Mr. Brauckle could not recover.

The buildings were rebuilt and later used as an ice house operated by Scoular and Holtz.

Miss Mable Brauckle, now instructor of nursing in Deaconess Hospital, Milwaukee has supplied the following additional information which differs from the above taken from Butterfield.

Alexander Louis Brauckle, her grandfather was a young forester in Switzerland and had secured a position at Sigmaringen, Hohenzoller, Wurtemberg, Germany. He was employed to oversee the care of the forests belonging to a castle on the banks of the Danube River.

His employer August von Nussar had several sons and one daughter Marie Antoinette von Nussar, who was in a school of music in Paris.

Upon her return home for the summer vacation she met and became infatuated with the new forester.

The young couple decided the elope, well knowing that the aristocratic von Nussar would never consent to a marriage of his only daughter with a commoner employee.

They fled to Paris, where they were married, and her parents, promptly disowned her, forbidding her to return to Germany.

Not feeling secure in France, Marie Antoinette Brauckle, sold her jewels and other valuable possessions to raise the money for passage to America, where they were sure to be free from prosecution.

They settled in Milwaukee in 1845 (according to Butterfield) and here Alex, obtained work in a small brewery and determined to learn the trade of brew master. Butterfield says that after working for Mr. Braun a year he went to Racine working in a brewery there for two years.

In the fall of 1848 Mr. and Mrs. Brauckle came to Columbus to work for Jussen and a year later bought the brewery, a picture of which is shown below.



This is the Brauckle brewery which stood on the west side of Ludington st. Can anyone recognize any of these people?

Installment No. 35

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

A son was born in 1856 and when three years old was drowned in the Crawfish near where the old bridge to Mexico was located.

Alexander Peter Brauckle, usually called Pete was born in 1859 and when three months old was kidnapped by Indians.

A search party went to the Indian country farther north but could find no trace of him, but a few months later he was found near Baraboo. He apparently had been well treated and was very much attached to the Indian woman he was found with, who had lost her own baby boy and in desperation had taken this white child.

Marie Antoinette von Nussar Brauckle was a vivacious young woman, fond of people and loved to entertain guests. Her home was a welcome place for any newly arrived emigrants.

She never gave up hope that some day her family in Germany would relent and recognize her marriage. The late Ernest von Brieson, sr., while on a trip to Germany, went to Sigmaringen to try to effect a reconciliation, but was unsuccessful.

Peter was the only surviving child, four others having been lost according to Butterfield, and the parents lavished their affections on him.

After finishing the public school in Columbus he was sent to Sacred Heart Academy. While he was called home because of the illness of his mother, who died of tetanus as a result of stepping on a rusty nail.

When he was 21 Peter married Agnes Louise Kumm, a daughter of Karl and Wilhelmina Kumm.

Their descendants are Esther, Mrs. O. A. Wilson of Sacramento, Calif. Dr. Leo C. Brauckle, now of Crandon, Wis. and Miss Mable Brauckle of Milwaukee.

Bowen

John A. Bowen, born in New Jersey in 1812, the oldest of 5 children, was educated and became a teacher in that state, teaching in the

winter and farming in the summer. In 1842 he and his family emigrated to Wisconsin and lived in Walworth county for 6 years.

In 1848 they came to Columbus settling on land on section 10 town of Columbus, where in time he owned a total of 280 acres; in 1868 he moved to a farm of 80 acres in section 36.

They had 5 children Mary C., Edward and Mary I., twins, Erastus, and Eliza E. who became the wife of Ezra W. Richmond, and the mother of Brad B. Richmond, Mrs. Hattie Fritz, Mrs. Frank Roberts, Miss Elizabeth Richmond, Miss Mabel Richmond, and grandmother and great grandmother to numerous people born in Columbus.

Conlin

Bernard Conlin, born in Ireland in 1811 came to America in 1830 when 19 years of age; he worked in construction of railroads and in mining in Mass. and later helped build the Erie Canal in New York.

In 1848 he married Hannah Clark, also a native of Ireland who had only recently arrived in Mass. with her parents. That same year Mr. Conlin and his wife emigrated to Wisconsin and located on a farm in section 25 town of Columbus. At first he bought 100 acres but later he increased this to a total of 140 acres.

There were 7 children, Mary who became Mrs. John Dargan, Ella, Catharine, Thomas, Bernard, Elizabeth and James.

Mr. Conlin died in 1876 and Thomas, the oldest son bought the farm where he lived until his death in 1932.

The farm is now the home of Thomas' son Bernard and his family, making the third generation, with a 4th coming up, on a farm that has not been out of the family for 103 years.

Field

Waldo H. Field, born in New Hampshire in 1796, moved with his parents to Vermont ten years later. As a 16 year old boy he became a soldier in the war of 1812 and fought in the engagements on and around Lake Champlain. He married a widow, Mrs. Zebina Lyons in 1840.

They came to Columbus in June 1848 and settled on land in section 30 town of Columbus. Two daughters of Mrs. Field from her first marriage were Martha who became Mrs. J. Colville, and Mary, Mrs. J. Folsom.

From her second marriage to Mr. Field there were two children, Almira, wife of Hugh Twining and Henry an only son.

Stephen Field and his wife Charlotte Berry, both natives of Conn. emigrated to Kalamazoo, Mich. in 1833, and in 1848 came to Fountain Prairie taking up land, but died in 1852.

His oldest son Henry C. Field was 26 years old when he was married in 1850 to Theressa, daughter of Asa and Mercy Hicks, of Kalamagoo, Mich.

Upon the death of his father, Henry as the oldest son took over the farm, where he lived until 1876, when he came to Columbus and bought the livery business of M. D. Misner. They had 5 children, Carrie, William, Charles, Henry and Louis.

O. W. Field, second son of Stephen was married in 1863 to Maria N. Smith, daughter of Lewis and Sylvina Smith (a brother of T. Clark Smith). As of 1880 they had a farm of 280 acres on section 16 town of Fountain Prairie and there were 6 children, Mary E., Maud E., George S., Oliver W., Edwin P. and Louis P.

A Cancer Doctor

William E. Field, third son of Stephen, born in 1825 was 23 and already married when the family came from Michigan. They had 5 children, Sarah and Eliza, twins, Jerome E., Mary E., and William H.

Butterfield's history states that Mr. Field was a "farmer by trade and doctor by profession", and that "Mr. Field is a successful cancer doctor, having practiced a long time and never lost a case; he does not advertise, but has a large number of testimonials as to efficiency; he doctors on the no cure, no pay plan, and always gets his pay; he studied under Judge Bazie Harrison, (a

cousin of President William Henry Harrison), who was believed to be the most learned and successful doctor (of cancer) in the United States."

E. E. Jones

E. E. Jones, born in Flintshire, North Wales in 1828 was apprenticed at 14 to the merchantile trade in Wales and worked in Liverpool. In 1848 he came to Columbus, and taught school (perhaps in the Welsh settlement) for a year.

He then began clerking in the store of Daniel E. Bassett where he remained for some years. He then became a partner in a store with G. W. Hazelton and in 1861 he and a Mr. Johnson bought out Mr. Hazelton, continuing the business for three or four years, when he disposed of it and went into the store of Bassett and Davis with which firm he was still employed as late as 1880 and no doubt it was longer.

He was married in 1853 to Miss Elizabeth Jones of the town of Elba, an emigrant with her parents in 1845. As of 1880 they had a daughter Katie.

The Turners

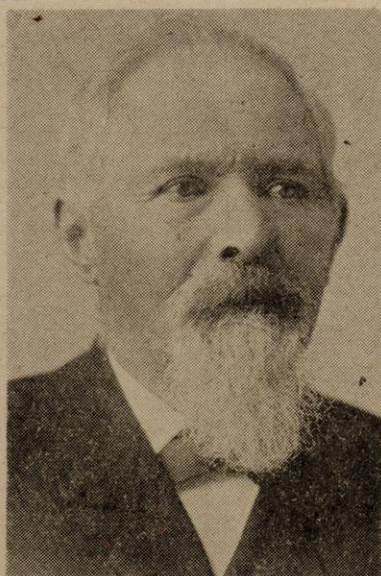
William T. Turner was born in Leeds, England in 1819 and at 12 years of age became an apprentice in the stone cutting trade, which he afterwards followed in Scotland, the Island of Jersey and other British possessions until 1847. He was married in 1847 in England to Miss Anna Marston and came immediately to America landing in New York in March 1847. He worked at his trade in Lockport, New York until fall when they came to Milwaukee. In the spring of 1848 he came to Columbus and entered 160 acres of land part in Fountain Prairie and part in Courtland.

He cleared and developed this land and farmed it until 1870 when he moved to Columbus and opened up a marble shop, about where 131 E. James street now is, where he continued his trade for many years. A part of this time he was in partnership with George Graham.

(To be continued next week)



William Rufus Turner



William T. Turner



John Swarthout

Installment No. 36

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

They had 7 children, John, who as of 1880 was a farmer in Courtland; Joseph who at that time was principal of the high school in Watertown, but later held high position in educational work in other states.

Wm. Rufus, who learned the stone cutters trade with his father and later organized Turner and Blumenthal, and who served the community as member of county board, and member of the state, assembly, and was prominent in Civic, Lodge and church affairs; Alice who became Mrs. Alex Scoular; Mary A. a teacher; Angelina D., who became Mrs. Charles Evans and Miss Emily, still living in the family home on Maple Ave. Miss Lura Turner, local, is the daughter of Prof. Joseph Turner, and upon the death of her mother, came to Columbus where she was brought up by her above mentioned aunts.

Woodhead

Benjamin Woodhead, born near Bradford, England and his wife Elizabeth Roper, came to America and settled on land in section 10, Fountain Prairie.

His son Joseph Woodhead was likewise born near Bradford in 1818 and was married in 1846 at Town Church, near Leeds to Miss Sarah Haley who was born in the same town as her husband, but in 1824.

There were ten children born to Joseph and Sarah Woodhead; Susan, Benjamin F., Emma J., Ida, Thomas E., Salina A., wife of Lewis Robinson, Charles F., Newton H., Joseph, and Herbert H.

In England Joseph had been, a coal miner beginning when a little boy less than seven years old; when he was 25 he with about 300 other miners went on strike. He never returned to the mines but became a shoemaker in Lancaster, working in the shop of his uncle Joseph.

When he came to America, he went to work at shoe making, most of the time for Thomas Swarthout, in Columbus. 15 years later he opened his own shop in Doylestown where he worked but lived on a farm. As of 1880 he owned 129 acres in section 10, which may possibly have been the same land his father Benjamin had homesteaded.

A county Atlas published in 1916 shows 127.2 acres as belonging to Sarah Woodhead.

No doubt there are numerous descendants living in the area, of which the writer has not learned.

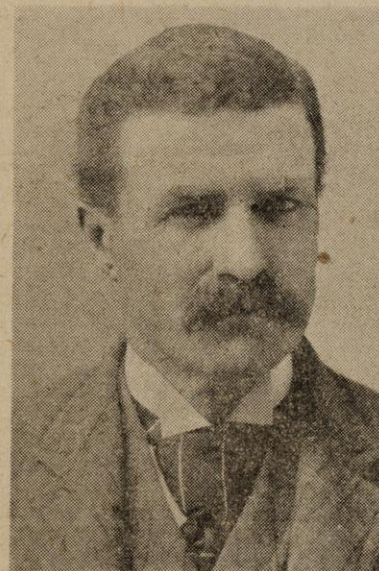
McBurnie

Robert McBurnie was born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1810. He like his father before him learned

the weaver's trade at which he worked from age 14 to age 22.

Coming to America in 1849 he settled on section 14 in Hampden where he acquired 160 acres.

He was married in Scotland in 1839 to Agnes Wilson and their children were Mary R.; William; Alice, who became Mrs. Charles Hoton; Thom-



Thomas McBurnie

as; Agnes who married Asa Baker; Christina; Robert; Elizabeth who became Mrs. James Hasey; and Margaret.

Robert's son William was seven years of age

when his parents came here; he attended district school, worked on the farm and when he was a strong young man, like many others, he went to the north woods called the "pineries" to work.

When about 30 years old William married Sarah Montgomery, a Scotch lassie from Hampden, and settled on a farm across the road from his father's place.

There were three sons Edwin, Reuben, and Melvin and one daughter Cora. Melvin married Bessie Saunders; Edwin married Miss Emma Kruse; Reuben living at 656 West James married Jennette Bell; Cora, unmarried, and Edwin died in recent years.

The Danville Mill Property

The following information, has been gleaned from the abstract of title of the present owners, the Frank Jaeger Milling Co. which has been a family owned project since 1899 and for 17 years before that Frank Jaeger had owned one third.

To begin at the beginning, title to 40 acres, the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 21 was entered from the United States to Miles Burnham Jan. 29th, 1845 and the following year he assisted by his cousin Morris Burnham, and Samuel Hasey built a dam across the Crawfish river a little up stream from the present dam. The power thus generated was used to drive a saw mill.

March 30th, 1848 Miles Burnham sold a half interest to Alfred Hasey and the other half to Samuel Hasey; Six months later, Sept. 27, 1848 Alfred Hasey and wife sold their half to Samuel Hasey who thus became sole owner of the 40 acres and all the improvements thereon, but he did not hold it long.

Only a year later, on Sept. 8, 1849 Hasey sold one half to George S. Mantor and Sept. 11th sold the other half to Ambrose Foster. His reason for selling was his desire to go to California—to join in the rush to seek gold. He was one of the many 49'ers.

Nobody knows for sure, which of the above owners built the flour mill, but it is said by members of the Jaeger family that the mill is over a hundred years old; A biography of Samuel Hasey refers to the saw mill at Danville but makes no reference to the grist mill. Perhaps George Mantor or Ambrose Foster was the builder of the mill proper.

March 27th, 1852 Ambrose Foster sold his half to Ebenezer Silsbee, and April 30, 1852 Mantor sold his half to Daniel E. Bassett. However Silsbee sold his interest Nov. 15, 1852 to John M. Swarthout and two years later Sept. 5, 1854 Stewart sold out to Daniel E. Bassett, making Bassett sole owner.

That same fall Bassett laid out and platted Danville, consisting of 7 blocks on the west side of the river.

In May 1856 Bassett platted Bassett's first addition to Danville, consisting of 7 blocks on the east side of the river, and Sept. 26th, 1857 he platted Bassett's 2nd addition of 2 blocks west of the river and north of the original plat, on the higher ground opposite where the school house stands.

Before he had acquired any interest in the 40 on which the mill was located, Bassett had purchased the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 15 from James Morgan Feb. 16, 1852. Morgan had bought it two years before from James T. Lewis who in turn had secured it on patent from the United States a few years earlier.

In Sept. 1853 Daniel E. Bassett sold this 40 to Ezra Bassett, and one year later Oct. 11, 1854 Ezra Bassett sold it to John M. Stewart, and shortly thereafter Stewart sold it back to Daniel E. Bassett "except that portion sold to the Railroad Company."

This particular 40 to NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 15, happened to be on the survey of the Milwaukee and Watertown Railroad which later became part of the C.M. & St.P.

(Continued in next weeks issue)

Installment No. 37

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Thus it will be seen that Bassett not only owned the 40 on which the mill at Danville was located, but most of a 40 one mile north through which the railroad to Columbus would be built.

Bassett next built a warehouse along the proposed right of way at Elba.

In August 1855 Bassett sold a half interest in the mill, and flowage rights, and certain outlots on both sides of the river comprising a few acres, as well as the 40 on section 15, excepting what had been sold to the railroad company, and also a half interest in the warehouse at Elba, to Uriah Davis who was his partner in the Columbus store of Bassett and Davis. He, however, retained to himself all the lots, except portions of two, in the village of Danville, and the rest of the 40. Danville, which was then about as large as Columbus, once had 2 or 3 taverns or hotels, two or more stores, a lumber yard, a saw mill and the flour mill, had held high hopes that the railroad would have come through their village on its route westward from Watertown through Columbus and on to Baraboo the original proposed terminus. However by swinging north as it did, it avoided constructing at least two bridges across the Crawfish river, much to the disappointment of Danville and its citizens. It is unknown to the writer who the Miller actually operating the mill for Bassett was: however the ownership remained a half interest each for Bassett and Davis until 1866. When on January 19th Bassett sold out to Gabriel Williams, and in Nov. 1866 Uriah Davis sold his half to John W. Roberts.

Gabriel Williams held on to his half until July 7, 1871 when he sold to Richard E. Owens. In Feb. 1873 Owens sold to Humphrey J. Roberts, so the owners were then John W. and Humphrey J. Roberts.

Then July 28, 1876 Humphrey J. sold his half to Frederick J. Lueth, and in June 1877, John W. Roberts sold his half to August Reddemann, father of August Reddemann of this city who served for years as City Assessor.

The mill property belonged to Lueth and Reddemann, and was operated by them for four years, until July 9, 1881 when Reddemann purchased the other half interest from Lueth.

Reddemann was sole owner until October 19, 1882 when he sold a 1/3 interest to Franz Jaeger on a land contract. In August 1885 Reddemann sold a 1/3 interest on a land contract to his son-in-law Heinrich Boelte, thus there were three equal partners each holding a 1/3 interest, Reddemann, Jaeger and Boelte. It was while Boelte was part owner, that his nephew Carl Boelte, son of Fredrick H. and older brother of Fred W. Boelte learned the trade of milling, working under Franz Jaeger.

Later Carl Boelte went to Longmont, Colo., to work in a mill and there he married and remained an active miller for many years.

On July 8, 1899, both Reddemann and Boelte sold their 1/3 interest to Frank (Franz) Jaeger, making him sole owner of the mill property, and about the same time they also sold to Jaeger

lots 2, 3 and 4 of Block 1 in the original plat of Danville.

The Jaeger Mill

Ever since 1899, the mill has been owned and operated by members of the Frank Jaeger family. In the earlier days of the mill it operated as a grist mill, grinding for anybody that had grain to be ground, and taking in payment, a portion of the flour, called the toll or grist. At first it was largely wheat, and it should be recalled that Wisconsin was at one time, about 1860, second largest wheat growing state in the nation, and Milwaukee alternated with Chicago as the greatest wheat shipping ports in the world.

Wisconsin's wheat crop in 1860 was nearly sixteen million bushels, an increase of 400 per cent in ten years, and reached its peak about 1880 when the chinch bug did such damage that the state wheat crop began to decline very rapidly.

Edwin and Oscar Jaeger, sons of Frank Jaeger have operated the mill as a family partnership, since their fathers death. There are also two living daughters, Mrs. Joseph Zick and Mrs. Carl Lueders.

Eugene Jaeger, of the F. and M. Bank staff, son of Edwin is therefore a grandson, of Franz Jaeger.

For the past sixty to seventy years, since the decline of wheat growing, the mill has specialized in production of Rye flour; a part of its output goes to the Jaeger Baking Co. of Milwaukee, owned and operated by relatives, and the remainder is shipped to eastern markets.

Danville Creamery

Danville also once had a creamery, owned by Charles Christians of Jefferson, date unknown. Later the creamery building was converted into a planing mill, by E. H. Walker who operated a lumber yard in Danville for some years, before he started the Walker Lumber Co. in Columbus, now operated by his son C. H. (Bob) Walker.

There were also two or three blacksmith shops one of Philip Linder, another operated by a Mr. Randall, and perhaps one other.

Daniel E. Bassett owned the first store in Danville and at the same time had the second store in Columbus known as Bassett and Arnold, in which Uriah Davis was a clerk for eight years, then becoming a partner in Bassett and Davis.

Bassett continued to live in Danville and built a sizable house which he later moved to Columbus when he had disposed of his interests in Danville.

The house stood where the post office now is, and was moved to the Briese pasture across Fuller st. at the foot of Dickason blvd., and is now the home, Clinton E. Clark, 167 W. Fuller.

The Adams Dam and Sawmill

The fourth dam and sawmill to be built on the upper Crawfish river was known as the Adams dam and mill.

The others were at Coulmbus, Fall River, and Danville, built in the order named and all have been discussed in previous installments of this narrative.

(Continued in next weeks issue)

Installment No. 38

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



The Adams dam was located near the bridge about a half mile east of the Elba Catholic church, or about one mile south and two miles east of Danville by road but much farther by river.

Fragments of it can still be seen, in what appear to be two small islands. The construction of the dam may have begun in 1847 at any rate some sawing was done in 1848 although some work was done on the dam in 1848 and 1849 as shown in the account book mentioned in the next paragraph.

We are indebted to Sam Austin for the loan of an old account book kept by his maternal grandfather George Adams, beginning in 1848, that shows many interesting and important insights, such as the scarcity of money, the low wages, the names of many people, some well known and mentioned in this series of articles, and many more whose names would be unknown to this writer, were it not for this book.

The first 15 or 20 pages, beginning with Sept. 1848, while showing some items clearly, are mostly obscured with many pictures of horses, cattle, sheep, hogs and chickens, cut from papers or magazines, and pasted in by Sam when a very young boy, the book, no longer used, having been given to him to use as a scrap book.

After removing two horses, we find on the first page, that Chester B. Palmer was credited with work on the mill 17½ days between Sept. 11 and 30, 9 days in Oct. and 4½ days in Dec. each and every day being credited by date and whether a full day or a half day. No rate per day is shown, but on Sept. 30 he drew 25 cents in cash, and on Dec. 13, which shows ½ days work, also appears this entry "The Hole amount of Labor Done By Chester B. Palmer on the mill Dec. the 13th, 1848 22½ pay \$39.00 and 13 lb. of Iron. Settled."

Skilled Men Worked For \$1.25

This indicates that Mr. Palmer must have been a skilled man, perhaps a carpenter, to have been paid \$1.25 per day, for other entries, covering work on the dam, indicate that for man and team the rate was \$1.00 per day — Also for the use of a wagon the charge was 25 cents for 1 day.

Other names found are Owen Petrie, Cornelius Doty, Michael Strause, Phineas Kilgor, who used a wagon for a half day for which the charge was 12 cents, and who got 5½ bushel of oats, charged at \$1.37; Joel More, James Jarvas, and Elisha Lamphere for whom evidently the Adams family did a lot of work both with and without a team.

Nearly two pages, each line a different date or a different person, such as Sept. 21 "to 1 day's work by M. Adams" and Sept. 22 "another day's work by M. Adams", Sept. 23 "to 1 day's work by George H. Adams and team". No dollar value is extended, indicating perhaps an exchange of labor.

The Adams Store

Mr. Adams must have also had a country store, as indicated by two pages devoted to Danel Bruker (which family name was later was changed to Breyer) from which a few items are taken to show the values as of 1848-49. 3 bushels of wheat \$1.50 — 1 bushel of barley 25 cents — wagon 1 day 25 cents — 5 pounds butter 50 cents — 6 pounds pork 48 cents — 2 cradle fingers 25 cents — 1 heifer a year old \$8.00 — 12 yards cotton cloth \$1.90 — 2 pounds coffee 25c — 1 gal. vinegar 25c — 2 bushel oats 50c.

These are typical items filling a page, and on the opposite page credits running from Oct. 25, 48 to Oct. 13, 49. Mostly for work performed by son Joseph, or son Dan, or by "self". In the late fall of 1848 the kind of work was not specified, while in July, August, Sept. and October, 1849 it was harvest, stacking hay and threshing.

The saw mill must have been in operation for in June 1849 Doct. Axtell got 168 ft. oak lumber \$1.34, 144 ft. oak scantling \$1.15 and 300 ft. more oak lumber \$2.40, and several more purchases at later dates.

Another customer whose name is hidden behind a fat hog, got 692 ft. oak lumber \$5.56 and 40 oak slabs, 40 cents, on Nov. 30, 1848.

Richard P. Loveland got lumber and two cradle fingers in 1849 and in 1851, 225 ft. oak lumber \$1.80 and 101 ft. bass \$1.01.

James Webster 2¼ bu. oats April 28, used wagon 1 day going to Columbus 25c June 22, 1 ox yoke stick August 4, 38c and 1 sled beam, 10 ft., 10c.

Cooper and Kilgore

Page after page is devoted to charges against B. F. Cooper and F. Kilgore, beginning in Feb. 1849 and running through to 1850 when the heading is changed to estate of F. Kilgore and B. F. Cooper.

The charges are mostly for labor furnished to work on dam, or for day after day of sawing, and occasionally an item of lumber; one item is "1 day's work Geo. H. Adams and M. Adams cutting ice, Feb. 5. There are also charges against this firm for day after day of work by C. B. Palmer on mill. There is also, Feb. 10, 1849" to 6 days work self and team going to Milwaukee after the crank", but in none of these is the amount of charges extended.

This indicates that perhaps the original dam was not adequate; and the possibility that Mr. Adams had let a contract to Cooper and Kilgore to improve it.

The only items where money value shows seems to be for supplies or expense incurred as for example they are charged with 1 lamp 25c, 1 gal. oil \$1.25, 1 file 62½c, 2 stirrup bolts 25c. May 2 and 3 going to Watertown after the saw mill saw, \$4.00, May 2 paid for drawing the wagon out of the mud \$1.00, May 2 paid for the saw mill, saw \$6.50.



Franz Jaeger



Edwin Jaeger



Oscar Jaeger

Two of the Jaeger pictures, that of Oscar and Edwin were taken by Gene Jaeger, while the Franz Jaeger picture was taken by Stein of Milwaukee.

Installment No. 39

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

A Company?

Perhaps the dam and mill was being built for or by a "company" for later on various charges to customers are marked "company" and others "self".

The names of many citizens from Columbus began to show up indicating that perhaps the saw mill here, was too busy, or more likely was not doing good work, or even had discontinued operations. It had been in charge of the Drake's out was sold to J. S. Manning in Dec. 1849.

We find the name John Q. Adams, (no relation) in Aug. 1849 and July 1850; A. P. Birdsey Sept. 1849; Silsby Columbus, Mr. Lomis, Sept. '49; Fuller Oct. '49 Drake Columbus Nov. '49, G. and A. Griswold twelve items of lumber in fall of 1851; Benjamin M. Benedict, sixteen items during 1850; Dr. Axtell seven items in 1850; Wm. Drake 1850-51; M. Cooper, Merchant Columbus 1851; Griswold & Co. Oct. 1853; 15 items of lumber; J. Blanchard fourteen items in 1853 and 1854; Mr. Swarthout, 1851; George Leffingwell, 1851 - 7 items; R. Quickenden, five items Oct. 1, 1853; Mr. Williams, Columbus fifteen items of lumber 1852-53; J. Lawrence and W. Z. Hamilton from Nov. 1850 to Oct. 1851 had 48½ days sawing at 75c per day charged against them, also 3 files at 15c each at different periods and ½ days work gumming the saw, 38c.

In Sept. 1851 a charge of \$1.06 was made to a customer for 17 lbs. of cheese, a pitchfork \$1.00 and three pair of boots \$9.00 and another is charged with 15 shoes \$18.75.

Dudley Little bought lumber 5 different times as follows, 511 ft. oak \$4.08, 302 ft. bass \$3.02, 524 ft. bass \$5.24, 600 ft. bass \$6.00 and 168 ft. bass lathe \$1.68.

He was credited in 1849 with 1 barrel of fish \$8.00 and in 1850 paid cash to balance \$12.00.

Custom Sawing

Apparently most of the sawing was custom work done on shares, possibly 50-50; page after page are filled with items like this; sawed on shares for D. Franz 22 logs 5022 ft. bass; sawed on shares for D. Sweet 25 logs 4967 ft. bass; sawed on shares for Moses Austin 24 logs 5218 ft. divided; sawed on shares for James Webster 21 logs 5253 ft. divided.

It was no doubt from the mills share that a stock of lumber was available to customers, at prices of \$10.00 per thousand for bass and oak at \$8.00, while butternut was charged at \$12.00.

Sawing also was done for cash or charged to customers account at \$3.50 per thousand although in 1857 the rate was \$4.25 on large lots and \$5.00 on little dabs as shown on a charge to "Dutch John" for sawing 357 ft. \$1.78.

In 1849 Philip Breyer went to work for Mr. Adams by the month for \$4.00 per month, and while the book does not so state, it is presumed he also received board, room and washing. (Sjouka Dykstra told this writer recently that when he first came to this country from Holland about 1900 he started working on a farm at what is now Friesland, for \$3.00 a month.)

Most of the sawing was done by George Adams, himself, but the book shows that later his sons, George H., and Michael (Mic) also ran the saw; However by 1852 we find that Daniel Brucher, sometimes spelled Breyer, had become the sawyer having turned out from as little as 2060 ft. to as much as 8148 ft. in a day, totaling 204,174 ft. in 36 days or an average of about 5670 ft. per day.

On the charge side he received 1 pair buckskin mittens \$1.00, 1½ lb. tobacco 15c, fifteen different items of lumber, at various times, and cash twenty two times, the page totaling \$125.46 for cash, lumber etc. but since no dates are shown it may not be for the same period as the sawing.

In 1854-1856 his account shows 1 stove for \$25.00 and cash totaling \$188.00 was drawn, and on the opposite page he is credited with sawing on 36 different days.

Patten

On another page in March and April 1851, Joseph C. Patten, a skilled carpenter who lived in town of Portland, and who worked here on Gov. Lewis's house, is shown to have worked 32½ days for which he was paid \$1.25 per day settlement being by note.

The penmanship runs all the way from fair to excellent, shows frequent changes of ink and was probably done with quill pens.

On a page and a half near the end of the book appears the song Nelly Gray, six verses and the chorus, written possibly, by another hand, and no doubt a favorite and popular song of the time.

1849

Pioneers arriving in this year, as found in Butterfield, admittedly only a fraction of the total were, Benjamin M. Benedict, James Campbell, R. W. Chadbourn, Horace C. Cooper, Elijah Federly, Joseph S. Manning, Asa Perkins, L. D. Rosenkrans, Archabold Sanderson, Richard Stratton, Daniel Hall, and Warren Loomis; also a few others as a result of personal research.

Benedict

Little has been found as to occupation, or former place of residence of Benjamin M. Benedict, but in the minutes of a meeting held Sept. 12th, 1850 for the purpose of organizing the first Congregational Church Society in Columbus, Mr. Benedict was one of three trustees elected.

In the first issue of the Republican Journal of Feb. 27, 1855, a display ad by B. M. Benedict indicates that he had a store of some kind two doors east of Cooper's store. His advertisement is headed NEW BOOKS and he advises the public that he has the exclusive agency of Columbia, Dane, Rock and Jefferson counties for the publications "Lewie, or the bended Twig"; "Ups and Downs, or Silver Lake Sketches", by Cousin Cicily, — and "Ten Nights in a Bar Room."

He also had the life of Horace Greely, and offers "other new works", too numerous to mention.

Now that copies of early Columbus newspapers from Feb. 1855 to May 1863 are available, doubtless many items of interest concerning many people will be found.

(To be continued next week)



T. Clark Smith



T. Jefferson Smith



Charles Smith

These three generation pictures of the Smith family were loaned to Mr. Stare for the Column by Mrs. John Albright.

Installment No. 40

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Campbell

James Campbell and his wife Julia, whose daughter Mary was married in 1847 to Joseph S. Manning, at their home in Southport (now Kenosha) came to Columbus to live, after Mr. Manning moved to Columbus and bought the Ludington Mill. Mr. Campbell was chairman of the meeting to organize a Church Society mentioned in the previous paragraph.

The Campbells were the parents of Miss Julia "Dudy" Campbell, who will be remembered by many still living here.

R. W. Chadbourn

Reuben W. Chadbourn, born in 1819, on a farm near Sanford, York County Maine, completed his education in the Academy at Gorham, Maine in 1841.

He then went to Virginia where he taught school until 1846 then returned to Maine until 1849 when he emigrated to Columbus, Wis. For the first few years he had an office to assist settlers in making their land entries, aided them financially if in need of assistance, loaning money as a private individual, and later secured a charter and began a regular private banking business. He was also a justice of the peace.

We quote the following account of early banking days in Columbus from page 562 of volume II of a history of Columbia County, by J. E. Jones, published in 1914.

"From this source of information it is learned that in 1858 Calvin C. Barnes and James T. Barnes, both of Waukesha, Wisconsin, J. J. Jossay and Carl Luling of Naperville, Ill., started a bank of circulation in Columbus, Wisconsin.

In the summer of 1859 Willard Scott, jr. and Vosburg Sprague purchased the interest of the Barnes Brothers.

The "Bank of Columbus" as first instituted was over Foster's store, and in 1859 it was moved over Fuller's store, and in 1860 a building was built especially for the bank.

William E. Lewis was president, Willard Scott, jr. was vice president, V. H. Sprague was cashier and Martin J. Lewis, assistant cashier.

Several changes in the ownership of the bank occurred during this period. At that time Mr. R. W. Chadbourn occupied rooms over the bank building.

About 1861 Willard Scott called on Mr. Chadbourn and told him that the bank would not open its doors on the following Monday.

It was a period of great financial worry, and the local bank was being pressed for assessment upon the state bonds securing the bank's circulation.

Mr. Chadbourn promised as a measure of relief to give ten thousand dollars to the officers of the bank if it was deemed advisable. In the situation it was judged to be best to close the bank."

In Butterfield's history of 1880 he states "On

the 7th day of Sept. 1861, R. W. Chadbourn opened a private banking institution, in the same building vacated by Messrs. Scott and Sprague, and in 1863, it was organized under the National Banking Law, as the First National Bank of Columbus, with a paid up capital of \$50,000.00. Its number 178 indicates it as having been among the first institutions of its kind. The directors of the new institution were R. W. Chadbourn, president; S. W. Chadbourn, cashier; and William M. Griswold, George Griswold, and F. F. Farnham."

In 1864 Mr. Chadbourn bought the bank building from Scott and Sprague, its location being on a single lot where the present First National Bank, a much larger building now stands.

The R. W. Chadbourn home was until recently owned and occupied by Dr. E. C. Oviatt at 654 W. Prairie St. and is now owned and occupied by Mrs. Cora White.

He was married in 1866 to Miss Catherine Atwater of Catskill, N. Y. and in 1872 their only child, a son, Fredrick A. Chadbourn was born.

R. W. Chadbourn was president of the bank from its organization in 1863 until his death in 1890, when the widow became president for seven years and then her son Fred became president in 1897, at 25 years of age, remaining president until his death a few years ago.

Smith W. Chadbourn, a brother of R. W. built and lived in the large house now occupied by Mrs. McIlree at 651 W. Prairie, which for many years was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. C. Leitsch.

Reuben C. Chadbourn of 344 S. Charles st. is the son of F. A. Chadbourn and grandson of R. W. Chadbourn. Jack Chadbourn, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Chadbourn, now a student at the University of Wisconsin is the 4th generation of Chadbourns. Reuben Chadbourn is a director of the First National Bank founded by his grandfather.

Horace C. Cooper

Horace C. Cooper was one of the early merchants of Columbus. He was born in Onondago County N. Y. in 1815 and learned the trade of carpenter and cabinet maker. In 1836 he went west to Detroit where he worked at his trade during the fall and winter but took up land and reverted to farming and continued to work in other parts of Michigan.

Late in 1838 a friend induced him to try peddling, which appealed to him as he was of a roving disposition.

He dealt largely in furs and peddled in Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin until 1841 when he opened a store at Aztalan, Wis. but continued his peddling too.

In 1843 he built a store building at Lake Mills and removed his merchandise from Aztalan to Lake Mills and shortly after he built and operated a hotel in Lake Mills.

(To be continued next week)



R. W. Chadbourn



F. A. Chadbourn



R. C. Chadbourn

The picture of F. A. Chadbourns was taken by Garrett studio, while that of R. C. was taken by Julion Stien.

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Passing through Columbus in 1849, he made a trade with a dry-goods merchant named Eaton, in which he traded the hotel in Lake Mills for Eaton's store in Columbus.

Mr. Cooper moved to Columbus and was a merchant here until 1865.

His granddaughter, Dolly Brown Webster, says that her grandfather built the building which later became known as the corner Drug Store, into which he moved his stock of goods from the former place of business the location of which we do not know.

In 1845 Mr. Cooper went back to New York to marry Miss Julia Williams, and to them were born Horace C., jr., William, Charles F., Alice



Horace C. Cooper

who became Mrs. C. F. Rogers; Etta C., who married Willard Scott, jr., Helen, who married H. M. Brown of Columbus, who built the building at 122 W. James st., and whose children were Harry, now of Milwaukee and Dorothy better known as Dolly mentioned above; and Julia A. who married H. C. Williams of Chicago.

Mr. Cooper sold out or traded, in 1855 and was in the merchantile field elsewhere until 1872 when he returned to Columbus and became proprietor of the Cooper house which now is 228 and 234 South Ludington st.

The Cooper family still lived there and ran a boarding house at the above location after this writer came to Columbus in 1902.

Federly

Elijah Federly born in New York in 1815, brought up a farmer's son with common school education.

At 24 he began learning the trade of ship-carpenter in a shipyard at Clayton, N. Y. where he worked for a few years then became a carpenter and joiner.

He came to Jefferson county, Wisconsin in 1848 locating on a farm but the following year he came to town of York where he remained for 15 years, but in 1865 he moved on to section 35 town of Columbus, where he was still living as of 1880.

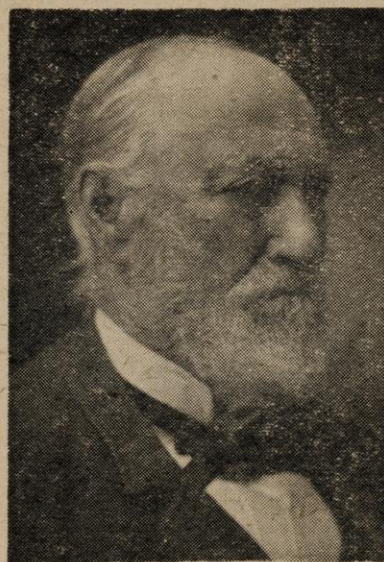
He was married in Jefferson county, N. Y. in 1842 to Miss Sarah Ingalls; as of 1880 there were two children at home, Albert E. and Sarah C.

From the similiarity of names, a farmer named

Milo J. Ingalls is presumed to have been a brother of Mrs. Federly.

J. S. Manning

J. S. Manning, about whom considerably has already been said in the story about the Columbus Mill and who came here in 1849, was also



J. S. Manning

active in civic affairs, having been one of the village trustees in 1867-69, and president of the board in 1871.

When Columbus went under the city form of government in 1874. Mr. Manning became an alderman from the second ward serving for three terms.

Mr. and Mrs. Manning had only one child

a daughter Julia M. who married Harvey K. Dodge who died before 1880. The present home of Frank Schmeid, 253 South Ludington st. was formerly the home of Mrs. Julia Dodge and Miss Julia (Dudy) Campbell, a sister of Mrs. Manning.

Mr. Stephen Manning who was Post Master here from 1898 to 1904 was a nephew of J. S. Manning. Much more in detail about J. S. Manning has already appeared in the story of the Columbus Mill.

Perkins

Asa Perkins came here from New York in 1849 and entered a claim for 120 acres in section 19 town of Columbus when he was 23 years of age, having only two schillings left after paying for the land at the government price which may have been \$1.50 per acre at that time.

He worked for others to earn a living while doing the customary work of clearing and planting.

He returned to New York that fall and came back to Wisconsin in the spring, working by the month on a farm near Janesville for two or three years to get cash enough to build and improve his claim.

It was 1853 when he married Miss Sarah George and moved on to his land.

Their children were Mary A., who became Mrs. Stephen B. Marvin; Randall K.; Francis F.; Charles M.; and Arthur R.

In 1870 Mr. Perkins made an extensive trip to California, and to Portland, Oregon and up the Columbia River to Waulula and from there by stage to Walla Walla, territory of Washington where after a couple of weeks he back tracked, returning to Wisconsin by the same route he went out.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 42

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Mr. Perkins was one of a committee to bring the Northwestern Railway through Columbia county to Lodi. He was also active in encouraging the Milwaukee and Watertown Railroad to extend its line from Columbus to Baraboo, and was successful in part for the right of way was secured and the road bed graded at least as far the Perkins farm, but no rails were laid beyond Columbus. The grade passed through town about where Richmond street, formerly called Railroad st. begins, a little north of Fuller st. and west across sections 14-15-16-17 and 18 about the middle of said sections.

Correction

A mistake was made in last weeks installment which we are glad to correct.

The J. S. Manning house is 333 South Ludington instead of the Frank Schmied house at 253 which formerly was the Dr. E. Churchill house.

Rev. Rosenkrans

In the minute book of the First Congregational church society, the first meeting recorded is Sept. 12th, 1850, in which, among other things is found "On motion, Rev. C. E. Rosenkrans who has been preaching the Gospel in this town for the past year, was invited to continued his labors for another year, and the trustees were directed to circulate a subscription for his benefit."

This establishes the fact that the Rev. Rosenkrans was here in 1849, and many references to him and also to L. D. Rosenkrans in minutes of meetings for several years, indicate that one or both of them remained, but only brief mention is made by Butterfield who says Rev. C. E. Rosenkrans was the pastor for ten years. He died in 1860, having come here first as a missionary, and was highly respected for his excellent character. For years he was the leading spirit in religious and educational interests as he was elected president of Columbus Collegiate Institute when it was organized in 1855.

Rev. Rosenkrans lived in the house at corner of Harrison and Dickason, better known as the James Hasey home.

His picture was published in installment number 28.

Sanderson

John Sanderson, a weaver by trade in Scotland emigrated with his family to Columbia county, Wis. in May 1849 locating on land in Hampden, where his wife who was Isabel Trotter died in 1854.

Their oldest son, Archibald, was born in Selkirkshire, Scotland in 1837 and therefor was 12 years old when his parents came here. Archibald remained in the parental home until he was 22 when he began business for himself, marrying Miss Mary A., daughter of James and Orpha Montgomery.

They located on a farm of 164 acres in section 1 of Hamden in 1868. Their children were Ellen, Jennie, William, and Thomas.

Arch Sanderson of 335 S. Lewis st., son of William, grandson of Archibald for whom he was named, is therefor great grandson of John, and his son Grant, on the farm in section 29, town of Columbus is great, great, grandson.

Thomas Sanderson, also, was born in Golshields, Selkirkshire, Scotland, coming here with his parents, John and Isabell, settling on land in section 14, town of Hampden.

Besides Archibald and Thomas there were three other brothers and two sisters.

Thomas married Mary M. Lee, a daughter of Perry and Esther Lee. Other daughters of the Lees, were Sarah, Mrs. J. J. Sutton; Esther, Mrs. A. H. Whitney, and Miss Lillian, unmarried, whose home was the present Wohlfeil home, 254 S. Lewis.

The children of Thomas and Mary Sanderson were John, Francis, Isabelle, Lee, Guy, Jesse and Fred. The late Guy Sanderson, died only a few years ago, and his son Thomas was fatally injured in a highway accident after he had returned un-

scathed from overseas service in World War two.

Fred Sanderson, 853 Park ave. is a son of Thomas, the brother of William, and a cousin of Arch Sanderson.

Stratton

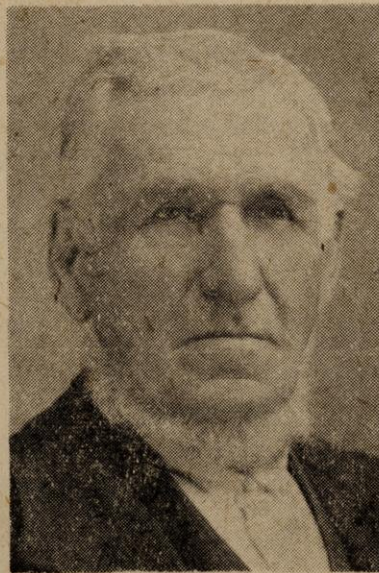
Nothing specific had been found about Richard Stratton other than in the records of the church as shown in Butterfield on page 678 as well as in the minute book of First Congregational Church Society where appear the names of Richard Stratton, Mrs. Polly Stratton, Emily Stratton and Mrs. Asenath Straton, as of January 26th, 1850 indicating that they were here prior to that date, therefor we are placing them in 1849 although it could have been earlier.

Hugh Hall

Since 1849 the Hall family have been prominently identified with the Columbus area. Daniel and Lydia Hall, both natives of Vermont, came to

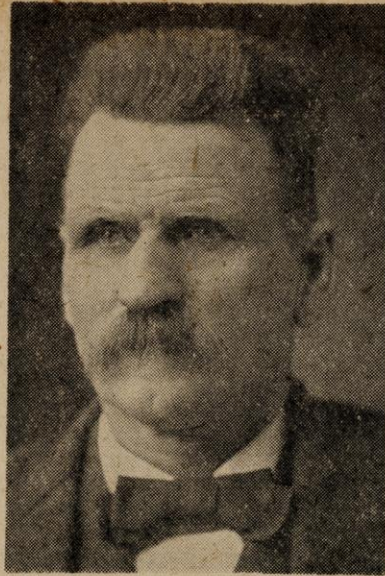
Columbia county from Wauwatosa, where they first located when they came from Vermont.

Their oldest son Hugh was born at Plymouth, Vt. in 1843, and was therefore six years old when his parents located in Fountain Prairie, where they remained but a short time until they bought 200 acres in Hamden. The

**Daniel Hall**

land was "timber openings", partly prairie partly timber and none of it had been plowed. Their first home was a one room clapboard house, without partitions, and an old cook stove, a table and a few chairs, besides beds, was the furnishings.

After two years on this place, they moved successively to three or four different places, one of



which they bought from a pioneer named Clark Hazzard and finally to 160 acres known as the old James Clark farm, where Daniel put up several new buildings, and it was on this place that the mother died. The father lived to be 91 years of age and died at the home of his son Hugh in Columbus.

Hugh Hall

Hugh Hall, when 19, in 1862, enlisted in Company G, 23rd Wisconsin Infantry, serving as a private for three years. The regiment traveled 11,000 miles, participated in 15 engagements being under fire a total of 94 days. Mr. Hall was wounded three times, became a prisoner of war November 4, 1863, was exchanged December 26th, 1863 and was honorably discharged at Mobile, Alabama, July 4, 1865. There were 1010 men in his regiment when they entered and only 318 left when mustered out, at Madison July 20, 1865.

Installment No. 43

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



After his discharge, Mr. Hall spent a year in traveling, mostly in Minnesota, then returned to Madison where he hired out to learn the windmill business. Two years later he joined E. B. Roys in the sale and erection of windmills, which continued for three years.

About that time he was married to Miss Ellen Fairbanks, daughter of Edward Fairbanks, of Hampden, settling on a farm of 80 acres in Hampden where they lived seven years and here their daughter Mabel F. was born. Mabel will be remembered as the efficient secretary of Attorney Wm. C. Leitsch.

About 1873 they moved to Columbus, renting the home of William L. Lewis where they lived for several years before moving to the house now belonging to Henry Moy at 246-50 So. Charles.

Mr. Hall engaged in the pump and windmill business, conducting a small factory facing on Broadway (now Dickason) about where the bowling alley now is, and the warehouse and paint shop about where Bill's shoe shop stands, on Mill Street.

He later added agricultural machinery, and still later took a partner, S. W. Andrews, into the business.

His daughter Blanche, became Mrs. Edward Selk, of Columbus and died a few years ago at their home in El Paso, Illinois. His youngest daughter, Ruth, is Mrs. Earl Rueter, Route 4, Columbus.

In 1892-93 Hugh Hall served as Mayor of Columbus, and in 1894 he was elected sheriff, whereupon he sold his business to his partner.

The Halls were Methodists, in which connection this story has been found. It seems that both the Hugh Hall and John Sutton families were Methodists, although neither of the men attended services very often, but both lent financial support.

Also they both liked to play checkers, in one of the local saloons. About once a month they played a special game for a specific reason; the loser to buy and deliver a sack of flour to the Methodist minister.

Loomis

Warren Loomis was born in New York in 1799 and was twice married. His son Washington was born in New York in 1845. Warren Loomis was handy with tools and became a carpenter, builder and house mover, being an all around mechanic.

His second wife was Sarah Berkley and shortly after this marriage they migrated to Wisconsin by way of Erie Canal, the Great Lakes, and team and wagon arriving in Columbus, then only a small village in 1849.

Warren Loomis remained in Columbus the rest of his years, moved many buildings, and helped build many.

His sons were Washington, called Wash, who for a long period occupied a finely improved farm at Fall River; Milford, who became one of the most prominent carpenters and builders of this area, and Harvey whose home was the 1½ story frame house at 460 W. James. He had a grocery store on Ludington street near where the Weber Hardware store now is.

Miss Nellie Loomis, city librarian for many years and Guy and Paul Loomas, who was at

one time connected with the city water and light plant were children of Harvey and grandchildren of Warren Loomis.

The house at the corner of James and Spring streets so long known as the John Bock home, was formerly referred to as the Loomis home, and was very likely built and occupied by the Warren Loomis family before the three sons set up homes for themselves.

There are numerous descendants of Washington Loomis living in the area, which the writer would gladly mention, but no one thus far has volunteered information.

It is believed that none of the descendants of Milford and Harvey Loomis live hereabouts now.

The Richmonds

Bradford Bowen Richmond, better known as Brad or B. B. who was recently the subject of a feature story in the Journal-Republican in connection with his saddle horses, is the ninth Richmond in line of descent from one John Richmond born in Wiltshire, England in 1594 who emigrated to America in 1635, settling two years later in Taunton, Mass., of which he was one of the founders.

Skipping the next five generations, Perez or Peres Bradford Richmond, seventh in line of descent, was born in Livingston county, near Syracuse, New York in 1809, was raised as a farmer, married Miss Harriet Warner in 1835 and farmed there until the late eighteen forties.

In 1847 Peres made a scouting trip to what was then called the west and finally decided to locate in York township, Dane county, territory of Wisconsin.

He purchased 125.42 acres from Lemuel Leffingwell jr. for \$950.00, obviously a lump sum price rather than for a fixed price per acre.

Brad Richmond has in his safety deposit box the original contract or agreement between his grandfather P. B. Richmond and Mr. Leffingwell, which we would reproduce photographically if it were not so faint, but which reads as follows.

"Know all men by these presents that I, Lemuel Leffingwell jr. of the county of Dane, territory of Wisconsin and Ruth Leffingwell, his wife do quit claim all our right title and interest of and in and to all that certain piece or parcel of land laying and being in the county of Dane in the territory of Wisconsin and described in a certain duplicate given to said Lemuel Leffingwell at the Land Office in Milwaukee on the thirty first day of October A. D. 1845 to P. B. Richmond of Livingston county and state of New York for and in consideration of the sum of nine hundred and fifty dollars as expressed in a mortgage bearing even date herewith with and a note as collateral security. (on the reverse side the agreement continues) I, Lemuel Leffingwell agree to and with P. B. Richmond to plow and sow in good order with good seed and in good season the same piece of land that I now have in to winter wheat on the farm on which I now live and which I have this day sold to said P. B. Richmond, free of charge and I further agree to sow about 13 acres on the lot on which Jepe G. Lawrence now lives to wheat to be put in in good order in good season with good seed the wheat to be harvested by me and to be equally divided in the shock.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 43

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Said P. B. Richmond is to pay for one half of the seed wheat and I agree that said P. B. Richmond shall have possession of the premises on the fifteenth day of October next except the house which I am to live in if I chose till the first day of January next at which time I agree to give full possession of the premises with all appertaining thereto all loose rails and timber to be left on the premises and I am to use the tops of the trees that are now down for fire wood and leave the premises in as good order and repair as they now are natural wear and decay excepted as witness my hand this 10th day of July A. D. 1847. J. Leffingwell jr."

Mr. Leffingwell had entered this land in the Government Land Office, in Milwaukee in 1845, had built a comfortable log house on a gentle rise about a hundred yards away from a big spring of excellent water, and had cleared considerable land some of which had been farmed three years.

Mr. P. B. Richmond returned to New York state and the following fall brought his family overland in a covered wagon drawn by a fine team of horses, said to be the first team of horses in that neighborhood.

Brad says that his grandfather arrived at the place in September 1848, and much to his surprise and disappointment found the spring, which he had valued at \$200.00, was completely dry.

His grandfather's family consisted of Lucy B. who later became the wife of Capt. O. A. Southmayd; Ezra Warner, who became father of five children, to be mentioned later; Caroline, who married Samuel C. Smith who was killed in a hunting accident; and George, Fred and Ed.

Ezra W. was eleven years old when his father brought the family to their new home, and like his sister Lucy became a school teacher.

When Ezra was about twenty one, having had the benefit after district school, of some teaching, he was sent to Oberlin College in Ohio, expecting to enter the ministry, but because of inadequate voice, became a teacher instead.

Brad says that his aunt Lucy taught district school for \$9.00 per month, and board, "boarding round", that is a week with each family having children in the school, then starting around again.

After coming back from Oberlin, Ezra and two friends went to Missouri to teach, and for nine months practically lived on johnny cake (corn bread) which he detested, and black molasses, a fare he would not touch at his father's table.

He taught in the town of Portland in the winter months, farming on his father's farm in the summer.

On one of his teaching jobs he boarded in the home of John A. Bowen who then lived on a farm he bought west of Columbus, the farm being the Lobeck farm on highway 60.

The Bowens had migrated from New York, settling near Janesville in 1842 and in 1849 they came to Columbus, where they lived for about a year in a house later owned by W. W. Drake, which stood where Lein's Garage now is, before buying the farm previously mentioned.

Mr. Bowen farmed in summer and in winter taught school, but commanded better pay because he lived at home and did his own chores besides.

In 1861 Ezra Richmond married John Bowen's daughter, Miss Eliza E. Bowen and for a few years after their marriage they lived and farmed where Albert Holsten now lives, farming in season and teaching school in the winter.

He then bought a farm between and south of Deansville and Sun Prairie, farming and teaching, as many educated men did in the period of which we are writing, and there the five children born to Ezra and Eliza Richmond were born.

They were, Mable; Hattie, who became Mrs.

W. L. Fritz; Bradford Bowen; Elizabeth, or Libby who became an excellent registered nurse; and Caroline, who married Frank S. Roberts.

Peres Richmond must have built a larger log house, or perhaps Mr. Leffingwell before him to have room for six children.

George became a tinner, sometimes called tinker, who with a wagon called at the homes to do most any kind of repair jobs, sold tinware, and traded for or bought produce. He later moved to Sabetha, Kansas and engaged in the hardware trade, where his younger brothers, Fred and Ed. followed.

Two years after Peres bought the Leffingwell land, or in the summer of 1849 he bought 327 acres more, immediately adjoining, direct from the Government Land Office. Brad has the five original patents or certificates, four covering forty acres each and one covering 167.55 acres.

They are fancy documents printed on heavy parchment, almost like sheepskin, with the name Zachary Taylor, then president of the United States, engrossed on them, and all bearing date of August 1st, 1849, and issued to Peres Bradford Richmond of Livingston County State of New York.

This together with the Leffingwell land gave him a total of 452.99 acres as of August 1849, but he later sold portions of it to others keeping about 320 acres. Part of Columbus Foods Corporation Farm No. 4, now owned by Mr. Garth Premo, was originally Richmond land.

It was in 1862 that P. B. Richmond built the present house, Mr. R. D. Van Aken sr. being the builder, now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Theron Black, the later being the former Wilma Fritz a great granddaughter of Peres.

The present barns on the west side of the road were built in 1866, the fine white pine lumber having been hauled from Fond du Lac. The builders were Milford Loomis and John R. Polly; the barn raising date was July 15, 1866 according to information written with heavy carpenter pencils on the smooth, clean white pine boards.

Some of the floor planking is random width and tapering as in the log, some planks being three or four inches wider at one end, and laid down accordingly by reversing ends so a narrow end is laid next to a wide end.

Both edges are hand grooved and the tongue is a separate strip driven into one plank to receive the groove in the next plank.

In 1881 when Peres was seventy two years old and no longer felt able to run the farm, his son Ezra moved from Sun Prairie back to the home place and his father moved to Columbus, the home being at the corner of Harrison and Lewis Streets where the Eugene Sutton house, now the home of DeForest Doland and his wife, Ruth Sutton Doland, stands.

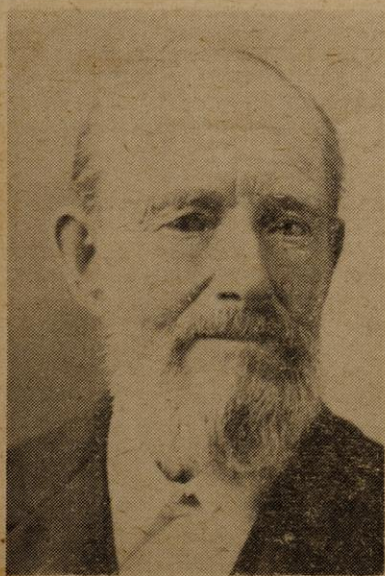
Because of a leg injury Peres Richmond suffered amputation of one leg below the knee but was able to get out to the farm in his low cut phaeton, a vehicle almost unknown to the present generation.

While visiting relatives back in New York state he became paralyzed and was bed fast for nine months. His son Ezra brought him back to the old home place where he died about a month later in 1888.

Ezra operated the home farm from 1881 until about 1900 when he moved to town, and his son Bradford, then 25, took over, and in 1906 he married Miss Edith Clark and they have been on the farm every since.

Some years ago they built a new house across the road, for themselves, leaving the homestead for a tenant farmer, but this did not work out too well, so six years ago, in 1945 Theron and Wilma Black bought 200 acres and now occupy the old homestead.

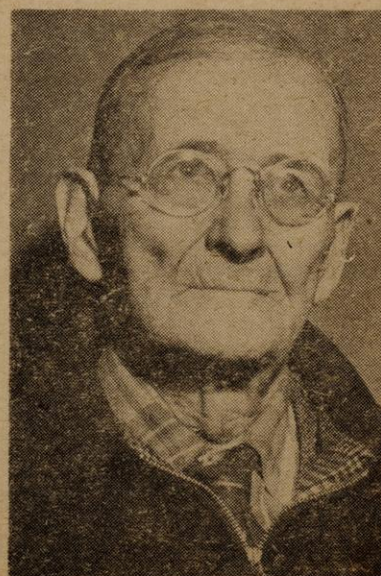
(Continued next week)



Ezra Warner Richmond



Peres B. Richmond



Bradford Bowen Richmond

Installment No. 44

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The Brad Richmonds had no children so the Richmond name, as far as this branch is concerned will stop with Brad, the 9th generation from John; but the 10th generation continues through the five children of Wm. L. and Hattie Fritz and the five living children of Frank and Carrie Roberts; and the 11th generation is on its way through the grandchildren of the Fritz and Roberts families.

Mr. P. B. Richmond should have been included in the "class of 1848" but the necessary information to write the story was not available at that time.

John Crombie

The following information has been written by John B. Crombie; we are grateful for this type of cooperation.

"One of the early settlers who made more than a passing imprint upon this community was John Crombie who arrived in 1849. From the obituary printed in the Columbus Democrat of Saturday, March 21, 1881, we have gathered much information about him.

He was born in 1815 in County of Westmeath, Ireland and was the oldest of a family of three. Losing his father at the age of 12 years, he apprenticed himself to a cousin as stone mason. He married Esther Rooney of the same county in 1844 and they emigrated to the United States in the spring of '48. He resided in New York one year working at his trade on the dry docks at Castle Garden. Again embibing the spirit of emigration, he started with his family to Wisconsin, arriving in Milwaukee with his wife and three children—William, James and John—in the spring of '49. Later two more children were born to them, a daughter, Mary, and a son who died in infancy. He immediately set out to look up a home, arriving in the Town of York, Dane County, in August of the same year. He met a number of settlers at the home of M. Boles who was hauling stone to build a house. He made a remark to one of the settlers that he would like to locate near where such stone could be found. Geo. Smith, one of the settlers, told him he would sell him a farm. After seeing it, he bargained for 80 acres. He soon after hired Mr. Smith and his ox team to move his family from Milwaukee, at the same time accepting Mr. Smith's hospitality for a couple of weeks until the neighbors gathered and helped him raise a log house. After breaking up six acres, he went to work at his trade as a stone mason. His first work was helping to build homes for Mr. Boles and L. Leffingwell, both in York. From the former, he received only 12 shillings in currency to pay his taxes; the rest was in meat, wheat and potatoes. For ten years thereafter, he worked at his trade in

Columbus, commuting on foot the seven miles from his farm morning and night. There was a heavy emigration settling in this section at the time and it made business lively, which gave him steady work. He laid the first cellar wall in Columbus, it being for Horace Cooper. He also laid brick for the first brick school building—now razed—which stood on the present High School site. Some of the other buildings he worked on were Gov. Lewis's house, the present home of F. A. Stare, Whitney Hotel, the present Blackhawk or Mueller building, Cook's house, now the American Legion Home, and the Griswold block. He also worked on the dam of the Danville mill and did some work in the city of Madison. Wages were good, and as he acquired money, he invested in more land. He also took a prominent part in the organization of St. Jerome's parish of this city. In 1859 he commenced to clear up and fence his farm. The early farm was cleared by the use of oxen. One of the old ox yoke's is still kept on the farm as a curiosity. In the early sixties the log cabin was replaced by the sturdy brick house which is in a good substantial condition today. The farm was noted for its hospitality to wayfarers. Rob't. M. Lafollette, Sr. when a young man seeking political office, was one who took advantage of this hospitality.

Mr. Crombie died in March, 1881 and his wife survived him and lived on the homestead until 1898. During his lifetime he had acquired 500 acres of land, the greater portion of which is still owned by his descendants. The original homestead is now owned by a grandson, John B. Crombie and a great grandson, Francis Crombie and family, now reside on another tract of the

original farm, having purchased it recently from his uncle and aunt, James and Mary Crombie. The Francis Crombies' two little daughters, Suzanne and Judy, belong to the fifth generation residing on this land.

There are ten living grandchildren. James and Mary Crombie, who now reside on Spring Street in this city, and Joe Crombie, Milwaukee, are the children of Will Crombie who died in 1916. James Crombie, another son, who died in 1911, was the father of Mrs. Homer Smith, Minneapolis, Mrs. Grace Schaeffer, Stoughton, Mrs. G. A. Mueller, Milwaukee, Edmund Crombie, St. Cloud, Minnesota, Dr. Francis J. Crombie, St. Paul, Minnesota, and John B. and James H. Crombie, Columbus."

We are fortunate in being able to show the photographs of three of the Crombies, John Crombie and two of his sons, William and James.

Steinbach

Among the first of the Germans to come to this area was Jacob Steinbach who settled eventually in Hampden.

He was born in Baden, Germany March 16th, 1825 and came to America in 1846 when he was in his twenty first year.

He spent sometime in or around Buffalo, New York then came west to Wisconsin territory. He had learned the trade of carpenter in the old country so it was only natural that he went into the "pineries" as the north woods were known at that time, to distinguish them from the hard wood section hereabouts.

Logging was a winter job, and very likely he did farm work or carpentry in the summer.

No exact date can be found as to his coming to this immediate area, but it is known that he joined the Gold Rush to California in 1849 or 50.

He may have and perhaps did enter land from the government before he went to California.

Later he went back to Buffalo where he married Miss Catherine Sprecher, who with her parents, had also come from Baden.

He had accumulated some wealth, perhaps in the gold fields, or from manual labor for it is said that he sent money to Germany so that his younger brother Christian could come to America also.

Christian came to Buffalo, New York in 1853 when he was 22 years of age and married a German girl, and in 1855 they came to Columbus.

In all probability the two brothers were married about the same time and likely came here together, Jacob for the second time.

It was then that Jacob bought land in Hampden and settled down and became a good farmer.

There were two sons and two daughters born of this marriage, William, George, Louisa and Catherine.

Jacob's wife died in 1867 and he later married a widow, Mrs. Kupple and from the second marriage there were two, a son Henry, now dead and a daughter Elizabeth, Mrs. Wm. Gest, who with her son Harold lives at 652 S. Lewis St.

William, the elder son married Miss Louisa Warning and settled on another farm purchased by his father. Three daughters, Miss Florence Steinbach of 725 S. Charles St.; Lillian, Mrs. Jay W. Mileir of Wilmington, Del.; and Ada, Mrs. Emil Leistiko of North Leeds, were born of this marriage.

George, the second son married Miss Adelaia Trapp, daughter of the Casper Trapps, and acquired the home farm in Hampden; they had one daughter, Louise who married Henry Ott. Mr. George Steinbach is dead and his widow lives at 234 S. Dickason Blvd.

Jacob's daughter Louisa, became Mrs. Chas. J. Lange and they acquired a farm that Jacob had purchased of one of the Lskeys. Mr. Lange is dead but Mrs. Lange is still living at 422 N. Ludington. She has seven living children, Elmer of 703 N. Spring; Olive, Mrs. Otto Henning, R. 1; Edna, Mrs. Fred M. Smith, 624 S. Birdsey; Esther, Mrs. Alfred Linde; Catherine, Mrs. Wallace Peck, 422 N. Ludington; Mabel, Mrs. Louis Henning, R. 2; and Frances, Mrs. Russell Case.

Jacob's daughter Catherine married Robert Schultz; there were no children and both are dead.

Jacob died in 1903 and at that time owned 195 acres in Hampden and 160 acres in town of Columbus; his grave is in Hampden cemetery.

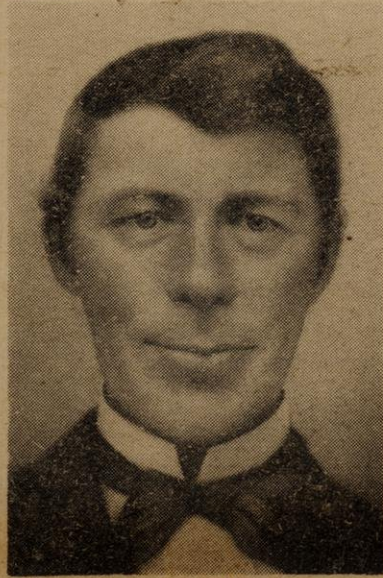
We are including Jacob in the 1849 group of pioneers, which may not be the correct date.

His brother, Christian will be included in the class of 1855.

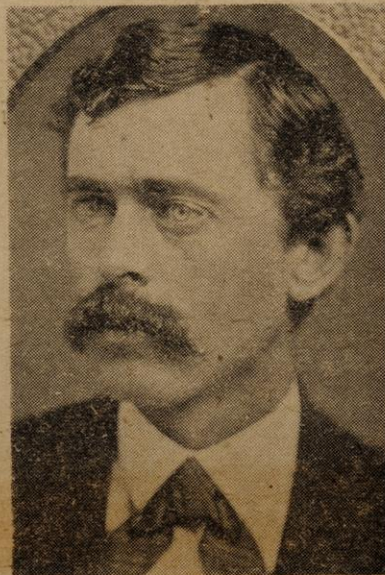
(Continued next week)



James Crombie



John Crombie Sr.

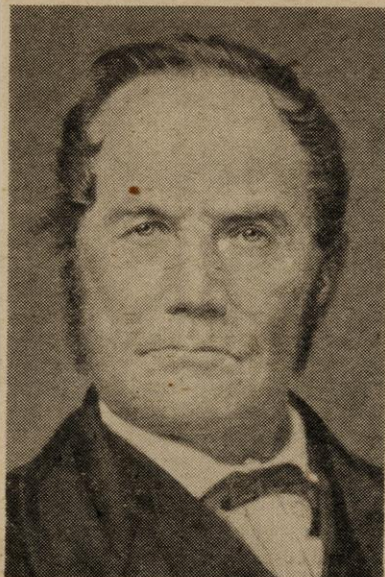


William Crombie

Installment No. 45

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



John Hasey



Above are Alfred, John jr., and Samuel Hasey, all son's of John, the patriarch. These pictures show six generations of the Hasey family. The Hasey story appeared in installment 25, of the Story of Columbus.

(Continued from last week)

Reidner

George Reidner, born in Germany came with his parents who settled on a farm near Bristol Dane county some time in the eighteen forties, but soon moved into Columbia county.

When only 16 George came to Columbus, and secured employment in a furniture store, where he learned cabinet making at which he worked later in a store in Beaver Dam.

He married Barbara Schaefer and in 1873 bought a farm in Hampden.

There were children, one of which was William J. Reidner born in 1873, who after finishing high school in Sun Prairie, learned the carpenter trade and on Saturdays he helped out as a clerk in a store.

In 1891 he came to Columbus and entered the employ of G. T. Dodge whose store faced James street, next to Bellack's, and where a portion of the Albrecht furniture store now stands.

In 1898 together with his brother-in-law, Frank Hart the firm of Reidner & Hart opened a store where Weber Hardware now is, but later moved to the Griswold block where the Korger store is located, this business closing in 1905.

In 1909 Mr. Reidner was elected city treasurer, and also served as revenue collector. In 1913 he became postmaster serving until 1922.

A Casket Company

He organized the Badger Casket Company for which the cement building beyond the tracks, now occupied by Carl Ibisch and Scott Viner Company, was built. The Company failed to prosper and has probably been forgotten by most everyone, unless they were unfortunate stockholders.

Mr. Reidner married Anna Hart in 1899, and one son Joseph was born. Mrs. Reidner died years ago and Mr. Reidner then married Mrs. F. C. Schey, daughter of H. P. Babbett.

Mr. Babbett came here to build the Elba Canning Company in 1910 and went to Merrill in 1920 to build the Lincoln Canning Company.

Mr. Reidner joined him in this enterprise and some years after the death of Babbett. Mr. Reidner became secretary and manager.

He has been retired for several years and lives in Merrill.

A brother Leo, lives at E. Bristol, and there may be brothers and sisters not known to this writer.

Patten

Another pioneer, Joseph Chauncy Patten came to Elba, in 1849. Born in New York in 1825, he became a carpenter and cabinet maker.

Coming west he entered 160 acres of land along the Crawfish, about seven miles from Columbus, half in Elba and half in Portland.

He had but \$50.00 left after paying for the land and most of that was required to pay the fees for the land agents for the necessary papers and general assistance rendered.

He began construction of a snug little home and then sent for his parents who came in 1850, leaving the son free to work at his trade.

He had married Margaret Flint in New York who waited and came with his parents, after the first child was born in March 1850.

During the next 42 years, Mr. Patten farmed raised a family of 6 sons and 4 daughters, built many fine homes in Elba and Portland, the Catholic church and school in Waterloo, and assisted in the construction of several houses in Columbus, including the James J. Lewis home later known as the Wm. L. Lewis house, in 1854 and 1856, now the home of this writer; then later the beautiful Colonial home of James L. Lewis, who later became Governor of Wisconsin.

In a volume called "Old Settlers and Prominent People" published in Waterloo in 1899, we find that "While assisting in building the beautiful residence of Governor Lewis, in Columbus, where he worked early and late, and so honest

was he about giving his employers full time, that on Saturdays when he could have rode home with some neighbor, if he would knock off in the middle of the afternoon, he would continue at his bench till sundown, then walk the seven miles to his home."

According to the same book, as of 1899 some of their children and place of abode were Janetta, Mrs. Charles Hathaway, Lake Mills; Lorenza L., Milwaukee; Orlanda E., Beaver Dam; Myrtie M., Mrs. Will G. Buck, Fall River; Cyrus L. and Chester J., both Waterloo; and Henrietta at home.

Mr. Patten sold the farm in 1895 and moved to Waterloo where he built a beautiful home.

Crooke

John Crooke was born in County Dublin, Ireland about 1825. He came to the United States in 1843 and lived in Essex County, New York for about five years.

He came to Columbus in the fall of 1848, and sometime later married Miss Ellen Lavery, a native of county Limerick, Ireland, of this place, the actual date unknown, nor is it known what his occupation at the time may have been.

In 1860 they located on 160 acres in section 29 town of Elba. A Dodge county atlas of 1910 shows 160 acres as Ellen Crooke Estate half in section 29 and half in 32. A more recent map shows one eighty as part of the J. W. Griffith Estate and the other partly Ralph Derr and partly H. Schoenwetter.

Philip Traynor

Philip Traynor born in Ireland, came to Dodge county, Wis. June 1, 1849. We have no knowledge of the name of his wife, but they had eleven children, seven of whom were living as of 1880; Odey W., the oldest was born in county Kildare, Ireland in 1838 and so was eleven when his parents came to America.

The father died in 1875 on the farm of 175 acres he had acquired on section 20 town of Elba. As of 1880, Odey, Michael, Philip and their youngest sister owned, operated and lived on the farm, part of which is now the George Yerges farm, and part known as the Charles Steinbach farm.

Odey entered the Union Army in 1863 as second Lieutenant and was assigned to the 4th Iowa Volunteer Cavalry and was advanced to first Lieut in 1865, leaving the service in 1866.

After the war he was city treasurer in Columbus for two years, and county treasurer of Dodge county from 1875 to 1878.

His brothers, Michael, Philip and James were also soldiers in the Union Army: James died in 1866 from disease contracted in the army.

Odey W. became a lawyer, and his brothers and sister remained on the farm for several years, then moved to town, living in that part called Mexico.

When this writer first came to Columbus, over fifty years ago one of the Traynors operated a dray line.

It is believed that Michiel, Phil and their sister all remained unmarried and lived together, and if so there are no Traynors left in the area.

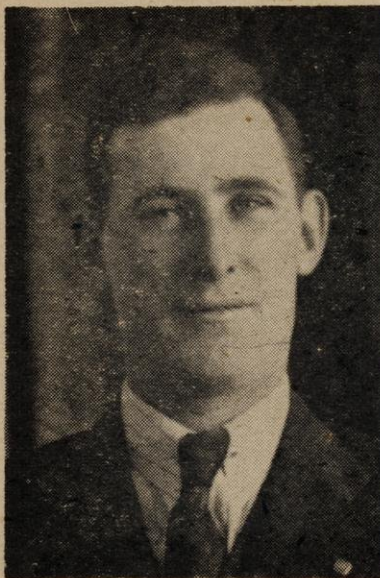
Ludington's First Extension

The first extension platted, indicating that most of the lots in the 9 blocks in the original plat had found buyers, and that there existed a need for more lots, was recorded August 6, 1849, and consisted of blocks 10, 11, and 12 lying between Prairie and School streets, from Spring to Water, and block 13, of three lots facing Ludington and three facing Broadway, this block being on the S. W. side of School street.

The following year, October 3, 1850 Ludington's second addition was recorded: It consisted of six blocks 14 to 19, between Spring street and Water street and from Mill street to Church street to Newcomb, which would be about where the railroad crosses Ludington.

Two blocks, 17, 18 and part of 19 were vacated at the time the railroad was extended from Columbus to Portage about which, more later.

(Continued next week)



Harold Hasey



James Hasey



David Hasey



Fred Hasey

Installment No. 46

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

1840-1849 Review

These articles have now covered the decade from the first settler, through the territorial days, before there was a Columbia county, through the first platt of the village of Columbus, covering nine blocks, and Ludingtons first addition of three blocks.

The organization of Columbia county, the designation of Columbus as the county seat, Wisconsin, attaining statehood, the early census, early elections and like affairs pertaining to the area.

We have discussed perhaps 175 families that came into the area in the towns of Columbus, Hampden, Fountain Prairie, York, Elba and Calamus.

Of these only a few came directly from the "old country", as any European country was commonly called, perhaps half a dozen German families, five or six from Ireland, and maybe fifteen or twenty from England and Scotland and about the same from Wales, with a few other European nationalities.

The rest, perhaps a hundred and twenty five were from New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and other New England states, with a few from Penn., Ohio and other states, made this area predominantly Yankee in customs, habits, politics, religion and culture.

As of 1840 there was an estimated population in the territory of Wisconsin of about 31,000, as no accurate count was possible. The 1850 census shows in the new state of Wisconsin about 305,000, with 9,565 in Columbia county.

At that time, the census shows, there were approximately 69,000 from New York, 10,000 Vermonters and perhaps as many or more from the rest of New England.

There were 63,000 native born Badgers, mostly children. The count shows about 110,000 were foreign born, of which 38,000 were from the various German states; about 21,000 from Ireland, perhaps 19,000 from England, Scandinavians about 9,000, Welsh about 4,500, Scotch, 3,500, Dutch, 1,500, Swiss 400, with the numbers from several other continental European countries not listed.

The above figures do not equal the total, so it must be that settlers from many other eastern states and other countries make up the difference.

There seems to be no breakdown of population by nationalities by counties until the census of 1870.

Germans, centered around Milwaukee, spreading out first in the counties along the shore of Lake Michigan, and were largely the younger sons of farmers, and since it was the custom in Europe for first born sons to inherit the home places, there was not much chance for younger sons to get ahead in the old country.

Many were well trained farmers and came here to take up land from the government, but those who came before 1850 were only the Vanguard, as the movement was much heavier from 1850 up to the Civil War.

Many of the English came as miners in the lead and zinc mining regions in the southwestern part of the state; those in this immediate area were farmers, or men of many different trades, sometimes combining their trade with farming.

The Welsh settled first in Racine and Waukesha counties but by 1845 they came in small groups, rather than as individuals or single families, to settle in western Dodge county and northeastern Columbia county, around Columbus, Randolph and Cambria. They came as farmers, even though some had been miners in Wales.

Many other European nationalities came in groups, the Belgians, Luxemburgers, Dutch, Norwegians, Swiss, and still celebrate certain holidays to keep the old national traditions alive, by singing the old songs in the native tongue, wearing the native costumes, dancing the native dances, etc.

However, it is said of the Irish that generally speaking, they came as individuals, not as colonists, and were more inclined to remain in cities and find work in construction of railroads, canals, or industry, and were at first encouraged to do so, by the priests, so they would not be where there were no Catholic churches.

However, there are some sections of the state where the pioneer farmers were predominantly Irish, as in Shields, Emmett and Elba townships in Dodge county.

Irish then as now were largely Democratic in politics. In the convention to write the constitution when Wisconsin became a state in 1848 several native born Irishmen were active.

1850

Pioneers coming to the area were probably greatly in excess of the relatively few on which data has been found, about 175 so far.

In this, the 10th year after first settlement we have only the names of Isaac Maurer, George Griswold, Amasa G. Cook, Wm. E. Lidyard, Orin D. Vosburg Casper Trapp and John Boutwell.

Maurer

Isaac Maurer and his wife Polly Pontions, both natives of Penna, were married in 1844 and came to Columbus, locating on section 5 May 18, 1850. Six years later they moved to a place on section 1 in Hampden, where in time he accumulated 200 acres.

When he bought the place in Hampden, the log house was without roof, floor, doors or windows.

Their children were Mary A. who became Mrs. Daniel McKinley; Matilda, who married Benton Sowards; her children being William, Carrie, George and Ida Sowards; Eligabeth, who married Alexander Bowen, a native of Orange county, New York, whose children were Harry and Arthur; and Maria who married Charles Kopplin in 1879 and lived in Hampden.

The Bowens were living on the Maurer homestead as of 1880. Sorry no more about the Maurers can be found.

Griswold

Of the three Griswold brothers, early professional and business men of Columbus, the first to put in an appearance here was George.

He, as were his brothers who came later, was born in Herkimer county, New York and educated at Union College, Schenectady, New York; after college he read law in the office of A. Loomis, at Little Falls, and later with Michael Hoffman of Herkimer.

He came to Columbus in the fall of 1850, and while he doubtless practiced law here, Butterfield lists him as a merchant saying "for nine years he was engaged in merchandising after which he lived a more retired life."

He was either a man of means, or made money buying and selling produce and merchandise, or in the practice of law, or in real estate, for it was not many years after his arrival before his brother, William joined him in the merchantile field.

In July 1855 George Griswold purchased lots 1, 2, 3 and 8 in block 4 from D. Franklin Newcomb for \$800.00 and in July 1856 he bought lots 5, 6 and 7 from Benjamin S. Hulburt, and in May 1857 he bought lot 4 from Benjamin A. Hagaman for \$600.00, the price indicating that there was possibly a small house on it.

The abstract from which the above was taken uses an expression the writer had not previously seen, viz, in parenthesis following the name Benjamin A. Hagamin (Hagamin in body).

Thus in less than two years George Griswold had become the owner of eight of the ten lots in block 4, the other two, 9 and 10 being owned by John Swarthout.

He evidently was looking ahead and acquiring a site upon which one day he would build a fine home, which he did.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 47

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



Continued from last week

When this writer first came to Columbus in Dec. 1901 there was a small one story frame house standing about half way between the side walk and the front of the present library.

This was George Griswold's office built after his sight had failed to where he was practically blind.

This writer, in a letter from Mrs. Edith Griswold Williams of Oshkosh, wirtten March 16th, has just learned that her uncle, George's "eye-sight began to fail shortly after he left college and that later he became totally blind, but in spite of this he was one of the best read men of his time. A man of very strong character, strong prejudices and deep affection. His integrity was above question and his word was as good as his bound."

This probably explains why he became engaged in merchantile pursuits and perhaps ceased to practice law, and also may be the reason that his brothers, William in 1853 and Eugene in 1855 came to Columbus.

Mrs. Williams says "George Griswold was blind for many years and would not be photographed, but I did find one of him and his faithful attendant, Billy Kiefer, in front of his office. This office stood in front of where the Columbus library now stands, and was a well known meeting place of all good Republicans. John Swarthout's drug store was another meeting place, and the Democrats gathered at John William's drug store. Many are the tales told about the debates that went on."

Jim Quickenden says that George Griswold and Billy Kiefer would come into the drug store every day and listen while Israel Smith would read the news to the group that usually gathered there, and then Billy would take George back to his office. Also that Harvey Brown's jewelry store (where B & E Gift shop now is) was another Democratic hang out.

Kiefer was a barber, Jim says, and George let him operate a barber chair in a portion of his office.

A picture was brought in showing the office building, but was to faded to re-produce.

George Griswold never married but built and furnished the beautiful home that is now the Zeidler Funeral home, to be occupied by Wm. M. Griswold and his family with uncle, George.

His will dated April 23rd, 1877 bequeathed to his brother, Wm. E. Griswold lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 Block 4 his heirs and assigns forever, "being my present home," together with house, barn, and appertenances, all clothing and household furniture."

George Griswold died April 4th, 1891 but his brother, William preceeded him in death by a few years; therefore the bequest went to the widow, Mrs. Mary Griswold and her son Wm. E. Griswold who became a lawyer, and her daughter, Marie, who became the wife of Dr. B. F. Bellack, and mother of one daughter, Mary Bellack Fergus of Chicago.

Lots 1, 2, and 3 had originally been sold by Lewis Ludington to D. F. Newcomb, who was



the first nurseryman here, his holdings of over four blocks later becoming one of the many "additions" to Columbus, these lots having been transferred to him in 1850.

Lot 4 was sold by Ludington to Benjamin Hagan in Sept. 1850.

Ebenezer Silsbee bought lots 5, 6 and 7 from Ludington in Sept. 1849. Silsbee sold lot 5 to George Graham in March 1852, lot 6 to Graham in August 1852 and lot 7 to Graham in August 1853. George Graham was a partner with Wm. T. Turner in the monument business.

The Griswold Mansion

George desired to build a replica of the ancestral home in Salisbury, New York even to the point of shipping in the same kind of brick of which his father's house was built.

However, this could not be done until the long expected railroad had reached Columbus.

The railroad reached Columbus in 1857 so it is reasonable to assume that this spacious home, perhaps the most beautiful mansion, type but not the oldest here, was build in the late eighteen fifties or early eighteen sixties.

The writer hopes through the medium of the early newspapers 1855 to 1863 that have been made avaiable through the courtesy of the state historical society, to establish the date of building this structure.

The Griswold home in Salisbury, New York became a station in the "Underground Railway" operated by abolitionests, to conseal fugative slaves escaping from the south. Mrs. Williams says "They kept one slave in hiding for more than a year."

Mr. George Griswold was a classmate of Henry M. Stanton, secretary of war in President Lincoln's cabinet, and was greatly interested in the Anti-Slavery movement.

The little house served as an office for Dr. Bellack at one time, also later for G. W. Andrews and A. H. Whitney.

The Griswold estate sold portions of lots 6 and 7 to Joshua and Sarah Roberts when they built their residence at 240 West Harrison st., and the rest of lots 6 and 7 to John T. Pick or his son-in-law, Frank Nelson, on which to locate the little house previously mentioned which they bought and moved.

To be continued next week

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Also lot 8 was sold when the Dave W. Evans house at 241 S. Spring st. was built which left lots 1 to 5 intact until the city needed a suitable location for the Carnegie Library, when lots 1 and 2 were deeded to the city.

A stipulation at the time was requested by Mrs. Mary Griswold, but not made a part of the deed. It is covered by a resolution adopted by the library board as follows.

"Whereas Mrs. Mary Griswold in deeding the property to the city of Columbus, which is to be used as a library site, has expressed a wish that a certain oak tree on the property be preserved, therefore, be it resolved by the Columbus public library board that said tree will not be cut down as long as it is in a healthy condition. The right being reserved to trim what branches may be necessary on the northwest side of the tree."

Cook

Amasa G. Cook, attorney at law, was born in Chenango county, New York in 1823; grew up on the farm until he was 17, then entered Oxford Academy and later an academy in Norwich where he completed his formal education in 1844.

He began teaching in the schools of Honesdale, Penn. and later he taught at Laurens, New York, but in 1845 he entered upon the study of law in the office of Fuller and West, of Honesdale, and pursued his study as much as his teaching duties would permit.

Next he read law for two years with Charles A. Thorp, Norwich, New York and later with Hon. L. S. Chatfield, of Laurens. He was admitted to the bar in Sept. 1849 and came to Wisconsin that fall, locating in Columbus in March 1850.

He became a partner with James T. Lewis, but a year later set up his own office practicing alone until 1862, when he took in as a partner Mr. E. E. Chapin. The firm of Cook & Chapin lasted until May 1869 after which he practiced alone, except that his son Hobart studied law with his father and was later a practicing attorney.

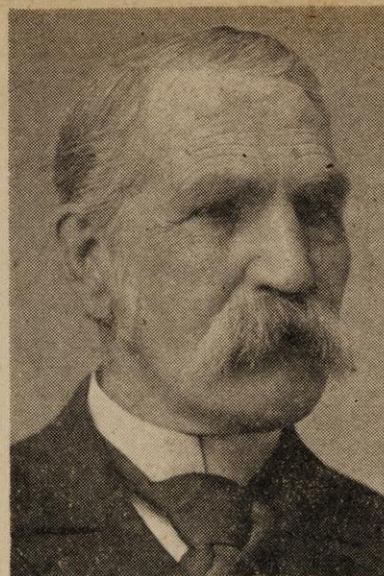
He was district attorney for 3 years in the early fifties; was post master 1856 to 1861 and held various other offices and positions of trust in Columbus.

He was and remained a Democrat, and was the party candidate for the Assembly, for Secretary of State, and for Congress in 1870 and 1874, which party was in eclipse for many years for a long time following the Civil War.

Mr. Cook was a land owner, and built the substantial brick house, now owned by the American Legion, at 716 W. James, on what has long been called Cook's hill. The house, like the Wm. Lewis house at 711 W. James, was originally a farm home, with a series of connected out buildings, woodshed, granary, carriage house and stables, all of which in both cases were torn down by subsequent owners, leaving only the house. Both of these large houses may have been built by Warren Loomis.

Accounts differ as to the exact year Loomis came to Columbus, one account saying 1845 while another says 1849, but in either event, he was the best known builder, until after R. D. Vanaken came in 1856, he being another master builder. The back part of the Lewis house was built in 1854 and the higher front part 1856, and the Cook house soon after.

Mr. Cook was married in 1853 to Sarah J., daughter of Ard. S. and Betsey Rockwell of Otsego County, New York. Her parents after-



A. G. Cook

wards came to Wisconsin locating in Elkhorn where Mr. Rockwell died in 1865.

Mrs. Rockwell then moved to Columbus, the Rockwell home being that of Mrs. Dr. A. J. Frederick, 147 N. Lewis.

The A. G. Cooks had five children, Hobart; Henry, father of A. G. now dead who married Louise Weiss; a daughter Amy,

who is Mrs. Davey of Oak Park, Illinois and Abbie who married Roger Johnson, youngest son of the Walter Johnsons living in Wauwatosa; Charles, Bertha and Mary, the latter for years having been a clerk in the old F. & M. Bank when it was located in what is now the Telephone bldg.

Mrs. Henry Cook is still living, making her home with her daughter Mrs. Davey, in Oak Park.

Vosberg

Orin D. Vosberg, born in New York state, raised as a farmer's son, came west to Illinois in 1846 when he was thirty, after marrying Mary Holmes. They lived in Lake county, Illinois for four years, but in the same year he came west, Mr. Vosberg came to Columbia county, Wis. and entered 160 acres of government land in section 29, returning to Illinois until 1850 when he brought his family to locate on the land bought four years earlier; as of 1880 he owned the same place which he had made into a fine farm.

There were eight children, two of which were born in Illinois, the others from 1851 to 1871 on the farm here.

Some time after locating here, Mrs. Vosberg's parents Arthur and Sarah Holmes also came to locate in Columbus. The youngest son, George Vosberg born 1871 now lives in Fall River. The family moved to Columbus; the parents are buried in Hillside. George made his home for many years with his cousin Ida May Holmes until her death in 1942.

This indicates that perhaps another Holmes family, brother to Arthur must have come to Columbus at an early date.

The Trapps

Peter Trapp's family were among the first settlers from Germany to come to Columbia county and one reference indicates that it was 1850 when he settled in the town of Hampden, but another reference states that it was in 1846.

Whenever it was, he purchased 80 acres in the heavily wooded portion of Hampden from a man named Engerbrandt who had entered it previously. On this land was located an old-fashioned saloon or inn as well as several log buildings and here Peter Trapp brought his family, cleared the land, conducted the inn, and added to his holdings.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 49

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

His oldest son John was twelve when his people came from Germany, and he was reared to habits of industry and thrift; John continued to attend school in the nearby log school, and also from a "subscription teacher" who traveled a sort of circuit among the homes in the neighborhood.

Upon the death of his father Peter, John inherited the old home property. He married Mary Reidner, daughter of another German immigrant, and to them 9 children were born.

Casper Trapp, six years younger than his brother John was brought up and educated in like manner. He married Veronica Reidner, presumably a sister of his brother's wife, and set up housekeeping and farming in the neighborhood.

Their first home was a small frame house but later Casper Trapp built a large brick dwelling, and developed one of the best farm properties in Hampden.

There were 13 children, seven daughters and six sons of whom two sons, Joe and Henry and a daughter Adelaide, Mrs. George Steinbach, live in Columbus.

The Trapps were musical families and among the boys of the two families there were enough

**Mr. and Mrs. Casper Trapp**

to form the Trapp band. Casper Trapp and five sons together with two nephews are shown in the adjoining picture.

BOUTWELL

Peter Boutwell of Norway came to America in 1850, first to Dane Co. and then entered a claim in section 21, town of Otsego. He married Anna Jullum, also of Norway, whose parents came to America about the same time, settling in Dane Co. He was frugal, industrious and thrifty, and from time to time he added to his holdings until he had acquired a total of 265 acres.

He was one of the first in Columbia county to grow tobacco in a large way, having grown at one time as much as twenty acres. He also bred and raised high grade shorthorn cattle and French Percheron horses.

There were eleven children, given in Jones' history as Simon; Butler; Rhoda (Mrs. G. O. Johnson); Christian; Rosa (Mrs. L. Otterness); Bertha; Anna (Mrs. Holver); Hendrickson; and John of 418 W. James st., this city.

Church Society Organized

On Jan. 26th, 1850 a small group of people feeling the need of a Church Society and a permanent church home, met at the schoolhouse to discuss the matter and to take action to that end. From the minutes of that meeting we take a few excerpts as follows.

Rev. Alex Montgomery was chosen moderator and J. Q. Adams was chosen clerk.

On motion it was voted, unanimously, that it is expedient, that a Christian church now organize in this place.

The question was then discussed as to what confession of Faith and Covenant should be adopted, whereupon it was voted that the Confession of Faith and Covenant of the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, be adopted.

It voted that the name of the church be the First Congregational church of Columbus. The church was then constituted by prayer by the Moderator. Rev. C. E. Rosenkraus was then chosen Moderator of the church.

After a short address to the church by Revs. A. Montgomery and C. E. Rosenkraus, the meeting was closed with prayer and singing and the benediction. J. Q. Adams clerk.

There are minutes of monthly church meetings but the contents relate entirely to such things as candidates for membership, baptisms, a delegate to a convention, but nothing pertaining to the financial or business affairs in 1850, except a meeting on Sept. 12 of which James Campbell was chairman and W. E. Lidyard clerk, in which "we now proceed to form ourselves into a religious society to be called and known as the First Congregational Society of Columbus." A number of articles and resolutions were adopted; "The object of this society shall be to promote the worship of God and other means of grace in connection with the public preaching by an accredited minister of the gospel."

A certificate of the election of three trustees was recorded in Vol. 3 of Deeds on page 325 in the office of Register of Deeds, on October 4th, 1850 by F. F. Farnham Register.

The three trustees were H. S. Haskell, James Campbell, and Benjamin M. Benedict; the certificate itself was signed by James Campbell and Wm. E. Lidyard, witnessed by A. B. Frink and acknowledged by Joshua J. Guppy, county judge. Butterfield's history states on page 678, "The Congregational society of Columbus having been incorporated in Sept. 1850, Lewis Ludington,



Mr. and Mrs. John Trapp

proprietor of the original village plat of Columbus, deeded to the said society that year the land at the corner of Mill and Broadway, upon which a house of worship was erected."

Actual building may have begun in 1850 but it is doubtful.

Lodges

This year also marks the second lodge to be organized in Columbus, the sons of temperance. Among those prominently connected, were Chester W. Dean, W. W. Drake, John H. Valentine, Wililam McCracken, R. W. Chadbourn, Samuel McLarty, Harvey Loomis, A. D. Williams, Milford Loomis, D. F. Newcomb and of course there were others. Meetings were held in a room over Swarthout's drug store, which was then where 119 E. James now is. The wives and daughters took an active part and the society gathered quite an extensive library of books, the first move that later led to a library association.

On one occasion lady members were permitted to vote on an important question, which was not in accordance with rules laid down by the Grand Lodge, for which infraction the Grand Lodge threatened a revocation of charter and confiscation of the property of the local lodge.

In order that they might save their library, the lodge voluntarily surrendered their charter, and "went over" to the Independent Order of Good Templers in a body.

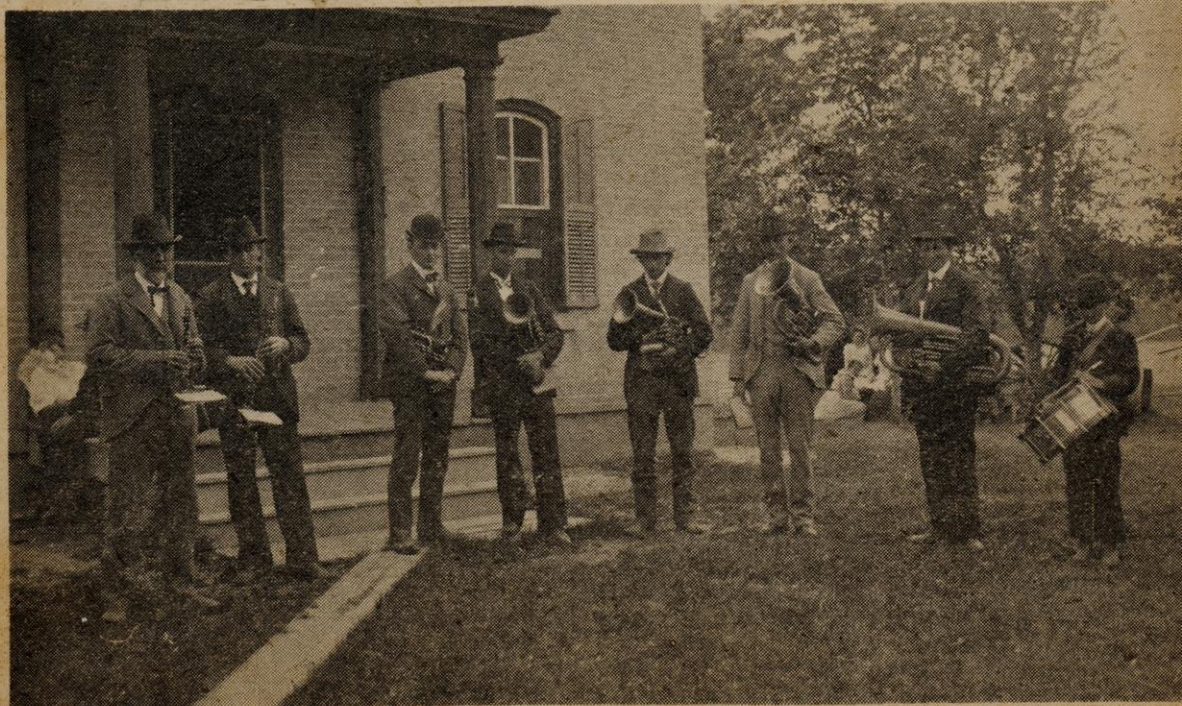
The first lodge organized in Columbus was the Odd Fellows, founded here in 1849, called Columbus Lodge No. 40. Charter members were D. F. Newcomb, Andrew Higley, Ben. F. Hart, F. A. Fowler, J. J. Guppy, H. S. Haskell and Jerome B. Fargo. The lodge prospered and grew in membership until 1872 when it suspended.

1850 Census

The first well organized and directed census taken in Wisconsin was in 1850, the results of which when published shows that in the village of Columbus there were 164 males, 124 females, and in the township of Columbus, outside the village limits there were 341 males, 331 females, or a total in town and village of 505 males, 455 females or 960 people.

Fountain Prairie shows 290 male, 256 female, 546 total; Hampden 269 male, 220 female or 489 total.

(To be continued next week)



The Trapp Family Band

Installment No. 50

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Columbia county had 5212 male, 4353 female or total 9565.

No figures on the population in Calamus, Elba or York have been found.

1851

Among the newcomers to the area in 1851 were Patrick Burrell, Dr. Robert W. Earll, Levi Nelson, George S. and Wm. W. Tillotson, James Sayre, M. Dunning, Wm. McCracken (who may have come earlier), Theodore Williamson, Robert Quickenden and the Curtis family.

Patrick Burrell

Patrick Burrell, who as of 1880 was a farmer with 256 acres in section 29 town of Elba, was born in Ireland about 1822 and came to the United States in 1847.

He lived in Herkimer county, New York about three years, coming to Dodge county, Wis. and settling in Elba in 1851.

He was married to Miss Mary Duffy, also born in Ireland but whether they were married in Ireland, New York or Elba, is not known to the writer.

The Burrells had nine children of whom only two were living in 1880, Mary Ellen and Jane. Mary Ellen became the wife of J. W. Griffin and inherited or acquired the land. A Dodge county map of 1910 shows 227 acres in the name of J. W. Griffin while a later maps shows J. W. Griffin estate as 200 acres. There were several children in this family. George Griffin, 137 N. Spring and Charles Griffin, Route 1 are in the telephone directory. George has worked for the canning company for many years.

Dr. Robert Earll

Robert W. Earll, was born in New York in 1823, received a literary education at the Academy of Onondaga Hollow, N. Y. and came to Dodge county in 1840 but returned later to New York to study medicine at Syracuse. He then came to Rush Medical College, Chicago for two years 1847-48. He located at Lowell, Dodge county and in August 1850, was married to Miss Angeline Finney of Lowell. The following year he came to Columbus, and practiced medicine with Dr. Axtell for three years, returning to Rush to get his M. D. degree and then began practice alone.

In the April 5th, 1855 issue of the Columbus Republican-Journal is a brief item concerning Dr.



Earll reading as follows. "Dr. Earll of this place and Dr. Cody of Watertown cut a tumor measuring 9 inches one way and 5 inches the other way, from the shoulder of Mrs. Joseph Gibson on Monday last."

The only Gibsons' whereabouts of record found thus far is the William Gibson family for

whom Gibsons Corners between Elba and Lowell was named. One of the ten children was Joseph who as of 1880 lived in Beaver Dam.

Since Dr. Earll practiced in Lowell before coming here it is safe to assume that the woman operated upon was of this family.

Bear in mind that in 1855 there were no decent roads, no railroad here, no hospital and not much known about anesthetics.

His home in Columbus was corner of Ludington and Church, now belonging to Mrs. Frank Bessert, 251 N. Ludington.

Dr. and Mrs. Earll had four daughters Dora, who became Mrs. Reynolds of Denver, with whom Dr. Earll in later life, would spend the winter; Coie, Mrs. Chas. E. Conners, whose husband was employed by the First National Bank; Hattie, Mrs. Fay of Durango, Colo., and Anna, Mrs. Keller of Montrose, Colo. who would frequently spend the summer here with her father.

Dr. Earll bought a portion of the N½ of the SE¼ of section 12 formerly owned by Lewis Ludington, which included all of the land between the cemetery and the river, on a part of which he developed a nursery, from which came a great many of the handsome and sturdy Maples and Elms that glorify our streets.

From 1906 to 1914 Frank Schmied and his wife lived with Dr. Earll; some of the information herein comes from Frank. When Dr. Earll discontinued responding to calls he kept his favorite driving horse and each day before leaving for work at the G. D. Roberts & Son Shop, and upon returning from work, one of Frank's duties was to clean, feed and water this faithful companion and friend of the doctor.

Many evenings, the doctor would recite unusual experiences, one of which was that during the big snow of 1881, he was snow bound for a solid week, out in the Welsh settlement.

Frank says that many an evening the Dr. would ask him to take the tin pail and go to George Skinner's saloon for a pail of beer, which they would enjoy along with some of Mary's fine doughnuts.

Skinner, Frank says, kept a good clean place and had plenty of customers, but never touched a drop himself, of either liquor or beer.

Mrs. Earll died in 1872 and the Dr. in 1914 and both are buried at Hillside as is also Mr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Conners, brought here for burial upon their death in 1931-32.

Expect for the original five acres set aside in 1844 by Lewis Ludington, to be used as a cemetery, all the rest of the occupied portion of the cemetery is land formerly owned by Dr. Earll, which the writer believes was the land A. P. Birdsey acquired and from which Birdsey's second addition was platted.

Dr. Earll sold 18 acres between the highway and the river and (north of Middleton st.) to Frederick Wesenberg in 1873 for \$500.00; the rest he sold to A. G. Cook, about 117 acres, with the house and barn and other farm buildings located on the hill about opposite from where the Wm. E. Huggett home at 750 N. Lewis now is.

Cook sold to a Mr. Roberts and some years later the city needed more ground to extend the cemetery, but lost out in a condemnation suit.

The Roberts estate sold the farm to Fred and George Holtz and they moved the buildings to the other end of the farm, the first set of buildings on the left on hwy. 73 and then sold the desired 16 acres to the city for cemetery extension.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 51

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Levi Nelson

Levi Nelson whose father was also named Levi, was born in Genesee Co., New York in 1823. Like his father he became a farmer and in 1849 came to Jefferson county and in 1851 to the town of Otsego. He was married in 1853 to Miss Hannah Monger and they lived and farmed on Otsego until 1865 when he bought a place on section 11 in Hampden, where by 1880 he had acquired a total of 400 acres.

Their children were Flora, who became Mrs. Robert Bell; Elvira, Mrs. William Bush; Myrtle who married Henry Trapp, and Frank L. who assisted his father and took over when his father died in 1888; the mother lived until 1909.

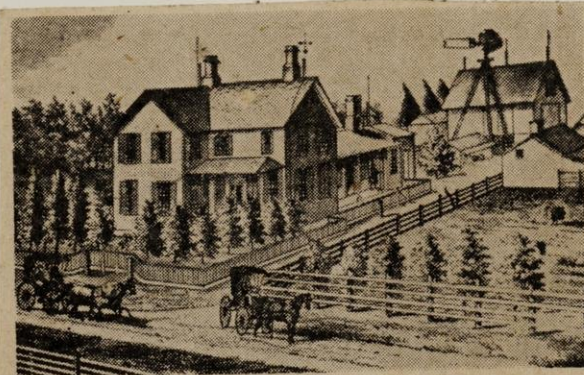
Frank Lee Nelson acquired the property in the settlement of the estate. He married Ethel E. Pick, daughter of John T. and Sarah Jane Pick both of whom came here from England in 1877 where Mr. Pick had been a carpenter and undertaker, the English name for contractor.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson had no children.

Tillotson

George S. Tillotson was born in Essex County, New York in 1828 and his brother William W. six years later.

Their parents, farmers, were Richard and Rosemond Carpenter Tillotson, and the sons both learned farming as farmers sons usually do.



Farm Home of Geo. S. Tillotson in Hampden as of 1880

When George was 23 and William 17, they came to Columbia County in 1851, locating in Otsego, but two years later they moved to land in Hampden.

Before leaving New York, George had married Prudence Curtis, daughter of Austin and Polly Curtis, and her parents decided to pull up stakes and came to Wisconsin, the land of opportunity.

George prospered and acquired a total of 240 acres, and the following children as of 1880. Richard R.; Adelaide A.; James R.; Corinthia P. who became Mrs. James Dowd; Henry S.; Hattie J.

The younger brother, William, made his home with his brother for four years, but when he became 21 he bought 120 acres in section 3 and 10 Hampden and began farming on his own.

In 1859 he married Mary J. Sprague, a native of Essex Co. New York. As of 1880 they owned 200 acres in Hampden and had children as follows; Ida A., Mrs. Elias Clark; Charles S.; Jessie M.; Harry J.; and Alta M.

Curtis

Austin Curtis, previously mentioned, also first settled in Otsego in 1851 and a few years later also moved to Hampden. Their son William H. was eleven when he came with his parents to Otsego; he enlisted in Battery M. of the 1st Wis. Artillery in August 1864 and was mustered out in Milwaukee in July 1865.

He was married in 1868 to Miss Emma J., daughter of James and Ortha Montgomery of Hampden, and in 1870 settled on a farm of 114 acres partly in Hampden and partly in Columbus. As of 1880 there were two children, Elida M. and Carrie D.; the first mentioned, usually called Lida, unmarried, lived in Columbus for many years, and died only recently.

Nothing specific, except mention of their names, has been found concerning James Sayre, M. Dunning, Wm. McCracken or Theodore Williamson, all 1851 arrivals.

Quickenden

Robert Quickenden of London, England, married Esther Scale, a Welsh girl from the English speaking part of North Wales, and to them were born in England Anna, Robert, George and Elizabeth.

Robert Quickenden, a carpenter and joiner, had a carpenter firend, William Butler, who together with his wife migrated to America in 1841 locating in New York city where he worked at his trade for 14 years.

His reports of the new world were so glowing that his friend Robert Quickenden decided to leave England and seek a new home in America.

About 1850 shortly after the birth of Elizabeth, the Quickenden family arrived in New York where they remained for about a year and then decided to go farther west. They must have had knowledge of Columbus for they came directly here, arriving in 1851, and found it to their liking for Robert acquired 3 lots and later built the squair brick house on Ludington st., which has been the home of Mrs. Lyle Fowler. They lived, meanwhile, in a frame house on Broadway about where Dr. E. M. Poser's house was later built, and there in 1853 a son Edward was born, and two years later, in 1855 James Quickenden, our oldest living citizen, was born, in the brick house.

Anna became Mrs. Elon Cripps, who built the large frame house at 439 South Ludington st. The intervening house was built later for Jay Walbridge on a lot James sold him.

Ason Robert died when quite young. George born in England in 1848, died in 1898 and is buried at Hillside cemetery.

His wife was Bertha Young; their daughter Florence became Mrs. A. B. Casper and lives in Minneapolis.

Their son Robert lives at Newport, Oregon.

Elizabeth became a teacher, teaching in the local schools for a few years and then in larger schools elsewhere. After her retirement she made her home with brother Jim and his mother.

Ed became a carpenter and located in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Jim's father died on election day 1888 and his mother in 1901 and both are buried at Hillside.

A few years after Robert Quickenden came to Columbus, his friend William Butler came here to locate as there was plenty of building going on hereabouts.

When the Methodist church was built beginning in 1872. Jim Quickenden, 17 and Charles Butler, both sons of carpenters, did all of the lathing in the large church auditorium upstairs.

Shortly following the erection of the church, Jim began working in John Swarthout's drug store, learned pharmacy and later became a partner in Swarthout and Quickenden and still later became sole owner until he sold his business to Wm. A. Kalk in 1910.

Just before going into the drug store, Jim worked from July until the day before Thanksgiving day 1873 in a restaurant and billiard hall, run by LeRoy Irons and his brother Lant. Lant was a house painter who worked at his trade during the summer and hired young Jimmie Quickenden to take his place that summer, in the restaurant.

This is where and how Jim became an outstanding billiard player, for he became easily the best in this part of Wisconsin.

Always quiet and unassuming, with a quiet sense of humor, Jim has many friends but no enemies.

Rest Haven

After his retirement he decided to "do something" for the community in which he was born and raised and where he had always lived, and which had been good to him.

(To be continued next week)

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

He therefor offered to the City and Park Board, a suitable building to be called "Resthaven", to be erected in the Fireman's park. His offer was gladly accepted and a most appropriate and attractive permanent building was built, complete with toilet and showers, ironing board and electric outlets, and a commodious room with picture windows on three sides, which afforded fine views of much of the park, all comfortably furnished with tables and chairs.

The building was finished, dedicated and presented with appropriate ceremonies in 1923.

Jim was an eligible bachelor until Jan. 28, 1931 when he was married to Mrs. Ruth Arbuckle and they have since resided in an attractive brick residence at 605 Park ave.

Jim was elected to honorary membership in the Rotary Club of Columbus, many years ago, and is still a member, aged 97 and so far as known is the oldest living Rotarian in this state and perhaps in the world.

Columbia County Agricultural Society

1851 was the year in which the first organization of the settlers for the improvement of agriculture was effected. The County Board meeting held in Portage in Nov. acted favorably upon the suggestion of Jessie Van Ness of West Point and a meeting to organize was called, and officers elected, T. Clark Smith of Columbus being the treasurer elect. A second meeting was held Nov. 19th to adopt a constitution; the qualification for membership was to subscribe to the construction and pay twenty five cents into the treasury 34 individuals joined at that meeting including five or six from this part of the County.

Their first fair was held in Nov. 1852, on the Commons at Wyocena; the receipts were \$15.75 and the disbursements \$11.80 and the society claimed the gathering to be a success.

The 1853 gathering was in the nature of a cattle fair, also at Wyocena which was the approximate geographical center of the county.

There were 19 entries of horses, 12 of cattle, 1 of poultry and 2 of farm implements one of which was a plow and the other a vertical gate.

The receipts were \$20.00 and the disbursements \$18.81. The officers elected that year included James T. Lewis as a vice president, and decision reached to hold the 1854 exhibition at Columbus, at the triangular spot between the forks of the road on the western declivity of what in later days was called Lewis and Cooks hill.

Butterfield says "The Mountain House kept by A. P. Birdsey was then situated there; In a little building between the two roads, owned by him, was the hall of fine arts, and in it were displayed a few fruits and some fine needlework, etc.

There were 99 entries in all; the receipts from members were \$32.00. Of this \$18.00 was disbursed in premiums, together with 31 volumes of the Transactions of the State Agricultural Society, and sundry diplomas".

This movement resulted in an annual fair at some place in the county and it was ten years, 1864, before the fair was held in Columbus again. Fairs were also held in Columbus in 1869 — 71 and 73 and in 1875 a local organization was

organized to hold fairs in Columbus for the benefit of the people of this area. About which more will be written at a later date.

Maynard

In 1951 the Milwaukee Journal carried a story about a Mrs. Rundlett, a patient in a convalescent home in Milwaukee, who had just celebrated her 100th birthday, stating also that she was born in Columbus, Wis. and that her father was a storekeeper here.

This presented a challenge and a few people joined in the necessary research. Mrs. Fred Proctor through correspondence developed the fact that the family name was Maynard.

Butterfield's history on Page 669, enumerating business houses here in 1855 mentions F. W. Maynard's grocery and provision store.

The copies of Columbus Republican-Journal recently loaned by the State Historical Society carries an advertisement of F. W. Maynard's store in 1855 and also one of A. Z. Maynard a blacksmith, indicating possibly two Maynard families.

The Republican-Journal of December 13, 1855 we find reference to the store of "Maynard & Hoppin" indicating that Mr. Maynard had taken a partner into his business.

From the obituary of John C. Hoppin published in the Democrat of Dec. 11, 1875. We learn that Mr. Hoppin came to Columbus in Sept. 1855 and shortly after his arrival he joined with Mr. F. W. Maynard in the grocery business.

In an effort to get more information about the Maynards, this writer requested J. R. Wheeler former prominent Columbus banker, now retired and living in Milwaukee, to undertake by interview and research the challenge offered.

He has been quite successful, as the following will show.

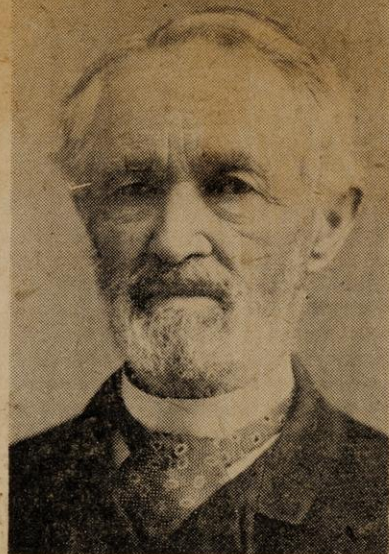
Judah Maynard born in 1789 and Mercy Cooley born in 1787 were married in South Deerfield, Mass., in 1812, and set up house keeping in Lenox, Madison County, N. Y., where seven children were born; they moved from Lenox to Brownville, Jefferson County, N. Y. sometime between 1822 and 1826 where two more children were born.

Their third child was Fulton William Maynard born in 1816 at Lenox, N. Y. In May 1847 he married Nancy Field Hart, born in 1818 at Enfield, Mass., but who had moved to Milwaukee county, territory of Wisconsin in 1836. She married a Mr. Hart who was killed in a run-away six months after marriage in Janesville. The Field family moved to Columbus and the young childless widow came here to make her home with them.

The date Mr. Maynard came to Wisconsin is not known, but it is presumed that he must have come to Columbus, prior to 1847 as he married Mrs. Hart in 1847.

Their first child Jane Amanda was born here May 15, 1848, their second Blanche Delaware, Aug. 3, 1849, and their third Ida Mahitable, the subject of the Milwaukee Journal story on the occasion of her 100th birthday, was born here Oct. 25, 1851. Had these facts been known at the time, the Maynard story would have appeared in the 1847 series.

(To be continued next week)



Robert Quickenden



James Quickenden

Installment No. 53

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Mr. Wheeler's report indicates that Mr. Maynard, a merchant here, moved farther west to the vicinity of Baraboo in 1856 or 1857. Mr. Maynard died in 1886 at Flat Rock, Mich. and is buried there. His wife died in 1912 at Merrimack, Wis., and is buried there, as is also her daughter Jane Amanda, Mrs. William G. Clark, Mr. Clark and two children. The Clarks were married in Kilbourn in 1868. Another child Lilly Blanche, Mrs. Lycurgas Quimby Smith, is mentioned in Mr. Wheeler's letter. Mrs. Smith has living children, James William Smith of Wauwatosa, and Ruth Estell, Mrs. Willard Smith Wilder of Whitefish Bay, Wis. Some excerpts from Mr. Wheeler's report are as follows:

"Ida Rundlett, 100 years of age, the youngest daughter of Fulton and Nancy Field Maynard is blind and beridden but is fairly keen of mind altho she seems unable to concentrate very long on any thought, but she has flights of memory. She was evidently a good looking woman, intelligent and well educated. After her first mar-

riage with Eugene Wilhelm they lived at Hanover Junction near Janesville where he was a telegraph operator and station agent but on account of his poor health they moved to Colorado to Littlefield about ten miles from Denver where he died in 1882. They had two daughters both of whom died. One is buried at Hanover Jc., Wis. and the other in Colorado. After his death she returned to Wisconsin and lived with her mother at Merrimack until 1893 when she married Dr. Lillicraft, a widower and the father of Mrs. C. A. Bibler, a step-daughter of Ida, who was mentioned in the news item of the Journal as the only surviving relative. They lived at Waukesha and Lillicraft was evidently a man of considerable means as she tells about her large fine home and the entertainments she gave to friends and how glad they were to come to her home. She belonged to a literary club and was evidently one of the moving spirits. She is certainly well educated.

Three years after Lillicraft's death she married Dr. John R. Rundlett. The first doctor was a veterinarian but this one was a surgeon. They were married in 1911 and he died in 1922 at Delavan. After his death she became receptionist at Bradley Hall which was maintained by the Bradley Knitting Co. She held this position for eight years and then came to live with her niece, Lillie Smith, and lived there until it was neces-

sary for her to go to the convalescent home where she now is.

1852

Among the 1852 arrivals were these; Heman Sherman, John and Chas. Topp, Edward Fairbanks, John E. and Asa, Perkins, Martin L., Hobart, Levia A. Randall, Thomas and E. Siesbee, Capt. Ira H. Ford, Orson Kellogg and Patrick Roche.

Sherman

Heman Sherman was born in Essex County, N. Y. in 1828, one of a family of 12 children. He grew up as a farm boy and continued farming in New York until 1849, when he became 21 he went to Stuben county, N. Y. and engaged in logging and lumbering operations for 3 years.

He was married in 1851 to Miss Laura, daughter of Charles and Caroline Loveless of Essex county, N. Y.

They came to Columbia county in 1852 and located on a farm in section 4 town of Columbus.

There were five children, Orlin D., who married Miss Marian Link of Randolph, and after

farming for years moved to Columbus where he engaged in the real estate business, together with Fred Holtz in the firm Sherman and Holtz.

Second son was Albert R.; then daughter Eliza who became the wife of Charles Oliver; and then two more sons Frank and Clinton.

Fairbanks

Edward Fairbanks, son of Reuben and Lucinda Fish Fairbanks, was born in Clinton county, N. Y. in 1819 and grew up as a farmer's son. When he was nineteen, he left the farm to work for the Vermont and Massachusetts railway, and later became a conductor on the Ogdensburg railroad.

In 1850 he was married to Miss Mary J. Long of Champlain, N. Y. the place near which he was born.

In 1852 they came to Columbia county, Wis. and located on land in section 25, Hampden, which eventually grew to a total of 290 acres in sections 24, 25 and 26.

Their children were Ellen M. who became Mrs. Hugh Hall, mother of Mabel, Blanch (Mrs. Edward A. Selk) and Ruth, Mrs. Earl Rueter, Columbus, the only living daughter; Calvin J. who married Miss Ella Leffingwell; and Florence E. who became Mrs. David Jones, mother of Clint, Ernest, Walter and Evaline Jones, now Mrs. Carl Vearus.

(To be continued next week)



The Fairbanks family is pictured above and are left to right, front row seated: Calvin J. Fairbanks, Mrs. Edward Fairbanks (Mrs. Mary J. Long), Edward Fairbanks; second row standing: Florence E. (Mrs. David Jones), and Ellen N. (Mrs. Hugh Hall).

Installment No. 54

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Calvin J. was father of Ed. who for years was engineer for Columbus Camingico, and who died several years ago; Harold, superintendent of the city crew in charge of street upkeep and sewer system, and a daughter Ethel who became Mrs. Fred Bachman and is still living in Portage. The Calvin Fairbank's farm was just west of the stone quarry on county trunk road K, the house being a large squair brick residence, although their first farm was 80 acres in section 25, Hampden, adjoining the Edward Fairbank's farm.

Harold Fairbanks married Miss Olive Smith, daughter of Horatio S. Smith and they live at 155 S. Water st.

They have a son Floyd formerly a teacher but now holds at responsible position with Oscar Mayer & Co., Madison.

Perkins

John E. Perkins, a native of Cayuga, N. Y. came to Wisconsin in 1852 and located on a farm in section 25, Hampden, when he was twenty two.

He was married in 1856 to Laura A., daughter of Loyal and Rhoda Morton, also from New York coming with her parents to Hampden where she died in 1879 leaving three children, Alice A., Warren M., and Ellen G.

An 1890 Atlas shows J. E. Perkins as owning 110 acres in section 24, and 40 in section 13 almost adjoining.

Another Perkins who could have been a brother, Asa Perkins, is shown as owning 169.66 acres in section 19 of Columbus, and immediately adjoining J. E. on the east.

The Asa Perkins farm was known and so shown on the map, as Town Line Wheat Farm.

Capt. M. C. Hobart

Martin C. Hobart, was born in New York in 1835 son of John S. and Enice Hobart, and raised as a farmer's son. When he was seventeen, in 1852 he came to Columbia county where he remained until he enlisted as a private in Company B 7th Wis. Vol. Inftry. at Fall River in 1861.

At that time company officers. were elected and frequently an entire unit, enlisted men and officers would all be from one community.

Hobart was elected Orderly Sergeant, when the company organized, he was commissioned 1st Lieutenant in June 1862, and in August following was commissioned Captain. He was taken prisoner in May 1864 and while a prisoner was advanced to Major and Lieut. Col. of his regiment. He was paroled in 1865 and rejoined his regiment, and mustered out in July 1865.

He was married to Miss Sarah A., daughter of Wayne B. Dyer in 1866 and continued to farm. As of 1880 he had 120 acres in Fountain Prairie and 20 adjoining in town of Columbus.

Their children were Frances M.; Mary V.; and Burr F.

Levia A. Randall

Levia A. Randall, an old time blacksmith at Danville, was born in Montgomery county, N. Y. in 1822, and lived in several different places in New York until 1850, when at the age of 28 he came to Fond du Lac, Wis.

He had married Miss Marie Lindsley in New York. The parents of Randall's wife had migrated to Fond du Lac in 1849 which was probably the reason the young couple came to Wisconsin.

In the fall of 1852 Mr. and Mrs. Randall came to Elba, Dodge County, setting up a blacksmith shop at what later became Danville.

As fo 1880 they had six children of whom only the younger two were still at home.

The oldest son Lucius was engaged in the grocery business in Columbus; Eugene and George resided elsewhere in Elba; Charles was a printer in Columbus, while Adelaide and Walter lived at home with the parents.

The Silsbee's

Ammasa Silsbee was a blacksmith, who together with J. Huntington, bought the shop formerly operated by Hart & Wright, and which they later sold to D. D. Kelsey.

In the story of the Danville Mill, it will be

found that Ebenezer Silsbee bought a half interest from Ambrose Foster, and sold it to John M. Stewart.

We also find in the records of the Congregational church, that Thomas Silsbee and his wife Jane C. became members on Aug. 20, 1852, by letter from the Presbyterian Church of Fountain Prairie, which is the only mention of a Presbyterian church in Fountain Prairie, found thus far, and it should probably be the Methodist church, the only church then in the township.

In a list of soldiers from this area, in the union army we find M. Silsbee and E. Silsbee both listed as having died of wounds. (page 571 Butterfield).

Nothing has been found as to where the original Silsbee's were from.

Gravestones at Hillside show Thomas died in 1864 age 57; Jane C., wife of Thomas died 1885 age 73; Milton M. died 1871 age 27 and Eric died 1871 age 32.

On the Isrial Smith mounment is engraved the name Fanny C. Silsbee, died 1910.

John Brokopp, who has had charge of the cemetery for many years, says it his impression that the Silsbee's were related to the Turners and the Blanchards.

Thomas Silsbee was in the drug business, a partner of John Swarthout, when the store was on James St. about where Western Auto store now is.

E. P. Silsbee was a merchant whose advertisement appeared in the Republican-Journal from Feb. to May 1855 when an announcement stated that he was joining forces with Uriah Davis and moving his stock of goods to the brick block formerly occupied by Daniel Bassett, while a new building could be put up in place of the old one. He evidently continued to run a store and live here at least through the Civil War. One of the Silsbee families lived in what is called the Dr. Howard house, now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Curt C. Miller at 207 S. Ludington St.

Mrs. E. P. Silsbee, Mrs. Daniel Butterfield and a teacher in the Columbus schools, Miss Mary Sofield were sisters, the latter becoming Mrs. Wm. Griswold in 1868. It therefore is quite likely that the Silsbee's, and the Butterfields, like the Griswolds all came from New York state.

Capt. Ira H. Ford

Ira H. Ford was born in Granville, Vermont in 1827, son of Caleb and Roxana Lamb Ford. His father Caleb was a boy when Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain boys captured Fort Ticonderoga, and the boy was present at the battle.

In 1849, when twenty two, Ira joined a group of gold seekers bound for California by way of Cape Horn. During the first year he worked as a miner with pick and shovel but in the second year he bought some dairy cows and successfully operated a dairy farm during that period of scarcity and high prices, with much profit to himself.

In 1852 he came to Wisconsin and was so pleased with what he found that he bought 280 acres of land in sections 13 and 14 Hampden, and became one of the pioneers in the area.

He continued farming until the Civil War began when he enlisted in the army, and was at once commissioned Lieutenant by Gov. Solomon and shortly after was appointed captain.

The next Gov. James T. Lewis, being personally acquainted with him suggested that Capt. Ford be assigned to recruiting duty, which he was and soon had secured enlistments for a company, which was mustered in as Company I 18th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry with Capt. Ford as its captain.

He was captured at Shilo and successively confined at Jackson, Miss.; Montgomery, Ala.; and Macon and Madison, Ga.

Returning home at the close of the war he resumed farming and was elected to the state assembly for the 1867-68 term.

At one time Capt. Ford was Supt. of a Silver Mining Company at Buena Vista, Colo. in which he had an interest.

(To be continued next week)



Calvin Fairbanks



Harold Fairbanks

Installment No. 55

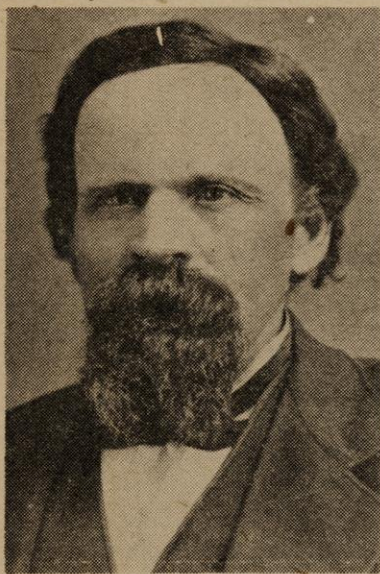
"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Capt. Ford was three times married. The surviving widow when he died in Aug. 1903 was formerly Miss Gertrude Erickson whose parents



Capt. Ford

through the above children.

Kellogg

It will be a genuine surprise to many of our citizens whose memory should easily go back to fifty years or more ago, to learn that Dr. Alonzo Cooper Kellogg who practiced medicine in Portage for half a century was once a resident of Columbus.

Orson Kellogg, father of Dr. A. C. and grandfather of Judge A. F., Dr. J. R. and Harriet Ruth Kellogg Hall was born in Cayuga County, N. Y. in 1818 and moved west with his parents to Danville, Illinois. When only seventeen he took the job of carrying mail on horseback from Danville, to Chicago, an exceedingly lonesome and at times, a dangerous occupation.

He was married and engaged in farming in Clinton, Vermillion County, Indiana, and there Alonzo C. was born July 8th, 1845, one of nine children.

Having a brother-in-law, James Coberly, who had located in Dodge County, Wis. Orson Kellogg came to this locality in 1852, and on a farm not far from Columbus he passed the rest of his life.

Alonzo C. went to district school when farm work permitted and supplemented his education by attending the graded school of Columbus. When about seventeen, he hired out as a farm laborer, and securing a teachers certificate, he taught school in the winter months and continued farm work in the summer.

He had fully decided to become a doctor, so therefore he took up the study of medicine at Columbus under the preceptorship of Dr. C. L. Hart, which he continued for two years, then entering Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago.

In the spring of 1870 he entered the office of Dr. E. C. Maine of Portage and in the fall of the

were from Norway. To this marriage were born four children as follows.

Jessie, Mrs. Paul Welk, recently deceased; Ellen, Mrs. John Kurth; Ira of Goose Creek, Wash.; and C. V. (Val) of Milwaukee.

There are several grandchildren and great grandchildren, descendants of Capt. Ford,

same year he took his examination and received a license to practice, and at once opened an office of his own in Portage.

In the fall of 1885 he entered Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York where he received his M.D. in 1887.

Dr. Kellogg had always taken an active interest in educational and public affairs, and from 1877 to 1905 he was city superintendent of schools in Portage and well as a practicing physician.

He married Harriet Ruth Ackerman, of New York in 1871. She was a talented woman, with an Academic education and had been an instructor in art in two or three eastern Seminaries and Female Colleges. To them was born the three talented children already mentioned.

Topp

One of the best known and most successful merchants in Columbus was John Topp who headed John Topp and Brother Co until his death in 1900.

He was born in Mecklenburg, Germany in 1840 as was his brother Charles a few years later.

Their father John Topp, Sr., a stone mason by trade emigrated from Germany with his family in 1852 when his son John was twelve years of age, coming directly to Columbus which was still a very small place.

Many skilled workmen of that period took up farming, as a livelihood, for on the land they could utilize the help of all members of the family old enough or able to work, thus allowing the head of the family to follow his trade when farming operations permitted.

John Topp, Sr. acquired land and followed his trade here for a few years, until he died as a result of injuries sustained in an accident; the family continued to live on the farm, the boys attending school when they could.

When the father died, son John then perhaps fifteen worked the farm until 1859 when he was nineteen, when he took a job clerking in the store of B. Stern, while his brother Charles continued farming.

Four years later in 1863 Topp bought a half interest in the store, the firm name being changed to John Topp & Co.

In 1865 Charles Topp bought Stern's interest and the firm became John Topp & Bro.

In 1864 John married Miss Mina Schwiesow and to them was born four children, Charles Henry J., Rudolph F. and Alma.

In the list of soldiers from the town of Columbus during the Civil War, included with those who served in Company I. in the 18th Infantry is found the name of John Topp, along with forty two others from here, and perhaps as many more from Hampden, Fountain Prairie and other townships, who were in Company I of which Ira L. Ford then of Hampden was captain.

It is quite possible if not probable that his going into the army was about the time and the reason for his brother, Charles Topp coming into the John Topp & Bro. Co.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 56

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

John's son Henry J. married Miss Hannah Linck, daughter of George Linck, merchant and principal competitor, whose store was where Stan Dulek's store now is.

Henry J. had one child a daughter Josephine L., who is now Mrs. D. S. Colburn living in Chicago.

Some time after the death of his wife Hannah, Henry married Miss Jenny Griffith of this city and went into business at Davenport, Iowa; from this marriage there was a son, Charles R. and a daughter, Wilma E.

Rudolph F. continued to operate the store for many years. He was married to Miss Alice Koenig or King and there were two children. John, now a banker in Milwaukee, whose wife is the former Miss Violet Downey; they have two sons, John and William.

The other was a daughter, Margo who became Mrs. R. C. Salsbury, who is in business at Cleveland, Ohio; they have three daughters, Susan, Mrs. Richard Church, of Mansfield, Ohio; Margo Elizabeth, and Jean.

The fourth child of John Topp was his daughter Alma, who became Mrs. Earl Pratt, whose daughter Jane became Mrs. Russell Moore, and they have one daughter Joan, 3, and live in the original John Topp home at 521 W. James St.

The brother Charles married Miss Katie Schalyalin, their home being the Mrs. Fred Brokopp home at 142 S. Birdsey.

It is not known to this writer whether or not Charles and Katie Topp had children.

Charles Topp died in 1899 about a year before his brother John, who died Sept. 17th, 1900.

John Topp was a Democrat and was active in support of the candidates of his party.

He was appointed as Post Master by President Cleveland, serving four years, and was also Mayor of the city for three years, and before that he was an alderman.

He was a member of the Lutheran church and of the Masonic Lodge, and was always active in any movement towards the improvement of Columbus.

Up until 1916 the firm was a partnership but in May the business was incorporated as the John Topp and Brother Co. The officers were Earl W. Pratt, the son-in-law, President; Mrs. Nina Pratt, vice president and Ralph S. Pratt, secretary and treasurer. In 1922 Art Grady became vice president.

Earl Pratt was in charge of the dry goods division and Ralph S., manager of the grocery store.



The Topp home on James street before it was remodeled. The home is presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Russell Moore.

In 1938 the dry goods store was discontinued, the building remodeled and leased to Schultz Bros. who have occupied it every since.

Since 1948, after the death of Earl Pratt, his son-in-law, Russell Moore, and Ralph Pratt, have conducted the grocery store under a joint-management arrangement. After her father's death, his daughter, Jane, Mrs. Russell Moore became president.

The pictures of the generations of Topps were supplied by Mrs. Jane Pratt Moore, granddaughter of the original John Topp sr.

The Moores reside in the John Topp residence at 521 W. James which Mr. Topp acquired in June of 1874 from Mrs. George Butterfield.

George and Mary Butterfield had acquired lots 3, 5, 6, 7 and parts of lots 3 and 8 in block one in Newcomb's addition in Sept. 1868. Upon this half block the Butterfields built the brick house, usually referred to as the John Topp house, which the Topps probably altered somewhat during the period 1874 to 1900.

German Methodists

1852 also marks the beginning of the German Methodist Society. From information gathered from various other sources, as well as from the centennial booklet issued by the Methodist Church of Columbus in 1947 we find that in 1852 the Rev. Charles Kluckhon, who later became the grandfather of the sons and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Blumenthal and Mr. and Mrs. John W. Miller, came to Columbus and first preached the gospel in German, as a Methodist minister. He established here a mission connected with the German M. E. Church of Baraboo, and ministered to Columbus Germans, for a year, the services being held in the homes of those of that faith.

Rev. Kluckhon was followed a year later by Rev. John Schaefer of Baraboo, who continued to serve as a missionary until 1855 when under the ministry of Rev. J. Haas a church building was built on lot 6 block 17 of James T. Lewis' village of West Columbus, the lot having been donated by him. The building stood where the house at 308 W. School st. now stands and faced School st. at corner of Spring st.

There was a brook or small spring fed creek in that locality, which emptied into the Crawfish river some place not far from the Carl Ibsch home, and which was subject to overflow after heavy rainfall.

For this reason the church building 24 ft. by 36 ft. was built on posts, as were also the wooden sidewalks on Harrison, James and Mill streets adjacent to the old area on either side of the creek.

Fifty six people were members of the church the year the church was built and sixteen more joined the next year.

In 1859 a childrens Sunday School was organized and in 1873 a school for adults was added.

New Church

Because of the swampy surroundings making a permanent structure there undesirable, in 1867 when Rev. F. Gottschalk was minister, the church building was moved to the lot of 318 N. Ludington st. and the same building was used until the brick structure now owned and used as a Masonic Temple, was built in 1874.

The building committee consisted of J. Schaefer, the minister, C. Colonius, C. Moll, Geo. Linck, Aug. Siedschlag, John C. Miller and F. Wilske.

The cost of this substantial brick building, built seventy eight years ago, was \$5,186.20 of which \$4,460.00 was cash received in donations; the remainder was over-subscribed on the day of dedication in Sept. 1874.

The same year the church was built a modest parsonage, and barn was built at cost of \$1,600; In 1886 the parsonage was sold for \$200.00 and moved away to make room for the present substantial brick parsonage at 304 N. Ludington st., which was built at a cost of \$2,000.00.

This church became one of the stronger churches in its conference and in 1914 had 275 members.

The Annual Conference was held in this church in 1875, 1906, and 1917.

The congregation sold the building to the Masonic Lodge in 1938 when the union of the German and the English Methodists took place.

Clarence A. Miller, president of the First National bank is a grandson of the founder. Rev. Charles Kluckhon, his mother, and her sister who became Mrs. Herman Blumenthal, being daughter of Rev. Kluckhon, who had four daughters and two sons.

John C. Miller, paternal grandfather of C. A. Miller, was a trustee in the church and also a member of the building committee, his name being incorrectly spelled as Mueller in the Methodist centennial booklet.

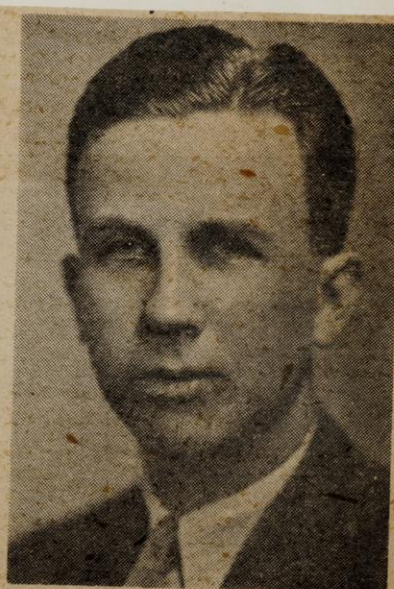
(To be continued next week)



John Topp



Rudolph Topp



John Topp, jr.

Installment No. 57

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Rev. Kluckhohn in later years, after his retirement, came to Columbus to live, and built a home, which is now a portion of the Blumenthal house, now owned and occupied by T. J. Powers at 409 W. James st.

1853

A dozen years had passed since Lewis Ludington had platted the original 9 lots and named six streets. There was now a school house, one church building, several stores and other places of business, a grist mill, a brewery, at least two doctors and four lawyers, and the surrounding country pretty well settled.

Among the newcomers of 1853 were Wm. M. Griswold, Adolphus W. Inglesbe, David J. Evans, Samuel Smith, Caleb Burke, Henderson and William Johnson, David C. Boelte, Nicholes Henry Bock. No doubt there were more but if so, the names have not been brought to the writers attention, so again we request the the present generation co-operate by submitting outlines regarding their ancestors.

W. E. Griswold

The first of the four Griswold brothers to come was George in 1850. Wm. E. Griswold, seven years younger than George, was born in Salisbury, Herkimer County, N. Y. and like his brothers graduated from Union College at Schenectady, and read law in the office of Judge Loomis, "the father of the code" at Little Falls, N. Y.

William practiced law with Judge Loomis for three years, and in 1853 came to Columbus, where for some years he was engaged with his brother in the merchantile trade, operating the Griswold store.

The brothers, both lawyers by profession, possibly carried on some law practice, but Butterfield does not say so.

After a few years in the store, William turned his attention to farming. He was a town supervisor for several years, and was elected to the Wisconsin assembly in 1858 and again in 1860.

In 1868 and again in 1870 he was elected State senator.

In July 1868 he was married to Miss Mary Sofield of Yates county, New York, and to them was born a son William E. Griswold, who became a lawyer and later located in Seattle. After his retirement he came back to Wisconsin and died several years ago.

Also a daughter Marie who became the wife of Dr. B. F. Bellack, and the mother of a daughter Mary, Mrs. Fergus, of Columbus and Chicago.

The Griswold home, one of the finest in Columbus, at 146 South Dickason Blvd. which is now the Zeidler-Alberts Funeral home, was an exact replica of the ancestral home in Salisbury, N. Y. even to the outside brick which were

shipped here from New York.

To the story of George Griswold, and the Griswold Mansion, appearing in installment 47 and 48 we can now add some additional information obtained from Mrs. Fergus since then.

The reason for George desiring a replica was that he knew he was destined to go through life blind, and therefore wanted a home the arrangement of which would be familiar to him, so he could get around by himself and not be a burden to anyone else.

The home originally had a spiral or winding stair way, which was replaced with the present stairway when Mrs. Mary Griswold rebuilt and modernized the house in later years. The ornamental plaster mouldings in the house, were done by an itinerant craftsman who just happened to come along at the time the house was being built, and set up his molds in the basement. The front door originally had side lights, but the entrance was changed in the modernizing.

While the exact date or year the Griswold mansion was built has not as yet been definitely ascertained, it is now known that George, William, Eugene and a fourth brother Addison, all then unmarried, lived together in the big house, probably employing a housekeeper.

Addison Griswold

Addison, about whom very little has thus far been learned, probably came here with William, for he became postmaster, succeeding Daniel Newcomb in 1854, the office then being in the Griswold store which stood on the site of the Griswold block, the present brick building having been built in 1875.

In the issue of Nov. 15, 1855 the local paper contained this item "A. Griswold has moved the P. O. from the store of Griswold & Newcomb, to the next door south in order to have more room to better serve the patrons."

In 1856 Addison Griswold relenquished the post mastership to Amasa G. Cook, a democrat, and presumably resumed a connection with the Griswold store.

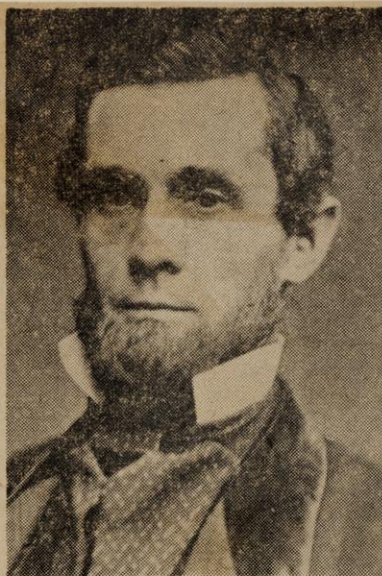
Miss Emma Griswold, a younger sister of Eugene Griswold, and half sister of George William and Addison, also lived in Columbus for about ten years, and presumably may have directed the housekeeping for the four unmarried brothers.

Eugene S. Griswold, who arrived in 1855, where his write up will appear, was married in 1863. His bride, Miss Hattie Tyng, tried to keep house for the unmarried brothers as well as for her husband, but later decided that the care of more than her husband was beyond her province, and she and Eugene retired to the Manning house when he had purchased.

(To be continued next week)



Wm. E. Griswold Jr.



W. E. Griswold



George Griswold

Installment No. 57

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)
Bock

Nicholas Henry Bock, son of John Peter and Anna Maria Bock, was born in Osterbruck, Kingdom of Hanover, Germany in 1819 and grew up to be a farmer's son. In 1841 when he was twenty-two years of age he was married to Miss Anna Waltmann, continuing the life of a farmer in Germany for several years, and also learned veterinary science.

The letters from friends or relatives that had emigrated to America prompted many a younger son of German farmers to come to America, the land of opportunity, for in Germany it was long established custom that the oldest son would fall heir to the farm, or business of the parents, and those born later could only be workmen, toiling for others.

Perhaps such was the case here; at any rate Nicholas H. Bock decided to bring his family to America, and so it was, in 1853 he and his family consisting of wife and several children, and a brother, "uncle August," after seven weeks on the ocean, landed at New York, coming on to Milwaukee; whether they traveled by Erie Canal and lake boats from Buffalo is not known to this

writer, but that was the customary and usual way for emigrants from Europe to travel to the Great Lakes area.

Nicholas left the family in Milwaukee coming on to Columbus and purchased 160 acres in section 16 town of Hampden part of which may have been cleared of timber, on which was a log house. He returned to Milwaukee and the following spring returned to his land, bringing his family with him.

He built a new and larger log house and settled down to clear and improve his land.

His children, the first three having been born in Germany, were, Augusta who later became Mrs. Fred Duborg; Christopher Henry usually called Henry; Matilda Sophia, who after the death of her sister Mrs. Duborg, became the second Mrs. Duborg; Anna Sophia Dorothea, who became Mrs. William Ladwig, and John Peter, born in Hampden in 1859.

By 1880 through hard work and thrift, Nicholas had become the owner of 240 acres, on which he and his wife lived until his death in 1883 and his wife in 1890.

Nicholas' death came as a result of having been kicked in the face by a mule he was attending in his capacity as a veterinarian.

He was standing at the mules head, possibly doing dental work, when the mule kicked forward with a hind leg striking him full in the face, causing almost instant death.

Henry, the older son, born in 1845, was given a good education in the district school in Hampden, followed by a year at Engleman's Academy, after which he clerked in a hardware store in Columbus for sometime followed by a year in a dry-goods store here, after which returned to the farm to assist his father and younger brother.

In 1891 after the death of his parents he was married to Miss Doris Swartz and six children were born to them, so follows.

Bertha and Emma, twins, Emma dying at age seven; Bertha married John Johnson, lived in Minnesota and died in 1949.

George, now dead; Rudolph a farmer living on R. 3, east of Columbus; Herman, a very successful man with many interests who lives at

Rochester, Wis., and Fred a farmer in Hampden.

The younger son John Peter had married Miss Alvina Lemmerhirt in 1884 and lived in another house near the home of the parents, and to them was born a daughter Amanda, who married Guy Vessey. Mrs. Vessey died in 1911 leaving a son Elmer, now a prosperous businessman of Beaver Dam, who has one son, and Pearle the wife of Paul Hemmy Jr. an, attorney at Juneau, who has one son, David; both Elmer and Pearle lived at the grandparents home in Columbus and attended school here graduating from the high school.

Their son Walter E. Bock attended district school in Hampden until about nine years of age when his father, after the partnership of Bock Brothers, operating the home farm, was dissolved, bought 280 acres in the town of Columbus where Walter got several years more of district school.

Bock brothers operated the home 240 acre farm for several years and also 80 acres more, they acquired, in town of Hampden.

The 280 acre farm John Bock bought was known as the Bowen farm, and is now known as the Lobeck farm on highway 60.

—John Bock sold his farm in 1908 and bought the house on corner of James and Spring streets,

formerly known as the Loomis house, where he died in 1934. His wife died in 1937.

Within two weeks after moving to town John Bock bought the dray line from Steve Tobin which he and his son continued to operate for a few years.

He then bought the interest of Reuben McBurnie in the McNulty and McBurnie grocery store which then became McNulty & Bock with Walter active in the store which partnership continued for seven years.

At that time practically every grocery store, bakery and meat market had its own delivery wagon, which added greatly, to their expense for man and horse.

It was J. R. Wheeler who suggested the wisdom of preventing this wasted expense by having one central general delivery system, for man power was becoming scarce, this being during the first world war.

Walter Bock was persuaded to organize a delivery system, and after a year or so, disposed of the Bock interest in the store to devote his whole time to the delivery system which was motorized.

From this developed a local trucking and transport business including a long distance franchise to Milwaukee. This he sold in 1931 but continued to operate locally combined with a truck freight transfer terminal which he sold about a year ago.

Walter has always been interested in church and community service; he has served for 22 years on the Lutheran Church Council and was its chairman for 10 years. He served on the city council for 16 years, and was chairman of the Board of Public Works for 11 and is now in his third term of member of the county board and is vice chairman of the highway committee.

He is president of the Chamber of Commerce and has been Lieutenant Governor of Kiwanis. In 1914 he was married to Miss Lotta Hasey; they have one daughter Theadora, now Mrs. Wm. Terrell of Glen View, Ill., who is the mother of two children Kenneth and Constance.

Walter was again honored recently by being chosen to give the Memorial address.

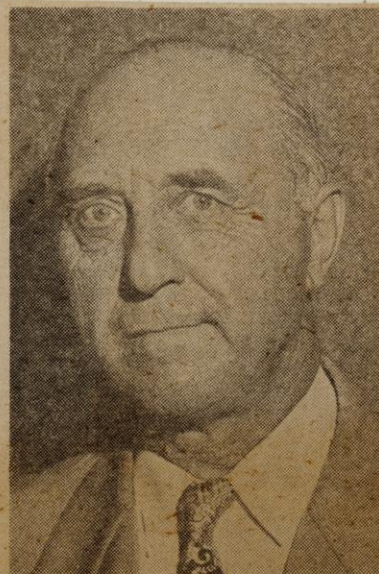
(To be continued next week)



Nicholas Henry



John Peter



Walter E. Bock

Installment No. 58

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Ingalsbe

Adolphus W. Ingalsbe, born in Washington county, New York in 1822, went to California during the gold rush of 1849, remaining in the west for three years before returning to his home in New York.

He came to Columbus in Feb. 1853, acquiring land near the Crawfish river. In October of that same year he was married to Miss Maria Butterfield, of Yates county, N. Y. They became the parents of Burr Ingalsbe who went to Nebraska prior to 1880, and two daughters, Nora and Millie.

Mrs. Ingalsbe died in 1876 and Mr. Ingalsbe several years later. Miss Nora was married to T. S. Maxwell, usually called Fred, who practiced dentistry in Columbus for many years, and was prominent in the Masonic Lodge.

The Maxwells had one daughter Camilla who became a teacher, and died some years ago.

Mr. Ingalsbe at one time owned 600 acres part in town of Columbus and part in Elba.

In her little book *Reminiscences of the Early Days of Columbus*, Mrs. Imogene McCaffery, the widow of Harvey McCaffery says on page six "In 1849 or 50 Mr. Ingalsbe purchased the hotel. His father-in-law Mr. Butterfield became manager. In the fall of 1851, my husband traded his fine farm for the hotel property, and changed the name to Columbus Exchange. In Feb. 1852 we moved in and ran it nearly three years."

Either the dates given on pages 968 of Butterfields history are wrong or Mrs. McCaffery's recollections are wrong as to time.

James Quickenden says that he never heard anything about Ingalsbe having once owned the hotel.

However, he recalls hearing that his father Robert Quickenden, a carpenter, built the house at 546 Park Ave. for A. W. Ingalsbe a couple of years before he was born and that Ingalsbe sold his father the equivalent of 3 lots from his land which was not then platted, but are now at the corner of School and Ludington Streets.

On the center lot Robert Quickenden built the square red brick house in which Jim was born on Feb. 22, 1855.

He says the Ingalsbe house was originally a frame house, and the brick veneer was not added until several years later.

At that time Ingalsbe owned the land on both sides of Ludington from School St. and Fuller St. out as far as Roys Bros. Wheatland Stock Farm, the present Miller Stock farm.

The Roche Family

The patriarch of the Roche families in Dodge and Columbia counties was, Robert Roche, born

in Wexford county, Ireland in 1790 whose wife was Margaret Doyle.

The couple had ten children, five sons, Patrick, John, James, Henry, Richard, and five daughters, Susan, Mary, Jane, Ellen and Margaret.

Sometime in the late 1840's the family came to America and settled in Utica, New York for about two and a half years.

Their third son James had been ordained a Catholic priest, in Ireland, and had been sent to Wisconsin territory as a missionary, traveling throughout central Wisconsin, and is credited with having organized several churches at different locations.

It is probably that Rev. Roche's work in Wisconsin was what brought his parents and their family to Wisconsin for in the fall of 1851 the family moved to Fox Lake township, Dodge county, and early in 1852 the family established their future home on land in section 23 Elba, Dodge county, developing it into a farm which is still in the Roche family, qualifying it as a centennial farm, now owned and occupied by Harold Roche, his wife Agnes, and their children.

Robert Roche died in 1860 and his widow Margaret in 1878; both are buried in Portage.

Patrick, the oldest son born in 1821 was married in 1854 (at which time the father was sixty four) to Miss Honora Flynn, of Watertown, but who originally came from County Tipperary, Ireland.

Patrick and his wife had nine children, John, Robert, James, Henry, Anne (Mrs. F. E. Byrne), Susan (Mrs. Thomas McCormick), Mary (Mrs. M. H. Bolger), Ellen (Mrs. Thomas Powers) and Gutta. James, of Chicago and Henry of Beloit are still living.

The second son of Robert, was John, who remained in Utica, New York when the family came to Wisconsin, and there, in 1854 he married Miss Elizabeth Quinn, the young couple coming to Wisconsin the same year, coming to his parents home in Elba on the day before Christmas. John was greatly impressed with what he thought would be a mild climate in Wisconsin, since his brother Patrick was plowing on that day, Dec. 24th, 1854.

After doing a little prospecting for good land available at a low price, John bought land in the town of Otsego, Columbia county, which land has been continually in the ownership of descendants, part of it at present belonging to Mrs. Julia Roche, widow of John jr. and their sons, Robert and John II.

The third son of Robert, James the missionary priest has already been mentioned.

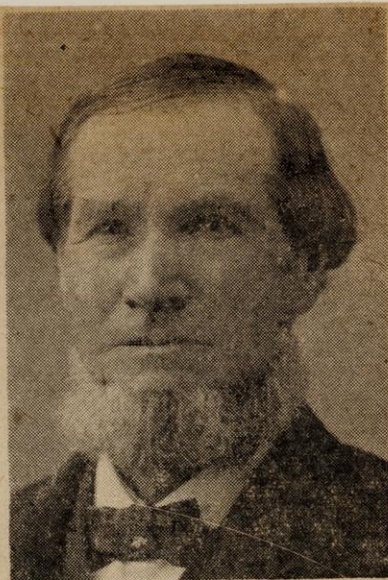
(To be continued next week)



T. S. Maxwell



Patrick Roche



John Roche

Installment No. 59

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The sons, Henry and Richard, twins; both became Catholic priests and each has to his credit many new parishes formed in the rapidly growing settlements in central Wisconsin. Father Henry Roche, served as pastor of St. Jerome's Congregation in this city from 1872 to 1892. The building of the original St. Jerome's church had been completed in 1866, but in 1879 the church was greatly enlarged, making the total cost of St. Jerome's building about \$5,000.00.

Father H. R. Murphy who was pastor in charge of St. Jerome's church for a great many years, beginning in 1893 was a grandson of Robert Roche, being a son of Robert's daughter Margaret, and therefore a nephew of his predecessor Rev. Henry Roche.

It will be seen that among the descendants of Robert Roche there were five priests.

Patrick Roche died in 1910, his wife Honora in 1913 and his brother Father Henry Roche in 1911.

Since, in this history we are principally interested in Patrick and John, sons of Robert, and their descendants in this area, we will endeavor to trace only the issue of the sons and daughters living in the area and not of those more remote.

John and Elizabeth Roche, who settled in Otsego in 1855 had three children, Robert, who became a priest, John jr. and Margaret, and of these, Margaret survives, as does Julia the widow of John jr. and mother of two sons Robert and John II and one daughter Ellen all of Doylestown.

Patrick's oldest son John married Miss Ann Burns and continued to run the farm when his mother retired. Children born to John and Ann Roche were Harold, Richard, Joseph and Agnes, who is Mrs. Edward Bolger of 448 West Mill st., this city, to whom we are greatly indebted for most of the facts presented herein.

Harold married Miss Agnes Heppe of Fountain Prairie and owns and operates the old homestead which, as previously stated, has now been in the Roche family continuously for 100 years.

Harold's children are, Mary a recent graduate nurse, Robert, John, Joseph, William and Ellen.

Joseph Roche, now of Beaver Dam, married Miss Irene Powers, daughter of the Thomas J. Powers of 409 W. James St. and they have four daughters, Kathleen, Elizabeth, Margaret and a younger daughter.

The Richard Roches have no children.

Robert Roche of Doylestown married, Miss Mary Ellen Gorman and they have four daughters and three sons, Mary Roberta, Ellen, Alice, Patricia, Eugene, Donald and John.

John Roche II and Ellen, son and daughter of John Roche jr. of Doylestown are unmarried.

Other fourth generation direct descendants of Robert and Margaret Roche are Francis Powers, son of Mrs. Thomas Powers, and their four daughters, Helen (Mrs. Jack Murray), Esther Clare (Mrs. Leo Daley), Mary, a nurse, and Mrs. Healy of Chicago.

Also Charles and Isabelle Yauman of Beaver Dam. Other 5th generation descendants not pre-

viously mentioned, are children of Mrs. Jack Murray and Mrs. Leo Daley.



Pictures shown are a group consisting of, from left to right, seated, Mrs. Robert Roche, son Rev. James, and Robert; standing are two daughters, photograph by W. K. Hoskin, early Columbus photographer, and Patrick Roche, photo by Reese, Columbus, and John, by Wise, Janesville.

Evans

The name David Jones Evans, appears among the early members of the First Congregational Church which he joined Sept. 25, 1853; his wife Eliza Evans united March 31, 1854, and their children, William and David Jones. Evans were baptized.

In May 1854, David J. Evans became an Elder in the church and at the annual church meeting Sept. 5, 1854 he was elected a trustee.

At the annual meeting in Sept. 1856 he resigned as trustee, but apparently he and his family continued their membership in the Congregational church until November 1874 when Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Evans and their children William, David, Anna and Frank Evans asked and were given letters of dismissal.

Apparently they then joined the Presbyterian church for their names appear on the membership of that church as of 1876.

Nothing has been found to indicate what his business or profession may have been.

Little

Likewise very little has been found about Dudley Little and his wife Mary Little, other than that they appeared on the Congregational membership role about the same time, but as to where they came from, or went to, nothing has been found.

However since the name also appears in an account book kept by George Adams, owner of the Adams sawmill and store a few miles down stream from Danville, under date of 1849, it is evident that Mr. Little settled in Elba or Portland at least that early.

He bought lumber at five different times, the purchases running from \$1.88, the smallest; to \$6.00 the largest. He is credited \$8.00 for a barrel of fish and in 1850 paid cash to balance \$12.00.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 60

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

He must subsequently have gone farther west in the county as a brief news item in the papers of 1856 referred to his having lost his property as a result of fire at his new location.

Boelte

There were four Boelte brothers in this community in the early days, coming here from Mecklenburg, Germany perhaps not together but at different times.

Only two second generation descendants are still living, Miss Martha Boelte of 337 W. James street and Fred W. Boelte, 656 Park Ave.; but there are here and elsewhere, descendants of the third and fourth generation.

Joachim Boelte's Family

The first to come was probably Joachim Boelte the oldest of the four, usually called Joe who came early in the eighteen fifties.

His wife was a Miss Hedbrick whom he married after coming here.

They settled on farm land in town of Columbus, and their first child, a son Frank H. was born in 1856, educated at Northwestern University at Watertown, graduating in 1871.

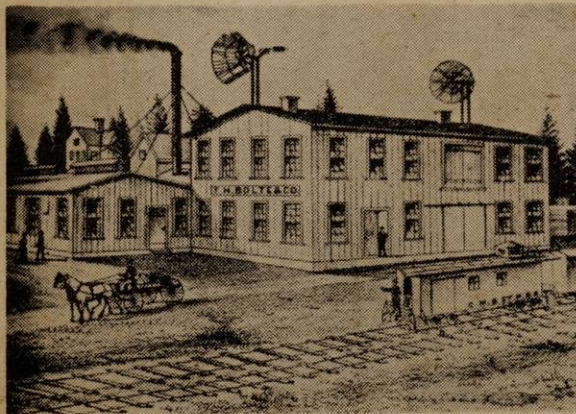
He became a Carpenter apprentice, learning the carpenter trade under Charles Breyer of Elba, continuing with him for three years.

Frank was of an inventive turn of mind, and in 1878 he invented and patented the Eureka Windmill and a year later the Economist Churn.

At first the windmill was manufactured in the machine shop and foundry then owned by S. C. Hall and son, but in 1879, after marrying Miss Minnie Eckoff, Mr. Boelte and his father-in-law organized the firm of Boelte & Eckoff to buy the shop from Hall and son.

Mr. Eckoff later retired from activity and the firm became F. H. Boelte & Co.

The shop and foundry stood just west of the present Metalfab building.



Picture of foundry and machine shop of
F. H. Boelte & Son

The second son of Joachim, was Charles Boelte who, though married, had no children.

The third was Edward, who was married to Elizabeth Voight, and to them were born two daughters, Mrs. Harry Barr, Fort Smith, Arkansas, and Mrs. Dana Smith, Los Angeles, Cal. and a son Kenneth of Fargo, N. D.

Ed. Boelte was for a long time connected with International Harvester Company, and for many years before his retirement, held a very important position with the Company.

Upon his retirement he and his second wife the former Miss Anna Neilson, came to Columbus to make their home.

His widow still resides here, having an apartment at 1040 Park Ave.

Other children of Joackim, were Theodore Albert and Louise, unmarried.

Christian David Boelte's Family

Christian David Boelte was the second brother to come to Columbus. He may have and perhaps did emigrate from Germany at the same time as Joachim, but David, as he preferred to be called, left his wife to be Sophia Lange in Germany to come over later when he had become located. He went to work for a railroad construction company, part of the time in Iowa, but later located in the town of Columbus, and sent for his intended and they were married in the late fifties.

Their first child, a son Henry C. was born Aug. 3, 1860, and became a farmer. He married Miss Emma Ninabuck a daughter of Ludwig Ninabuck, and their children were Hattie who became Mrs. Ed. Prein, Arthur of Two Rivers, and Florence.

Christian David's second child, a daughter, Sophia, became Mrs. Frank Bibow, the mother of Theo. F. Bibow.

The third, a son Fred J. Boelte born June 2, 1862, became a farmer in the town of Columbus, married Miss Matilda Blivernicht, daughter of Martin Blivernicht.

They had only one child, a daughter Leda, a talented and cultured young woman, a teacher, who with her mother, lives at 242 S. Dickason Blvd.

Other children of Christian David were, Martin, Tillie, William, Anna and George.

The daughter Tillie became the wife of Frank Voight, and mother of Verola (Mrs. Sam Bankier) and Elfrieda, unmarried.

George, the youngest son remained on the farm, married Miss Emma Blivernicht, another daughter of Martin Blivernicht and became the father of Ervin who married Miss Mildred Lange daughter of the Milo Langes, and Dorothy who became Mrs. Leonard McQuinn of Milwaukee.

Ervin and his family occupy and farm the Christian David Boelte home place.

Henry Boelte's Family

The third brother Henry Boelte had learned the trade of stone and brick mason, in Germany, and had become a contractor in that kind of work, so it was only natural that when he emigrated to America, and came to Columbus in the early 50's that he would continue in the same line of work.

His wife was Miss Mary Schultz, German born, coming to Columbus when she was about ten years



Otto Boelte

old, whom he married Oct. 17, 1859; their children were Emma, who became Mrs. Vick of Waterloo; Otto, the watchmaker and jeweler, who died several years ago and Miss Martha, who still lives at 337 West James Street.

The original Henry Boelte home was on the west side of Ludington street about

opposite the former German M. E. church, now the Masonic Temple. In later years the house was sold to Julius Engelke who lived in it for some time and then moved it to the country and built the present large house which until her death recently was the home of his daughter Mrs. Harvey Yule.

For many years Henry Boelte was the foremost masonry contractor in the area, he and his crew



Henry Boelte

having to their credit hundreds of house and barn stone foundations and basements, and many of the brick houses, business blocks and churches of Columbus.

However, he was not the first mason in Columbus according to Jim Quickenden who says that a man named Goodrich was here several years earlier, and that as a matter of fact they often worked together.

Henry Boelte did the stone work, brick work and plastering on the Olivet church during the latter part of 1876 and early part of 1877 and also the Lutheran church just about a year later.

It is known that he did the masonry in the Griswold Block (Kroger's), the Leitsch Block (Dering) the Sawyer Block, adjoining the Leitsch, the H. M. Brown (B & E Gift Shop) and it is very likely true that many other business blocks of that period were built by him.

Fredrick Boelte's Family

Nearly thirty years after Joachim Boelte had settled here and after the death of his wife, Joachim went back to the Grand Ducky of Mecklenberg for a visit for there were brothers and sisters still living there and also he wanted to see the ancestral home once more.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 61

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

One of his younger brothers, although married and head of a family of four children, was so impressed with the many advantages enjoyed by his three brothers and their families here, as well as a nephew, that he decided to come to America.

Therefore in 1883 Fredrick H. Boelte and his wife Henrietta Abel, and their four children Carl, William, Martha and Fred W., the latter six years old, came to Columbus, and settled on land in the town of Columbus, and there he prospered and was enabled to educate his children.

Carl, the oldest, learned the trade of miller under Franz Jaeger at Danville; later he went to Longmont, Colorado to work in a flour mill, married there and remained an active miller for many years.



The Fredrick H. Boelte Family

William received advanced education which qualified him to teach, and became a teacher in Lutheran parochial schools, later locating in Michigan.

Martha became the wife of Wm. Peters, whose farm was on County Trunk K.

Fred W., the only living descendant of the second generation, took up farming, married Miss Augusta Langfeldt and in later life moved to town, living at 565 Park Ave., but still owns a farm.

Christoph Boelte

Another brother of the four Boelte brothers recorded above, one who never came to America himself, is never-the-less highly regarded in



Christoph Boelte

and substantial addition to the brick church, he decided to make a gift, not of money, but of his own handicraft.

He carved the life size figure of Christ on the cross, that hangs above the altar facing the congregation, and sent it to his brothers here to be given to the church when construction of the addition was completed and ready to be dedicated.

For nearly a year this wonderful gift of his talent was kept in the home of Henry Boelte, one of the builders of the church, until the church was ready to receive it.

Columbus because of an outstanding act of stewardship to the church of which he and his brothers were members.

Christoph Boelte was a wood carver in Mecklenberg, and when he learned from his brothers here that the Lutheran church had outgrown the church and were planning to build a large

A younger Christoph Boelte, about 18 or 20 years old, a nephew of the four uncles here, came alone from Germany and worked as a farm hand, learned the language, saved his wages, and eventually bought the former Fairbanks farm just beyond the stone quarry, now the home of Wm. Strehmel.

He married Miss Sophia Kitzrow and they had five children, one son and four daughters, Ida who became Mrs. E. F. Filter of Bloomfield, Neb.; Mary who married Ed Fritz; Emil, who married Miss Helen Voight. Bertha, who became Mrs. Ranke Ellingrod of Bloomfield, Nebraska and Clara who became Mrs. Carl Mueller, formerly of Columbus but now of St. Petersburg, Florida.

Just shortly before he intended to retire and move to town, Chris as he was called, met a tragic death, dying from injuries resulting from falling off of a load of hay.

John Boelte's Family

The eldest of all the Boelte brothers, was John who according to the custom in Germany, inherited the home place, which was one of the reasons so many younger sons and daughters of German parents came as emigrants to the new world.

However, some of John Boelte's children did come to share in the opportunities and advantages engaged by those who came before.

Those who came were Heinrich or Henry, Will, Ernest, Herman and Augusta, and they all found a welcome from the relatives and settled in the area.

Henry married Matilda Reddeman a daughter of Augusta Reddemann sr. and brother of August of this city.

He became a partner with his father-in-law in the Danville mill.

Will later located in Fremont, Nebraska, and Ernest went to Kansas. The writer has no information on Herman or Augusta.

A very fine picture of the Boelte ancestral home in Germany is shown in this issue. The family lives in the left hand side of the building in the center while across a central driveway the cattle are kept in the right hand side. The barn to the right is where hay is kept. The building on the left is the granary. Note the well sweep on the left and the type of fences used. All the buildings have thatched roofs made of straw.

(To be continued next week)



The Boelte Farm Home in Germany

Installment No. 62

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Samuel Smith

Among those who settled here in 1853 was Samuel Smith, son of John Smith and Rachel Barber, his wife. Samuel was born in the county of Suffolk, England in 1822; his mother died when he was only two years old.

Samuel was brought up as a farmer's son in England and when 24 was married to Miss Ann, daughter of Thomas and Ann Jennings, in 1846.

Seven years later Samuel and his wife Ann and three children, William born in 1846, Alfred born in 1849 and Thomas born in 1851, having decided to come to America sailed from London in May 1853 and landed in New York five years weeks later.

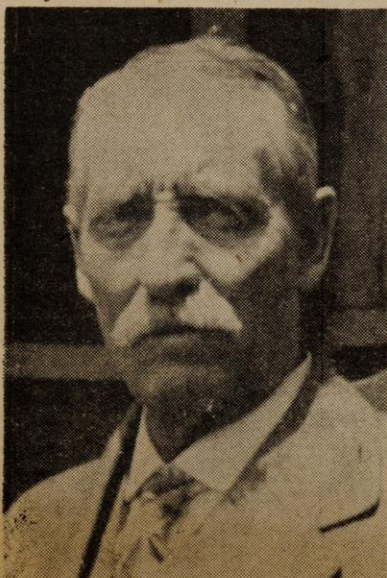
They evidently had friends or relatives in this area for they came directly to Columbus and located on section 15 in Hampden; the means of transportation from New York is not known to the writer.

In the Hampden cemetery not far from the Samuel Smith lot, there is another Smith lot with a monument reading "Thomas Smith died October 15th, 1881, age 72 years", and "Rhode A., wife of Thomas Smith died March 2, 1853, age 27 years."

From these dates, Thomas Smith would have been born in 1809 and was therefore thirteen years older than Samuel. It is the writer's conclusion that he could have been an older brother that had come here earlier, which would account for Samuel Smith and family coming directly here.

William, the oldest boy died in Nov. 1853. A daughter Julia A. was born in 1855; Francis in 1859; John on Sept. 23, 1861; and Celia A. in 1864.

Some six or seven years after their arrival they moved to section 28 town of Columbus and



John Smith

ber and his wife Rosina Dorothea Lehner.

Mr. Weber came from Cappeler, Berggahen

in 1866 to section 14 where by 1880 Mr. Smith had acquired two hundred acres, and their son Alfred had acquired a farm in section 6 while Thomas had his home in town of York Dane county.

John became a farmer and stockman and on March 21, 1894 married Miss Anna Weber, daughter of George Frederick We-

Rhein, Bavaria to own of York, Dane county, in 1843 and his wife from village of Lihmir, Germany in 1847 the year of her marriage to Mr. Weber.

A son Weber was born to John and Anna Smith in York, Feb. 26th, 1895.

When this writer lived on Prairie street, the John Smiths lived in the house now owned and



Weber L. Smith

mas moved from York to Omaha, Neb., and Francis to Waubay, S. D.

Mrs. Smith's brother "Gus" Weber, in his later years lived on Lewis street across from J. R. Wheelers who lived in the house now owned by Mrs. Dr. Fredrick.

Another brother Dr. Lee Weber, was an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, in Davenport, Iowa.

The Johnson Families

In 1853 two young men, Henderson and William Johnson, sons of John Johnson, of Champlain, N. Y. left home to investigate conditions in the new state of Wisconsin, about which they had heard a great deal.

They were well pleased with what they found and bought 63 acres of land in section 31 town of Elba, across the road from where the Mulligan cheese factory is located.

The following year the father John Johnson and his family came, settling on this piece: there were twelve children in the family, some of whom, perhaps, were born in Wisconsin.

Mr. Johnson was twice married, his first wife being Clarisey Long and one son, Daniel was born. The second wife Mehitabel Parkhurst was the mother of Henderson, William, Charles W. Thomas, Benjamin, Frederick, and five daughters Ache, Margaret, Elizabeth, Eliza and Francis.

Also coming at the same time was Mr. Johnson's brother Benjamin Johnson and his wife Julia Ann Parkhurst, this being a case where brothers had married sisters.

(To be continued next week)

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Benjamin was a carpenter by trade, and he and his son Elwood started a lumber yard across the street from the present Caldwell Lumber Company, or on lots 4 and 5 of block 17 of Ludington's second extension. They built a house for their home which stood where Caldwell Lumber Co. now is.

Henderson in time, returned to New York; William started a clothing store in Columbus and later went to Albert Lea, Minn., where he prospered in the mercantile field.

Charles Wesley Johnson, son of John, married Eliza Stevens, daughter of neighbor John Stevens who came from New York City about the same time the Johnsons came from Champlain; Mrs. Stevens was the former Eliza Vanderbeck, descendant of Hollander parents.

With John Stevens came his brother Isaac Stevens and jointly they had bought 300 acres in the same area.

Fred Johnson became a reporter on the St. Paul Pioneer Press and later a free lance journalist at Washington D. C.

Margaret married A. D. Bond who had a lumber yard where the city hall now stands, which he later sold to J. J. Sutton. The Bonds lived in the house next to the city hall, on James st.

Acha became a school teacher and later became Mrs. Carpenter, her husband owning a furniture store in Columbus; they later went to



C. W. Johnson

in the home on Dickason Blvd.

Children born to Charles and Eliza Johnson were Harry Paul, Jessie Louise and Walter.

Harry married Miss Bessie Dodge, daughter of pioneer dry good merchant G. T. Dodge, and to them was born a son Neil who married Miss Gladys Hoeft and lives in Milwaukee, and a daughter Ruth who became Mrs. Adolph Schuster; they have four sons and a daughter and live in St. Francis, Wisconsin.



Walter Johnson

Charles W. had begun farming when there was only a log house in which to live. He acquired more land and when Harry Paul married there was 100 acres and a house awaiting for him.



Theron

Walter at one time owned and farmed the

Robinson farm, this being across highway 16 from the Academy buildings, the farm with the square brick house, which is also part of the Academy property.

Miss Jessie Louise Johnson never married and died only recently.

Walter's son Theron lives on the home farm in Elba; their children are Charles, married and farming near Randolph; Phyllis, who graduated last June from the University School of Journalism and was on the staff of a Reedsburg paper until her recent marriage to Don Johanning, and Douglas and James both at home.

Roger, Walter's younger son is credit manager for Pate Oil Co., Milwaukee, and lives in Wauwatosa; Roger and Abbie have two children, Nancy and Jerald.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Johnson live at 531 West Richmond street.

The Columbus Reporter

Sometime in 1853 the first newspaper to be published here was launched. We find the following on page 543 of Butterfield's history of Columbia county.

"This was the name of the first paper publisher in Columbus, but diligent search and inquiry have failed us in ascertaining the date of the first number. From all that can be learned in regard to it, it is safe to say it did not exist prior to 1853.

Gov. Lewis holds a receipt for subscription, dated June 20, 1854, signed by Carr Huntington, editor and proprietor of the reporter, as follows: "Received of James T. Lewis four dollars in full for publishing notices, and in full for the Columbia reporter, for the years A.D. 1853, 1854, and up to the 5th of June, 1855." The reporter was of the Democratic persuasion in politics."

"The office of the reporter was located on Broadway, near the present (1880) site of Erhart's harness shop. The date of the suspension is also unknown. That it did suspend, however, before it had attained any great age or influence, is undoubted, for the editor betook himself to Portage early in 1857, and there re-established his paper, continuing to publish it (under the name Columbia county reporter) until the latter part of that year, when the office was sold out under sheriff's execution." Perhaps now that copies of the Republican-Journal from 1855 to 1863 are available we may subsequently learn more about the reporter for it would appear from the above that there was already a paper being published here when Mallo and Thayer started their paper in Feb. 1855 and that for a period of possibly two years Columbus had rival newspapers.

The Baptist Church

Up to 1853 there had been three different church societies organized here, the Methodist, the Congregational and the German Methodist, and one church building, the old original First Congregational, now the apartment house across from the Walker Lumber Co., had been built. There were people here that had belonged to other denominations in their previous homes, that longed for a church society of their own kind.

Preliminary steps were taken to organize a Baptist church, and a meeting called on May 18, 1853, and at a council meeting held in Sept. 21, 1853 a Baptist group of fourteen people became the charter members of the church.

(To be continued next week)



"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

They were Rev. D. D. Read, W. S. Read, Morgan Evans, Lucius Warner, Calvin Read, L. B. Read, and sisters Emily Read, M. C. Read, Sarah A. Warner, M. A. White, Ann Evans, Mary Read and Eliza Borden.

Rev. D. D. Read was chosen pastor at that same meeting. Covenant meetings were held in private houses and public meetings in a hall over Cooper's store (The Corner Drug Bldg.)

It was ten years before the Baptist society felt strong enough to seriously consider the building of a church home. In March, 1863 the first actual steps were taken in the appointment of a building committee consisting of A. Sawyer, William T. Lewis, L. Warner, H. Vincent, A. B. Goodrich and Hiram Seffens.

An imposing brick structure was built on the corner of Broadway and Harrison streets, costing something over \$4,000.00 completed in the fall of 1864 and dedicated in the spring of 1865.

A list of pastors from the organization up to 1880 follows. Revs. D. D. Read, Drake, Coffin, Wade, S. Jones, L. Bath, Eldridge, Stratton, Langridge, Cain and Gorman.

At times there was no pastor and members L. Bath, E. Butterfield, and Goodrich conducted services at one time or another;

Other ministers supplying at times were Revs. McLeod and J. McDonald.

The principal deacons had been Hoppin, Starks, A. Sawyer, and Comstock; Clerks serving have been Read, Starks, Seffens, and M. W. Sawyer.

The church officers as of 1880 were trustees, E. P. Waldo, I. Merriam, M. Starkweather, L. Irons, and W. H. Myers, and as of that date the church had thirty five members.

Forty-two persons had been baptized since the church was organized in 1853 of which number Rev. L. Bath had performed twenty-five.

At this writing the writer cannot say when the church discontinued, but subsequent research will no doubt make it possible later to complete the story.

The building was eventually turned into a blacksmith shop by Freck and Helm and an upper floor put in which for years was used by the Modern Woodmen as a lodge hall.

Later it for a while housed the Better Products Co., and for several years it has been used by Columbus Garment Co.

Matthew Lowth

While the writer has tried to include, in the year of their arrival, as many of the early settlers as possible there have been some passed over because of lack of knowledge, or incomplete data on which to base a story.

One of these is Matthew Lowth, about whom we now have considerable data.

He was born in County Meath, Ireland, May 6, 1819 coming to America with his parents at the age of seven. His parents Edward and Alice McCabe Lowth settled in Tinmouth, Vermont where his mother died the following December.

His father, Edward worked in the mines in Rutland county, and could not adequately care for his children, so Matthew and a brother,

Michael were raised in the home of neighbors, the Cooley sisters, two strict Presbyterians, maiden ladies who were so strict they would not permit him to whistle on Sundays, but of whom he always spoke in terms of highest praise and great admiration. It was from them he acquired the love of reading and the desire for knowledge.

When he was 18 he entered into an apprenticeship to learn the moulders trade, in the foundry of the Granger Stove Works, at Pittsfield, Vermont. He next worked at his trade of foundryman in Albany, N. Y., then later in Troy, N. Y.

In 1843 while living and working in Troy, N. Y. he met and was married to Miss Mary Glavin, a native of County Cork, Ireland, who had come to America with her parents who settled in Troy, when she was two years old.

He and his wife came to Wisconsin in 1844 and lived in Troy, Walworth county, with his cousin, John Lowth for a year or more.

In November, 1845 he acquired 160 acres, on which there was a log house, in the town of Lowell, Dodge county, where he made his home until the fall of 1848, when he disposed of his holding and returned to Troy, N. Y. and continued to work at his trade in nearby Mechanicsville.

In 1851 he returned, with his family, to Wisconsin and this time located in the town of Columbus, where he entered 120 acres, which became his home, until the day of his death July 10, 1900 during which time he had acquired a total of 400 acres, in sections 10 and 15, a portion of which, on the north side of the road, he sold to his cousin, Edward Lowth.

His formal schooling had been limited, because of the necessity of earning his own living, but he was a natural born scholar, a great reader, and became one of the best teachers in this part of Wisconsin.

During the first ten or twelve years after locating in Columbus he taught school in the winter and farmed in the summer.

His son-in-law, Eugene Brossard now 89 says that Daniel H. Grady, prominent attorney of Portage, former citizen of Columbus, when a school boy worked in the summer, during harvest, for Matthew Lowth, and is quoted as having said that Matthew Lowth was the smartest man he ever met.

Mr. Brossard also says that John Sutton, went to several different district schools in order to continue his studies under Matt. Lowth.

His daughter Alice was a very fine teacher according to Mr. Brossard who attended school under her inspiring guidance in the Fall River schools.

He was, and remained a democrat throughout his lifetime and became a leader in township politics, becoming assessor in 1856, followed by three terms as chairman of the town board, which automatically made him a member of the county board, and later in 1879 he was elected to the Wisconsin Assembly from the second district of Columbia county.

(To be continued next week)



Matthew Lowth



Henry Lowth



Eddie Lowth

Installment No. 65

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

A portion of the information above given is from page 973 of Butterfields 1880 history of Columbia county, and agrees, substantially, with information given in some two or three obituaries from as many different papers, except as to the year he located in Columbus.

Also, on page 581 the name Matthew Lowth appears on the roll of Company G, of the 23rd Wis. Vol. Infantry, but surviving descendants say they have no knowledge of his having served in the Civil War, but do have an impression that he enlisted, but after appearing in camp in Madison for induction, was rejected for some reason, perhaps his age, and that he was a married man with a large family of children.

Matthew would have been in his forties and it is somewhat doubtful if he had served in the union army and that fact not mentioned in his published obituary, which it was not.

Mr. Lowth frequently made public addresses here and elsewhere, was a frequent contributor to the columns of the newspapers of the day, on various subjects, and occasionally composed poetry. Some of which is found in the family scrap book.

He was apparently a man of fixed opinions, and not afraid to voice his sentiments, but who also believed that each person had a similar right to his own opinion.

He was one of the organizers of the Columbus Library Association, along with E. S. Griswold, C. L. Dering, L. R. Rockwell, R. W. Chadbourn, John Topp, Wm. M. Griswold, John Q. Adams, D. S. Fuller, Edward Bowen, Dr. R. W. Earll, D. C. Davies, E. E. Chapin and possibly others.

Mr. Lowth was elected president; E. S. Griswold, vice president; C. L. Dering, secretary; L. R. Rockwell, treasurer, at a meeting held in Henderson's Opera House (where Frigid Lockers now are) January 27th, 1877.

It is said that he much preferred walking to riding, and that instead of a cane, he preferred a staff, a straight stick about shoulder high, and grasped with the forearm upright.

From the time he was a member of the legislature, he was usually called or referred to especially in print, as Hon. Matthew Lowth, a title he had earned an appreciated.

He and his wife, Mary became the parents of Edward, Alice, Francis, Catharine, Thomas H., Josephine and Emma.

His son Edward was, like his father, a born student, and while his frail constitution prevented a more advanced education in college, he became a district school teacher which vocation he followed many years. He was a wonderful mathematician, but was better known as a proficient linguist, for he could read, write and speak in French, German, Italian, Spanish, and some of the Scandenavian languages.

The last few years of his life, Edward was an invalid, unable to continue teaching and died of consumption in 1899, aged 52, in his father's home on the section line road.

His daughter, Catharine became a Nun, of the

Jessuit Order Religious of the Sacred Heart.

Josephine Lowth married C. H. Hall in 1880 moving to the upper part of the state to Clark county where the family resided until her death in 1910. She was the mother of 8 sons and daughters.

Emma, the youngest daughter was married to Eugene E. Brossard in 1891 and became the mother of two sons, Matthew V. of Madison and Eugene E. Jr. now in Central America.

Mrs. Brossard died December 30, 1928.

Thomas H. better known as Henry Lowth was married in July 1896 at Milwaukee, to Miss Anna Gwynn of Port Washington, who died of diphtheria six months later. A few years later he was married to Miss Julia Dunn of Adel, Wis. Henry, his sister Alice and brother Francis had remained on the farm to keep the household together, their mother having died in June 15, 1883.

After the death of their father Matthew, Henry married and became the head of the family, as Francis though older was unmarried and not strong, and died soon after his father. Alice was a teacher and for years taught in Fall River.

Henry and his wife Julia, who is still living had two daughters, Helen, of the Wisconsin Telephone Co., and Catharine, a teacher in the city schools, and a son Edward, a musician now in New York.

They continued to live on the farm until it was sold in 1920, then moved to town into the home at 650 So. Charles Street where Henry died in December, 1941.

Henry Niemeyer, Sr.

Only recently has the writer been able to attempt the story of the Niemeyer family, when through the courtesy of Mrs. R. H. Brooker of Whitewater, a great granddaughter of Henry, Sr. considerable information was obtained, enough to make a start, which lead to several descendants here elsewhere.

Had the information been available, it would have appeared in the series of 1845, for that was the year that Heinrich, or Henry Niemeyer migrated to America.

He was born in Prussia in 1811, and was married and had three children when he and his wife Caroline came to the town of Columbus in 1845.

He probably earned his living the first few years after coming here, working for others, for it was not until 1848 that he took up land on a government patent bearing the name of president James K. Poek, and two more in 1849 and 1850 bearing the name of president Zackary Taylor.

Henry Niemeyer, Sr. was one of the organizers of the Lutheran church society in 1855, which for several years held services in the old wooden school house, (a part of which is now the home of the N. B. Pomeroy at 426 So. Ludington) before their first church was built.

He died in 1874 at the age of 63, and his wife Caroline (maiden name unknown) in 1888 at the age of 86.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 66

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Fred W. Niemeyer

The oldest son, Fred W. was born in Germany in 1837 and when he married it was to Miss Augusta Grosnick.

Fred farmed the south portion of the Niemeyer land, and died in 1889 at the early age of 52, leaving two daughters, Bertha who became the wife of Paul Vearus, and mother of one son, Carl and three daughters, Hulda, Mrs. Arthur Biederman, Alma, Mrs. Burr Wright; and Edna, Mrs. Herbert J. Koch, all of this city.

The other daughter was Emma, who became Mrs. Henry C. Priem, and the mother of Edward who is an outstanding doctor of medicine in Boston; Alice, Mrs. Ernest Siere, route 3; and Dorothy, a teacher in the public schools of Springfield, Vermont.

Henry Niemeyer, Jr.

The second son, was Henry Jr. born in Prussia in 1841.

He married Miss Augusta Nemo, who was born in Rommein, Germany in 1842, the marriage being Sept. 17th, 1865.

There were at least eleven children according to Mrs. Brooker's memo, and other names found on the cemetery lot.

The names follow, but probably not in the order of age.

Louisa, who became the wife of Charles Boelte, Helen, Emma, Otto, Oscar, Henry, Matilda, William, Ida, Clara, and Rudolph. Of these only two are living as this is written, Clara, Mrs. James L. Hartwick; and Rudi, both in Chicago.

When Henry retired, he built the large square brick house at 128 E. Mill and moved to town, selling the farm, 160 acres to his son William, who farmed a few years and then sold it to George Sennhenn, whose son Irvin owns the farm at present; William then lived in Columbus for a while, later moved to Waterloo, where he died in 1935.

Henry died in 1915, age 74, and his wife in 1924, age 82. So far as is known to the writer there are no living descendants of Henry living in the area; Mrs. Brooker, a granddaughter, is Mabel, daughter of Matilda. Several other 4th generation descendants live in Chicago.

Mina Niemeyer Yard

The daughter of Henry Niemeyer, Sr., was Mina, who grew up to marry Lewis Yard and in later life the Yard family moved to Mitchell county, Iowa.

It is not known how many children there were, but it is believed that there were only two daughters Gertrude and Anna.

We know this because of a book called "Echoes from Bonie-Brae" in memoriam of Mrs. Gertrude Frances Yard Smart published by some members of her family or someone close to her, after her death in 1910, a book circulated privately, one copy of which is in possession of Miss Helen Lowth, this city, the name of author or rather compiler not given in the book.

Lewis Yard was born near Cologne, Germany, of French and German parents, presumably a French father and German mother, but this is conjecture.

He became a piano maker, a fine workman and a good musician.

In school days he formed a friendship with Carl Schurz, who later became an outstanding figure in Wisconsin, Missouri, and National affairs. (see H. Russell Austin's the Wisconsin story).

This friendship was to last for many years, being renewed after Schurz came to the U. S. and located in Watertown.

In 1848 Yard came to America in company with his uncle Jacob Jussen and family and located for a short time in Watertown, then coming to Columbus where Jussen established a small brewery, the first in Columbus. (see installment 34).

Mr. Jussen was also an uncle to Carl Schurz, who after an unsuccessful attempt to overthrow the German government, in which Schurz took a leading part, fled from Germany, to Switzerland, to England, and finally to the U. S.

Schurz while still in England in 1852 wrote his brother-in-law in Hamburg "By and by I might have a good living here in England. But citizenship here, for the alien, is merely formal. 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 at least be a citizen of a free America."

Schurz and his wife Margarethe Meyer came to New York then to Philadelphia where they stayed until March, 1855 when they came to Watertown.

We can find no record of what Lewis Yard's occupation may have been here, but to him and his wife Mina Niemeyer, was born a daughter, Gertrude July 1, 1859.

When Gertrude was eleven, in 1870, the family moved to Iowa as previously stated. After common school, she was sent to St. Ansgar and then to Osage Seminary.

Then she attended State Normal School at nearby Cedar Falls, Iowa, and still later came to Oshkosh State Normal where she graduated. In the fall of 1883 she engaged with the American Missionary Society to go to Macon,



Gertrude Yard Smart

Georgia, where she worked among the Negroes at Ballard Normal, for four years.

On one of her summer vacations at her parents home in Iowa. She met Col. Smart, a man obviously much older than she was. They were married in October 1887 and immediately went to live in Col. Smart's large farm Bonie-Brae at Humboldt, Iowa, where they lived until 1905 when they moved to Minneapolis.

It was at Bonie-Brae, that her pent up ambitions to write, could be gratified.

She became a prolific writer of both poetry and proze, and covering many special fields such as bird life, nature, shrubs, Early Christian Art, Byzantine Art, Romanesque Art, Gothic Art, Birds and their relation to agriculture, etc. etc.

She was a member of the Unitarian church, but about two years before her death she had become a strong believer in Christian Science.

She had no children, and so far as known only one younger sister Anna.

(To be continued next week)



Henry W. Niemeyer, Jr.



Rudi Niemeyer



Carl Frederick William Niemeyer

Installment No. 67

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

1854

By 1854, fifteen years had passed since Major Elbert Dickason had located along the banks of the Crawfish, in 1839, in what proved to be an unsuccessful effort to establish himself as a land owner and founder of a settlement to which he gave the name Columbus, while Wisconsin was still a territory, and this area was a part of Brown county.

In those fifteen years many things had happened, many pioneer settlers had come from eastern states, some from foreign countries, and some had stayed for only a brief period and then gone elsewhere.

But there was now a village with a population of a few hundred people, surrounded by a thrifty and hard working people imbued with the pioneer spirit so necessary in the settling and improving of a frontier.

There was one church building and several other denominational societies that held services in the school house or in upper second story halls or in homes.

There were doctors, lawyers, business men, merchants, taverns, hotels, a newspaper and many skilled workmen, many of whom have been written up in past installments of this narrative.

1854 brought many more pioneers, two or three additions of platted streets and several blocks of lots, and even an agricultural fair.

Among those who came, or some may have been here even earlier but whose names had not yet come to light during this research, are the following, not alphabetically arranged.

Nelson C. Bissell, Gustave Breuning, Abram S. Eckert, Wm. K. Hurd, Owen J. Thomas, John Long, Franklin F. Fowler, A. T. Atwood, J. Williams, D. D. Kelsey, O. H. Hammond, C. W. Dean, J. B. Ingalls, J. S. Haines, T. Bottom, Dr. Nelson Adams, Dr. Tucker, Dr. A. J. Wilson, James Elliott, W. C. Spencer, George W. Campbell, Carl Link, Owen Goodspeed, Isrial Brewer, and no doubt many others.

Bissell

Nelson C. Bissell, merchant tailor was born in Susquehanna county, Penn. in 1823, a son of David Bissell native of Conn., and Hepsibleth Reynolds born in New York.

When fifteen years old Nelson became apprentice to learn the trade of tailor at Montrose, Penn., and five years later, he went to New York city where he worked for a tailoring firm for a year; he then returned to Penn. and worked for three years at his trade in Tunkhannock Wyoming county.

He returned to Montrose and clerked in a hotel for two years and in May 1854 at Dundee, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Ireton. In August 1854 the young couple came to Wisconsin, to Columbus, where he established himself as a merchant tailor and continued to work as a tailor for the rest of his active life.

He served as a member of the County Board in 1876 from the third ward city of Columbus.

He and his family were members of the Presbyterian church; the family consisted of his wife and one daughter Katie. The Bissell home stood on a lot that is now a part of Louis Vick's garden, close to the present coal yard of Walker Lumber Co., according to the abstract this they purchased for \$1500.00 from Bradford A. Carpenter in 1864. Carpenter bought the lot from R. W. Chadbourn in Nov. 1855 for \$150.00 and built the house shortly afterward.

The Bissell building, now 135 S. Ludington St. was occupied by the tailoring shop and in later years after the G. T. Dodge store was torn down to make room for the Columbus Merchantile Co. store, later the Otto J. Albrecht furniture store, Mr. Dodge moved his stock of dry goods and notions to the Bissell building.

In an early issue of the Republican-Journal in 1855 there is an advertisement of Mrs. Bissell, concerning her millinery store conducted in her home on Ludington street, which reads as follows:

"To the Ladies of Columbus and vicinity. Mrs. E. Bissell, having returned from Milwaukee with a stock of millinery goods which she has selected with care, knowing the wants of the ladies of Columbus and vicinity.

My stock consists of split straw, lap leghorn, tuscan, neopolitan, crope, silk and satin hats of the latest styles. Also childrens flats, bonnets, wreaths, flowers, mohair head dresses, wristlets, and all the articles usually kept in a Millinery shop.

All kinds of repairing done with neatness and dispatch. Mrs. E. Bissell, May 3, 1855."

It is quite likely that at a later period the Millinery store occupied a part of the store building, but this is conjecture only.

The Bissells also built a small brick building for the use of a Dr. Babcock, which building, some say, was also used by Mr. Bissell for his tailoring shop, but whether this was before or after Dr. Babcock's tenancy is not sure.

Old timers recall that a house, probably Bissells first house here stood on Ludington street and was later moved to the back end of the lot when the brick building, now owned and occupied by George E. Bunsen as a law office, was built.

What happened to the house after it was moved back on the lot is unknown at this time.

Breuning

Gustavus Breuning, shoemaker and later a dealer in boots and shoes in Columbus, was born in Prussia in 1843 and came to America with his father's family in 1854.

His parents were Gotlieb and Henrietta Breuning, and there may have been other children as Butterfield implies without actually saying so.

They located in Watertown upon their arrival in America, and only four weeks later the father died. Mrs. Breuning with her family removed to Columbus very soon after her husband's death, and resided here until her own death in 1875.

In 1858 when he was fifteen years old young Gustave entered upon a three-years apprenticeship at the trade of shoemaker, with Julius Fuchs (Fox) an uncle, whose wife was a sister of Gotlieb Bruening, the Fuchs having emigrated from Germany in 1856 and locating here.

Gustave learned his trade well, and continued as a journeyman shoemaker with his uncle for several years.

In 1866 Gustave was married to Miss Louisa Diamond, born and raised in Columbus, and that same year he opened a shoemaking shop of his own, and continued to make good boots and shoes to measurement, as well as general repairing; later he added a stock of factory made boots and shoes.

There were three sons George, Charles and William born to the Breunings; George went to Chicago; Charles died while a young man and William married a sister of Mrs. Charles Gamidge daughters of George Johnson, and later moved to New Mexico.

The Gustave Breuning home was the square brick house at 443 E. James street, now the home of Herman Moll and better known as the Ed. Boelte house.

The shoe shop and store was, where George and Ed Linck conducted as shoe store and shop for many years, at 111 N. Ludington street, they having bought out Mr. Breuning.

Mr. Breuning also owned the adjoining building, 113 N. Ludington street, which up until the passage of the Volstead Act, the 18th amendment, had been occupied as a saloon operated by Wm. Weller. Mr. Breuning was a member of the Lutheran church, while his wife, the former Louisa Diamond, was an Episcopalian.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 68

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Eckert

Abram S. Eckert who came to Columbus in 1854, was born in Ulster County, New York in 1815, a son of Soloman and Margaret Eckert, and lived and assisted his parents on the farm until after both had died, when he then came to Wisconsin.

He married Miss Sarah DeGraff of the same county, in 1836; When he first came here he came alone, bought a farm in the town of Columbus, which he sold in 1856 and returned to New York for the winter and to bring his family.

They returned the following spring and bought another farm in section 36. Their children were Sarah M.; Oliver; Soloman; Henry; and Emory, all of whom as of 1880 were living in Minnesota and Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Eckert were members of the Presbyterian church, and they are buried in Hillside cemetery.

James Eckert

James was probably related, perhaps a nephew of Abram for he was also from Ulster county, New York where he was born in 1837, and came here with his parents, Hiram and Sallie Eckert in 1855 settling on 80 acres in sections 20 and 21 town of Columbus where the father Hiram died in 1876, the mother still living as of 1880.

James Eckert was married in 1876 to Miss Viola Parker, native of Steuben County, New York but an emigrant coming to Wisconsin in 1856 with her parents, William and Sarah Parker.

The James Eckerts had three children, James C, Troup and Adella, as of 1880.

A Columbia County Atlas of 1890 shows 40 acres in the name of the Eckert estate on the stone quarry road a mill west of the town house in section 21.



S. J. Eckert

S. J. Eckert was a brother in law of Almond P. Birdsey according to information supplied by John Brokopp who showed the writer the grave stones of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Birdsey, and Rosetta (Birdsey) wife of S. J. Eckert. Mr. Eckert, according to John, is buried in an unmarked grave at her side on the Birdsey lot.

Rose Birdsey, a daughter of Lineous Birdsey, granddaughter of Almond P. Birdsey, and perhaps named for great aunt Rosetta, became the wife of Frank Eckert, a cousin, perhaps twice removed because of intervening generations.

Hurd

William K. Hurd who came here in the fall of 1854, was born in Addison County, Vermont in 1820, son of William and Mary Kendall Hurd. He spent his early life on the farm but when about nineteen, went west as far as Akron, Ohio where he worked in a flouring mill for several months and then did some clerking.

He was married in Akron in 1840 to Miss Jane May and a year or so later the young couple went back to his father's home in Vermont for a year and then moved to Randolph, New York where he followed carpentering for four years.

In 1845 they came to Walworth County, Wis. where he bought a farm and operated a tavern and worked at his trade of carpenter until 1854.

While in Walworth County, among other things he took a contract to build 20 miles of board fence for the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad.

In 1854 he came here and bought 120 acres in section 7 town of Columbus. His wife died in March 1855, leaving seven children James E., Helen; Achsa L.; Arthur C., Charles M., Reuben S., and Oscar A., some of whom were quite young.

In August 1855 he married a widow, Mrs. Mary A. Murphey (nee Curtis) of the town of Hampden who had two daughters, Frances M. who married John J. Sutton, and Sarah A., who married Isaac Thompson.

From their second marriage William and Mary Hurd had two children, William F. who married Miss Eliza Baker, and as of 1880 were living on the father's farm; and Fred W. who married Miss Cornelia Luey, youngest daughter of Oliver Rodney Luey. Children of the Fred Hurds are Rodney and Harvey, both married and living in Rio and a daughter Laura, who married Alphonse Hurd, (no relation): their son Howard was killed during service in World War II.

Owen J. Thomas

One of the Welsh pioneers in Calamus, but not one of the earliest, was Owen J. Thomas.

A son of John and Margurite Thomas, he was born in Angleshire, North Wales on January 4th, 1820; he spent his early life on a farm in his native country, but in May 1845 he set sail from Liverpool for America and landed in New York about the middle of June.

He came on to the territory of Wisconsin by ship from Buffalo, New York, to Racine where he clerked in a store for about five years, and also attended school for a while to improve his education.

In the fall of 1850 he returned to Wales, and married Miss Ann, the daughter of John and Catharine Jones, of Angleshire on Feb. 28, 1851; the following May he brought his wife to Racine, and on to Calamus, Dodge County but did not locate there, going instead to a settlement called Monroe, in Manitowoc County where he bought a farm of 80 acres, which he soon sold and bought another in the same county. They lived there until the spring of 1854 when he sold out and came to Calamus buying a farm of 160 acres in section 29, where he prospered and built a commodious home, in which his wife died March 16, 1874.

There were two sons and four daughters, Margaret, who became the wife of D. D. Jones, and mother of two sons John D. now on the D. D. Jones farm; Owen T. Jones, and Mary, Mrs. Ellis J. Jones, 124 West Prairie St.

John O. Thomas, who married Miss Elizabeth Owens and became parents of Richard D. Thomas, this city, T. B. Thomas, 127 N. Birdsey, and Edgar Thomas of Madison.

T. B. Thomas married Miss Blodwyn Pugh, of Watertown, and are parents of Rodger B., Edward J., Elizabeth (Mrs. Earl Kunn) and Margaret.

Mr. and Mrs. John O. Thomas remained on the farm until 1916 when they retired and moved to town. Mrs. Thomas is still living on N. Birdsey street, and as this is written is ninety four years of age.

Owen J. Thomas's, other daughters were Mary E. who died young; Ellen J., who became Mrs. John Williams; and after her husband's death she later became Mrs. Hugh Jones; and Mary Ann who for a time was a clerk in the Columbus merchantile company store in the building long known as the Albrecht Furniture Co.

Another son was Thomas J. Thomas who married Miss Margaret Roberts; they were parents of two daughters, Marion, Mrs. Willard Owen, 428 South Birdsey; and Ruth, wife of George Jacques, Chicago.

(To be continued next week)

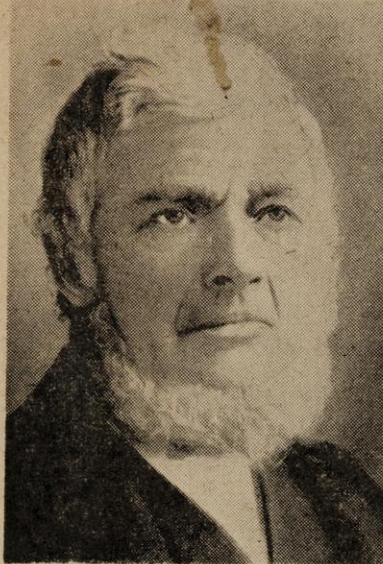
"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Goodspeed-Richards

Owen and Paulina (Hulett) Goodspeed, born, raised and married in Vermont, came to Wisconsin in 1854 and settled on five forties in section 2



Owen Goodspeed

town of Columbus, the farm being better known as the E. W. Richards farm.

The Goodspeeds had a son Frank and two daughters, Eva, who in 1876 married E. W. Richards, and Lida who became Mrs. Frank Birdsey, and is now Mrs. John Irvin of Chicago.

The stone on the Goodspeed lot at Hillside shows that Owen was born

in 1806 and died in 1909 and was therefore 103 years of age when he died.

Mrs. Goodspeed was born in 1828 and died in 1921 making her 93.

The Goodspeed home in Columbus when they retired from the farm, was the house at 221 N. Lewis St.

E. W. Richards came from Herkimer county, New York with his parents, William and Jane



Frank Goodspeed

(Evans) Richards in 1863 when he was eleven years of age, the family settling on a farm of 280 acres in Calamus. Both parents were born in Wales.

E. W. had the advantage of a good education including high school in Columbus, and Wayland at Beaver Dam. He taught school for several years in Dodge and Columbia counties,

and in Minnesota. Some time after his marriage he began farming on 100 acres, and in 1891 took over the Goodspeed farm, moving to town, about 1916, into a house purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Lueders, now occupied by their daughter Mattie, Mrs. G. H. Jones at 339 West Harrison st.

Their son William L. farmed until he went to school at Chicago Veterinary College to qualify him as a veterinarian, beginning practice at Morrisonville, Wis. in 1913 and has had a most satisfactory practice at Morrisonville for nearly 40

years. He married Miss Edna Stevenson of Morrisonville and they have two sons, William, and Glenn, both recently married.

E. W. Richards served as member of the town board, county board, and for many years was the poor commissioner of Columbia county.

Mr. Richards died in 1948 after a long illness and Mrs. Richards in August of the same year.

Brewer

Isrial Brewer and wife whose maiden name was Sally Brown, natives of Vermont, came to Columbia county and settled on the S.W. ¼ of the S.W. ¼ of section 11 and the N.W. ¼ of the N.W. ¼ of section 14 adjoining on the south, in town of Hampden, in 1854.

The land had been entered in April 1847 as shown by abstract of title, as follows; the first mentioned 40 acres United States to George D. Mead who sold it to John Boutwell jr. in July 1851.

The second 40 mentioned was entered May 18, 1848 United States to Zebulon B. Mead who sold it to John Boutwell in April 1852.

When the Brewers acquired the two forties mentioned, they also acquired another forty, the S.E. ¼ of the S.W. ¼ from some one else, as it is not covered in the abstract examined by this writer.

But on this forty there was a log house which was later moved elsewhere when the present house (Frank Bell's) was built in 1866.

The log building was then sold to a German emigrant named Fred Starker who took it apart, log by log, and re-erected it on the S.E. ¼ of the N.E. ¼ of section 11, about 60 rods south of the Nelson school house where it stood until about 1885, but no tract of it now remains.

Isrial Brewer, died Nov. 24, 1873 leaving a widow Sally B. Brewer and 8 children as follows: Sarah A. Coolidge, in Vermont; Mary E. (Mrs. Van Dusen); Martha R. (Mrs. Putman); Emma A. (Mrs. Veeder) Isrial P.; Fredrick A.; Daniel O.; and Milam B. Brewer, all "of full age".

Fredrick A., was appointed administrator of the estate in Jan. 1874, and in April of 1875 reported to the court that the estate had paid all debts, except for a mortgage of \$500.00 and that Milam B. Brewer had purchased the interest of all other heirs.

Milam Brewer married Miss Hannah Montgomery and farmed the property until late in 1894 when he sold to Henry B. Sydown.

The Milam Brewers had two sons, Guy and George both of whom went to North Dakota, and are now dead, and two daughters, Addie, who became Mrs. Miles, and Hattie who is Mrs. Fred Hasey of Hampden.

The Haseys have two sons, Harold whose wife is Jane Daniels of Hampden, and Floyd at home, and one daughter, Irene who is Mrs. Wayne Moore.

While Calvin Coolidge was President of the United States, he requested that search be made, through the then city Clerk, Wm. H. Pietzner, for the location of the graves of Isrial Brewer and wife, his great grandparents, buried in some cemetery in this part of the county.



A search of the records was made and the graves located in Hampden cemetery, whereupon, the president communicated with the Stotzer Granite Co. of Portage, expressing his desire to place a suitable mounment over the graves.

Mr. Oscar Stotzer of Milwaukee took the matter in charge, prepared sketches of suitable stones, made a trip to Washington, conferred with the president, who selected a modest stone with the name Brewer prominent, giving dates of birth and death, of Isrial and Sally Brewer, and in smaller letters the simple inscription "Great Grandparents of President Coolidge".

This cemetery is only 10 or 12 miles from Columbus. How many of our readers have ever visited it?

(To be continued next week)



Wm. Richards



E. W. Richards



Dr. W. L. Richards

Installment No. 70

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Continuation of Brewer

When Mr. Stotzer received the request for designs and quotations on a suitable monument, he wrote President Coolidge that it just so happened that he and the Stotzer family would be leaving for the east on a vacation trip to the Nations Capitol and the sea shore, and would like therefore to discuss the designs he was sending, with the president since he would be in Washington anyway.

When Mr. Stotzer reached Washington and was comfortably located in one of the better hotels, he with his family went to the White House, the family as tourists to enjoy the then customary conducted trip through that portion of the White House open to tourists, while Mr. Stotzer went to see the president's secretary to make an appointment to see Mr. Coolidge.

When he had stated his business and given his name the secretary told him the president would see him almost at once as his schedule for the day was not heavy. Within a matter of minutes he was conversing with Mr. Coolidge, made his sale and was about to leave when the president said "What about your family, where are they" and when told they were somewhere in the White House or the grounds the president sent his secretary to summon them to his office where he visited with Mrs. Stotzer and the children for a short time.

Agricultural Fair

An Agricultural Society had been organized in Columbia County in Nov. 1851.

The first fair was held in Wyocena in Nov. 1852 at which the receipts were \$15.75 and the expenditures were \$11.80.

The second fair was also at Wyocena, which was near the geographical center of the county, on Sept. 28th, 1853; the records show receipts of \$20.00 and disbursements of \$18.81. There were 19 entries under the classification of horses, 12 under cattle, 1 under poultry and 2 under farming implements, a total of 34 entries.

The executive committee decided to hold the third fair in Columbus on Sept. 20, 1854.

The fair was held "in the triangle between the forks of the road on the western declivity of what was then called Lewis and Cooks hill and on the flat beyond Cooks".

A. P. Birdseys Mountain House was located at or near where Weisensel's residence is and a little building owned by Mr. Birdsey, was the hall of Fine Arts, and in it were displayed a few fruits and some fine needle work.

The record does not show the numbers of horses, cattle, or other animals shown, but says "There were 99 entries in all. The fees received from members amounted to \$32.00. Of this \$18.00 was disbursed in premiums, together with 31 volumes of the transactions of the State Agricultural Society, and sundry diplomas.

Birdseys Addition

Up to 1854 the only lots plotted were the original nine blocks in 1844, blocks ten to thirteen, in 1849 and blocks fourteen to nineteen in 1850 all by Lewis Ludington.

On Jan. 3, 1854 Almon P. Birdsey who had acquired land from Lewis Ludington, recorded Birdseys first addition to Columbus. It consisted of Blocks one to nine, beginning on Spring street and running to Lewis, and from James street to Newcomb street which is the first cross street beyond the Catholic Church.

Lewis Village of West Columbus

There was a nursery occupying several acres along the south side of James street from Spring street to Lewis, which belonged to D. F. Newcomb.

A part of the land had been owned by Lewis Ludington and a part by John Hustis who was the original owner of the N. W. quarter of section 13 and the S. W. quarter of section 12.

James T. Lewis had acquired the N. W. quarter of section 13 which lay east of his 320 acre farm, which would be all the land between Fuller street on the south up to James street on the north, but its eastern boundry is hard to describe because all of the streets laid out by Ludington were "on the bias", that is they ran from south east to north west, and from south west to north east.

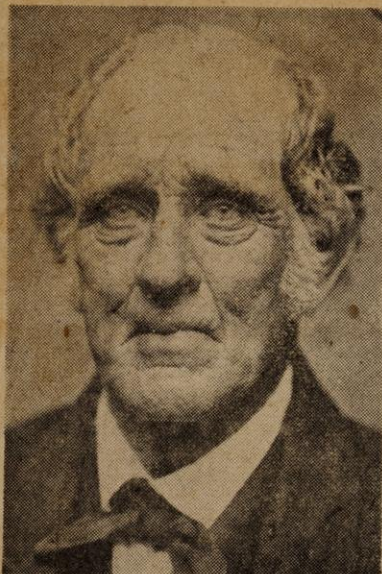
Take a look at a map of Columbus and you will see what we mean.

Well, anyway, Mr. Lewis recorded on June 10th, 1854 in Volume 10 of Deeds, pages 107 and 208 what he called the village of West Columbus, which was in the shape of a right angle triangle and included twenty six blocks, of which eighteen were square while the rest were either triangular or square with one corner clipped off.

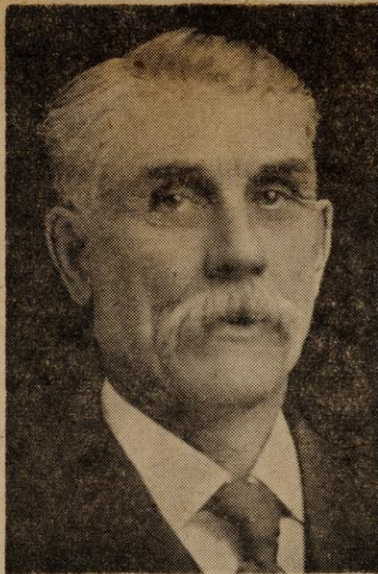
The base of the triangle was on Fuller street with five triangular block; the hypotenuse was eight blocks on Lewis street running from Fuller street to Harrison while the verticle line would run from a point on Harrison street in lot four of block 15 due south through the Huseth home, the Lowell Larson home, the Olivet Church, the high school and to a point on Fuller street about half way between Ludington and Dickason, Clipping corners off of six blocks.

It embraces the following streets from Lewis to Spring, Harrison, Prairie, School, Railroad (now Richmond) Fountain and Selden, and Washington and Franklin to Fuller, and blocks 22, 23, 24 and 26 between Spring and Broadway (Dickason) are in the original plat called West Columbus.

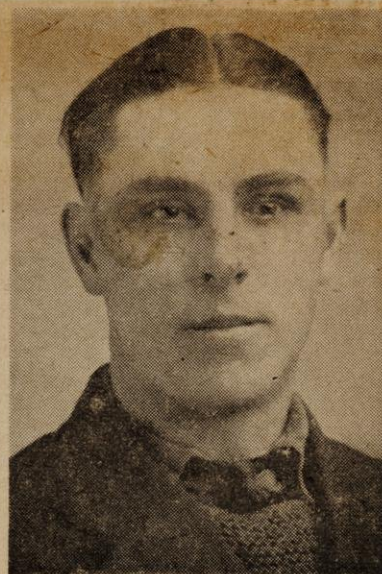
Two years later Mr. Lewis platted 25 additional blocks including everything west or north of Lewis street to Maple avenue on the north and Line St. (section line) on the west, and called it Lewis Addition to West Columbus; at a later date blocks 22 to 26 were vacated and went back to farm land except for a few blocks along the south side of Maple avenue.



Isrial Brewer



Milan Brewer



Geo. L. Brewer

Various Names

The next twenty or more persons discussed are names taken from business cards or advertisements in Volume 1 No. 1 of the Republican Journal of Feb. 27, 1855, proof beyond a doubt that they were all here and in business the winter of 1854, but in most cases nothing more, indicative of when they came or where they came from, has been found.

Carr Huntington was editor and publisher of the Columbus Reporter, sometimes referred to as Columbia County Reporter believed to have been started in 1850. The office was some place on Broadway between James st. and Mill st.

R. Rhames and Son, who conducted a store on lower James st., called the Rough and Ready store.

J. McConnell, Tailor, one door below the Rough and Ready store on James street.

Franklin F. Fowler, saddle and harness maker, one door below McConnells Tailor shop, James st.

J. Colville, cabinet maker shop, on James st.

B. F. Hart, dealer in groceries, provisions, Earthen and Stove ware, English and German toys, etc, etc., James street.

The H. C. Cooper building, now the Corner Drug store was a three story and basement structure that housed many business and professional men. In the basement under Coopers, one Carl Sampson carried on in what was called an Oyster Saloon, and one or two doors away was a business referred to as the Columbus recess; this may have been a restaurant or a saloon of which there were many.

Next door below the recess, whatever it was, S. McLarty had a Tailor shop.

Jacob Smith, a brother of T. Clark Smith had his Tailor shop on James st. in the rear of Coopers store.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 71

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

J. P. Atwood advertised his Cooper shop on James st., below S. McLarty's Tailor shop, perhaps meaning in the basement underneath, or perhaps one door down hill.

J. Williams was a cabinet maker whose shop was at the corner of James and Waterloo st., and A. Z. Maynard had a blacksmith shop next door to Mr. Williams cabinet shop.

D. D. Kelsey's blacksmith shop was at the corner of James and Water street on the north side of James.

Just east of Kelseys was the Spencer and Buxton Carriage and Wagon shop.

C. W. Dean's Farmers store was some place on James as was also the grocery and provision store of F. W. Maynard, mentioned in the 1851 installments.

O. M. Hammond was a "Daguerrean" whose rooms were above Bassetts Brick store, about where Duke Lohr's Buckhorn Tavern now is Daguerrean's made Deguarretype's the predecessor of photographs.

T. Bollom had a boot and shoemaking shop, two doors south of Griswold & Co., corner James and Ludington streets.

Mrs. Dayton had a boot and shoe store also some place on Ludington street.

J. B. Ingalls & Co. were jewelers and watch-makers in the rear of Cooper's store on James street and

J. B. Hains had a boot and shoemaking shop in the rear of Coopers.

J. A. Wilson was a dentist whose office was one door north of Coopers. The doorway to the stairs leading to the offices and public hall above Cooper's store.

Nelson Adams was a Hoemopethic physician whose office was in his residence in West Columbus.

Dr. Tucker's advertisement reads "Botanic physician No. 2 Broadway, office at his residence. Particular attention paid to diseases of women and children.

Also obstetrics promptly attended to."

Other business cards by persons discussed in previous installments were:

Columbus Exchange the Hotel by H. W. McCafferty, corner James and Ludington.

Isaih Robinson, land agent and dealer in Real Estate, James street.

E. Silsbee, dealer in dry goods and groceries, next door above the drug store, James street.

Farnham and Allen, dealers in dry goods and groceries, James street.

H. C. Cooper, dealer in dry goods and groceries, James street.

Daniel E. Bassetts, general store on James st. Griswold & Co., dealers in dry goods and groceries, corner of Ludington and James st. (not the present building).

R. W. Chadbourn, Justice of the Peace, office on James street, next door west of Cooper's store.

Mountain House, by A. P. Birdsey, west James street, top of the Hill.

Livery Stable, by H. A. Whitney, in the rear of Columbus recess.

Columbus Mills, by J. S. Manning.

Silsbee and Swarthout, dealers in drugs and medicines, James street.

William Drake, wagon and carriage maker shop, on Ludington street.

Mrs. N. Bissell, millinery shop at her residence, Ludington street.

Nelson Bissell, a tailor shop at the same place.

A. G. Cook, attorney and councillor, one door north of Cooper's store.

R. W. Earll, physician and surgeon, one door north of Cooper's store.

J. C. Axtel, physician and surgeon, one door north of Cooper's store.

Rev. Samuel L. Brown, minister and his wife were here at that period, probably serving the Methodist society, which had no church building at that time.

Old Newspapers Made Available

We have now covered the first fifteen years of this area, and only recently have we had the benefit of copies of early Columbus newspapers, to supplement or amplify occasional stories.

From this point on we hope to pick up occasional items from the files of the Republican-Journal beginning with the first issue of Feb. 1855, so kindly sent to us on loan from the Archives of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, Madison.

There was another newspaper operating in Columbus beginning, it is thought, sometime in 1853, called the Columbus (or perhaps Columbia) Recorder, Democratic in politics, which apparently did not flourish any too well, in this area which was populated largely from settlers who came mostly from New York state and the New England states where there may have been more Whigs than Democrats; The Republican party was a new party, organized in Ripon Feb. 29th, 1854, which absorbed the Whigs, and many northern Democrats and gained the ascendancy in northern states in short order.

No copies of the Recorder are in the files of the Historical Society, so unless some of our readers can find copies here or there, we will be unable to comment or quote from it.

The Recorder suspended early in 1857 and moved to Portage where it passed out of existence late in that same year having been sold under a sheriff's execution. The editor and publisher was Mr. Carr Huntington, who later started another democratic paper at Blue Earth, Minn.

The bound copies of the Republican-Journal, are in fine condition and are extremely interesting to any one who is at all historically minded.

The local papers of one hundred years ago and for many years later were quite different from those of this decade, in that they contained very little local news, for many reasons.

One, that the population was not large, and apparently not much of what was then considered news, was happening in small communities.

Another, that the editor of a village newspaper had very little time to be out and around to search for news items, for he usually was alone, a man of all work, who set his own type, wrote his own editorials, tried to collect from his advertisers and subscribers that which was due, and was frequently asked to take his payment in the form of farm produce, stove wood, or what ever he could get.

The papers of a hundred years ago, served a general purpose of a limited amount of general news, but a comparatively large amount of "exchange" items, that is, clippings from other papers in the state, always giving credit for the item to the paper from which the same was clipped.

Much space was devoted to what was going on in New York, Detroit, Chicago and more particularly in Washington, quoting complete speeches or extracts from speeches in congress.

The mention of many ships arriving in Boston, New York or Baltimore, and news from European countries; the progress of the war in the Crimea; rise, or fall of prices; number of emigrants arriving, etc.

Short stories; sermons; poetry, comic stories, jokes, and the like to a considerable extent, and advertisements from elsewhere required as much if not more space than local concerns.

Much of the type used was Nonpareil 6 point or Agate, 5½ point, much smaller than the type with which this is printed, which makes reading these old papers quite difficult.

We are sure these old papers will prove to be very important aids in the writers effort to record accurate history of this area.

1855 brought many new people to the area, only a few of whom are mentioned in Butterfield's history of Columbia county, and some of them were surely here some time before but are listed in 1855 since no earlier reference has been found.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 72

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Wm. Butler

William Butler was a carpenter and builder who was active in Columbus for many years.

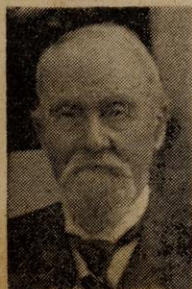
He was born in Wiltshire, England in 1819, and received a common school education. His father was a carpenter so it was quite natural that at a young age he began learning the trade of carpenter and joiner, with his father.

He was married in 1840 to Miss Helen Taylor, with whom he sailed for America in 1841, landing in New York in March of that year.

He continued to work at his trade in rapidly growing New York City for about fourteen years, and occasionally wrote to his boyhood friend, and fellow carpenter, Robert Quickenden, still in England, to let him know how much better things were in this country.

He had so impressed his friend, about the possibilities in America that Quickenden had pulled up stakes in England in 1850 and brought his family to New York, where he remained to work for about a year and then moved on to Wisconsin settling here in 1851.

It was now his turn to write his friend Butler to suggest how much better it was in the new state of Wisconsin than in the crowded little city of New York.



Wm. Butler

Whatever the motivating force, Butler emigrated to Wisconsin, direct to Columbus in June 1855, and no doubt working with his friend Robert Quickenden, he helped build many homes and business block in this rapidly growing village, among them being the first brick school house, called the union school built during the winter of 1857. ness block in this rapidly growing village, among them being the first brick school house, called the union school built during the winter of 1857.

Some years later when the old wooden school on Ludington street was no longer needed for grade school purposes, and was offered for sale, it was purchased by Wm. Butler, who cut it in two sections, one of which was moved away and converted into a barn; the part nearest the street was converted into a house and became the home of the Butlers.

This house still stands, and when the writer first came to Columbus was occupied by Robert Keyes. It is now the home of the N. B. Pomeroy at 426 South Ludington street.

The Butlers had seven children, William, Thomas, James, George, Charles, Nellie and Sadie.

George was about the same age of James Quickenden, and these two boys, both sons of carpenters working on the big Methodist church in 1872 undertook and successfully did all of the lathing of the upper story of the church.

As of 1880 the first four boys mentioned had gone to Colorado, Charles to Nebraska, and Nellie was Mrs. Linton McNeill, living in Neillsville, Wis. and only Sadie at home with her parents.

At some later date Sadie Butler became the wife of John Webster, son of James Webster and brother of Samuel R. Webster. After her death within a few years, her husband went west locating in Spokane where he became an undertaker, and later was in the real estate business.

Mr. and Mrs. Butler continued to live here the rest of their lives and both are buried in Hillside cemetery.

The Tyng Family

The Rev. Dudley Tyng was here as early as

1848 but no information was found until recently. Since he was not included in the class of 48 we give the information at the point and wish to acknowledge the courtesy of Mrs. Edith Griswold Williams of Oshkosh and Mrs. Corine Fisher of Fall River who supplied a part of the data.

Dudley Tyng was born March 7th, 1806 at Brentwood, New Hampshire, one of nine children born to Dudley I. Tyng and his wife Rachael Sanborn.

The younger Dudley was married to Miss Sally Haynes, and they lived at various places in New Hampshire, Maine and Mass.

In his younger manhood he learned to be a carpenter, and worked at his trade in different towns in the states mentioned, and is believed to have been a resident of Augusta, Maine when he reached a decision to go west.

He had become a convert to the universalist faith, and in 1846 he decided to give up his work as a carpenter, and became a minister, go west, and preach the liberal gospel.

He moved his family to DeWitt, Mich. by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes and preached for two years, as a missionary around Portland, near Lansing, Mich.

In 1848 he and his family crossed Lake Michigan to Milwaukee, and then came to Columbus by ox team, over the old corderoy road.

It was a long hard journey as the log road was bad in many places, and a number of times they had to walk back to find a settler with an ox team to help them pull out of the mud. At that time it was considered a three or four day trip to Milwaukee from Columbus, and to plod along with an ox team at about two miles per hour, over long stretches of marsh with only here and there a homestead, made it a dreary and dismal journey.

One piece of furniture, a beautiful desk made from cherry wood they had brought from Maine is still in use and greatly cherished by a granddaughter, Mrs. Edith Williams of Oshkosh.

Dudley Tyng became a circuit rider, a minister who traveled on horseback from place to place preached the gospel in settlements as far away as Fond du Lac and Milwaukee.

On one of his preaching trips he was thrown from his horse, receiving serious injuries preventing further horseback riding, so that he had to retire as a circuit rider.

At that time he lived and farmed on land some place in Fountain Prairie, living in the log house with which all settlers started in this heavily timbered area.

Mrs. Williams believes the place in Fountain Prairie was a log house on a road or trail long called Tyng's way. Mrs. Corine Fisher of Fall River, a great great granddaughter of Rev. Tyng thinks it was the road to Randolph branching off to the northeast about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile beyond Englewood. The place now being owned by Mr. Otto Bork, Fall River, R. R. 1.

He later moved to Columbus, living on a farm some place on Waterloo road (now street).

The exact location of Rev. Tyng's house has not been determined but it is believed that it was near the intersection of what later became known as Poet street, when in 1857 Rev. Tyng laid out and recorded Tyngs Addition consisting of one long block running from Waterloo Road to Farnham street with a street laid out through middle of the block with 15 lots south of and 16 lots north of the street, named Poet, unquestionably in honor of his talented daughter Hattie Tyng, a poetess of note. The maps all show incorrect spelling as Thyng's Addition.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 73

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Mrs. Tyng, the former Sarah (Sally) Haynes was a woman of great energy and strong convictions. She was a direct descendent of Rev. John



Rev. and Mrs. Dudley Tyng of whom were intellectual, well read and who wrote with ease.

Holmes Haynes, a noted pastor in New York. Possibly it was her strong convictions that led her husband to forsake his trade of carpenter and become a missionary.

The Tyngs were parents of five daughters, Susan, who died at DeWitt, Mich. Sarah, Laura, Hattie and Clara, all

Sarah, was born in Concord, New Hampshire in 1835 and died in Detroit in 1910; she became a teacher in Columbia county and her first salary was the munificent sum of \$1.50 per week in summer and \$2.00 per week in winter, plus, we presume, "her keep" as the custom then was for the teacher to "board around", spending one week in the home of each pupil.

In 1863 she was married to Francis B. Spooner of Columbus, a plasterer; the Spooners were the parents of two sons and two daughters.

Mrs. Spooner herself has said "she wielded the pen of a ready writer, without aspiring to the authorship of books"; she gave herself to writing for magazines and newspapers, discussing important themes with breadth of vision and clearness of outlook.

Her verse found way into print to the help of many and to the comfort of sorrowing people.

Laura, whose place and date of birth we do not have, was married to Mr. A. J. Whitcomb, a hardware merchant in Columbus.

Their children were Ernie who was a partner with Charley Fowler in a grocery store located on James street where the Schroeder Meat Market now is; Inez whose married name was Parry and whose home was in Oconto; and Emma, who became the wife of Dr. Sisson of Elgin, Ill. at whose home Mrs. Whitcomb died.

Hattie Tyng was born in Boston, Mass. in 1840, and when she was only fifteen had developed marked literary ability both in poetry and in prose.



Hattie Tyng Griswold

of our paper will be found two pieces of poetry, one of which was written and signed Hattie; and one signed Harriet copied from the Janesville Free Press."

"Both these articles were written by the same person; the author is a young lady not yet quite fifteen years of age and resides in this village."

"There is another poetess who resides in this county and is a married woman, her signature is 'Hetty'."

"We have been frequently asked whether these signatures belong to the same person, hence the reason for this explanation. Good judges prophesy a distinguished career as a writer for Hattie if her life is spared."

Hattie started a nursery school here for tiny tots too young to go to the public schools, and in 1856 when she was only sixteen she became a teacher in the schools for Winnetka, Ill.

From another source we quote "She became one of the most gifted women of Columbia county and an authoress of national repute." Some of her published books were "Home Life of American Authors"; "Personal Sketches of Recent Authors"; "Waiting on Destiny"; "Fencing with Shadows"; "Apple Blossoms" a book of verse; and perhaps others.

She was married in 1863 to Eugene S. Griswold, half brother to George, William and Addison Griswold; From this union there were three daughters, Florence, Mrs. Buckstaff of Oshkosh; Ada Tyng, unmarried; and Edith, Mrs. George Williams of Oshkosh, the only one still living; and one son who died in infancy.

More about Hattie Tyng will be found when the story of E. S. Griswold is published.

In their later life Rev. Dudley Tyng and his wife made their home with the Griswolds.

Mrs. Tyng died Oct. 19, 1873 and Rev. Tyng Nov. 11, 1878 and both are buried in Hillside.

Search has been made for obituaries of both in the bound copies of the Democrat of the period, but none can be found. All files of the Republican are now in the archives of the State Historical Society in Madison and are not available locally.

The early files of the Columbus Republican - Journal in 1855 show one or more poems in many issues signed Hattie.

She also wrote for the Jefferson Banner, in which she used the signature of Harriet.

The following from the issue of May 24th, 1855 on the editorial page is self explanatory." On the first page

Mrs. Frank Kietzke has a clipping, perhaps from the Republican which says "His life was one of purity and honor. No word of reproach was ever heard concerning his life. He was a gentle, amiable and truly, religious man, all of whose works in this life made for righteousness."

The youngest daughter of the Tyngs was Clara who married Jerome R. Nashold of Fall River, one time sheriff 1889-90 and undersheriff two years under Sheriff Hugh Hall 1895-96, and two years in 1897-98 under Ole Bendixon.

While Clara Nashold did not attempt authorship she was a particularly graceful and interesting letter writer, a student of literature, and an omniverous reader.

The Nasholds became the parents of five sons, William, Archie, Vincent, Leon and Robert, all deceased.

William Nashold was married to Miss Emma Briese, sister of William and Fred Briese, who died in 1897 leaving two daughters, Marguerite, Mrs. Frank Kietzke of Rio, who has two daughters and one son, all living and Corine who became Mrs. John Fisher of Fall River who has one son Jack. John or Jack Fisher became a cheesemaker which business he followed for some time.

Later he became a Ford car salesman when Fred Proctor had the Ford dealership.

He died about 10 years ago.

All four children of Mrs. Kietzke and Mrs. Fisher live in close proximity of Columbus, and there are three grandchildren, descendants of William Nashold.

Archie married Miss Jennie Prior of Fall River and their family consisted of Bruce J. Nashold of Fall River; Beulah. Mrs. Frank Dunn of Fall River; Glen of Chicago; Eugene, who married Miss Mary Stowell, daughter of Calvin Stowell of Columbus, and owns a hotel in Walworth, Wis.; and Donald of Waco, Texas.

There are ten grandchildren, descendants of Archie Nashold.

Leon married Miss Elva Sanders and they had four daughters and one son, Blaine of New York City; Bernice of Aurora, Ill; Anabel, Mrs. Joe Hardy; Leonore, of Edwardsville, Ill., and Clara, deceased.

(Continued next week)



Laura Tyng Whitcomb



Clara Tyng Nashold



Sarah Tyng Spooner

Installment No. 74

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

There are four grandchildren, descendants of Leon and Elva Nashold. Leon was once Marshall in Columbus and was county register of deeds in 1909-10.

Robert died in Benton Harbor, Mich., in 1913 and Vincent in Rochester in 1950.

There is much that could be added to the story of Dudley and Sarah Tyng and their numerous progeny but space limitation and the many family stories still to be written makes it impossible.

G. T. Dodge and Brothers

The name Dodge was prominent among the merchants of Columbus for many years, beginning in 1855 and running without interruption but coupled with many other names, for many years.

The Republican-Journal of Nov. 29th, 1855 contained a brief announcement of the opening of a new store by Messrs. Hulbert and Dodge.

Mr. Hulbert, had been a farmer in the town of York and after selling his farm in June 1855 for \$5,000.00 had moved to town.

Presumably Mr. Dodge, who hailed from Monroe County, New York, had had some mercantile experience, and perhaps some capital, had stopped in Columbus seeking a location for a store, and had become acquainted with Mr. Hulbert here.

At any rate a partnership was effected and a new store opened in the location formerly occupied by Daniel Bassett in the Bassett Block on lower James street. They called it the People's Store. In March 1856 they moved to a large new and commodious brick store on Madison street (Ludington).

The Dodge store, some years later was moved to a 30 ft. front wooden building that stood where the west half of E. H. Walkers Columbus Mercantile building was later built (now the Zeidler-Alberts Furniture store) better known as the Otto J. Albrecht store. After the wooden building was torn down, Mr. Dodge conducted the dry goods dept. of the mercantile co. for some time, then moved to the Bissell Block, now occupied by Fritz Liquor store, 135 S. Ludington, where he remained as long as he was in business.

Gilbert T. Dodge was one of four sons born to Rev. H. B. Dodge, a baptist minister in the state of New York, born at Greece, Monroe county, N. Y. Sept. 22, 1830.

**G. T. Dodge**

The partnership of Hurlburt withdrew, and a little later Dr. George Paine, Columbus Dentist acquired an interest the firm becoming Paine and Dodge. The writer will make no attempt to trace the many changes in the firm name except to say that at one time it was Dodge Brothers, when both Harvey K. and Rufus S. Dodge came in. In 1884 he took in as a partner in the clothing department, A. S. Waldo, and 12 years later sold the clothing business to Mr. Waldo.

The partnership of Hurlburt withdrew, and a little later Dr. George Paine, Columbus Dentist acquired an interest the firm becoming Paine and Dodge. The writer will make no attempt to trace the many changes in the firm

G. T. Dodge was married in 1864 to Miss Julia, a daughter of M. Meade, of Columbus, who died only six weeks after her marriage.

In 1866 Mr. Dodge was married at LeRoy, N. Y. to Miss Franc P., a daughter of Dorus Hinkston.

The G. T. Dodge residence, now the home of Ralph Derr, 514 S. Dickason, was built by Dr. George Paine, and rented to Mr. Ireton, a clerk in the Paine and Dodge store, with whom Dr. Paine, unmarried, made his home. Upon his removal from Columbus to Oshkosh some years later, Dr. Paine sold the house to Mr. Dodge, and here there was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dodge, two daughters, Bessie A., who became Mrs. Harry Paul Johnson; and Ruth M. (single). Mrs. Dodge was a sister of Mrs. Smith W. Chadbourn, and was a member of the Episcopal Church.

Ruth Dodge, still living, 81 years old, makes her home in Milwaukee with her nephew Neil Johnson and family.

Mr. Dodge served on the city council for eleven years and was mayor one term, during which the city hall was built.

He was urged to run for a second term but his wife put her foot down, said he was never home at night and being mayor was just too much night work.

He died April 26, 1913 aged 83.

Harvey K. Dodge

Harvey K. Dodge enlisted in Company G, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry under General Starkweather, and was assigned to the general pay department of the army from 1862 to the end of the war.

This indicates that he had come to Columbus and doubtless associated in business with his brother before the outbreak of the war, but the date of his coming is not known at the time this is being written.

He was married to Miss Nellie Dudley of Naperville, Ill., who died within six months of

her marriage, and presumably this was after his war service. Later he married Miss Julia Manning, daughter of the J. S. Mannings of Columbus. Mrs. Julia Dodge, and her cousin, Miss Julia (Dudy) Campbell, lived together for many years after the death of Mr. Dodge, and both will be remembered by many of our older citizens.



Mrs. Julia Dodge

Their home was 333 S. Ludington street now the home of Miss Adair Woodin.

Rufus S. Dodge

Rufus S. Dodge, served in the 16th N. Y. V. Infantry and was in the first battle of Bull Run and was engaged in all of the principal battles and movements of his regiment until after the second battle of Fredricksburg; he came to Columbus in 1863 and became, a member of Dodge Brothers, remaining in the firm until 1879 when

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 75

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

he moved to Sparta where he engaged in merchantile pursuits.

Rufus Dodge married Miss Fannie Cotton of Beaver Dam, and as of 1880 they had one daughter Nellie.

In the museum of the Wisconsin State Historical Society in Madison there is exhibited a large wood burning stove with a curious honeycomb network of small sheet iron pipe, reaching a few feet above the top of the stove. The card identifying the exhibit states, that "this stove was once used as one of the heaters in the original state capitol building in Madison up until 1860 when it was sold to G. T. Dodge, a merchant in Columbus, who used it in his store for many years before it was donated by him to the Historical Society Musieum."

Eugene S. Griswold

1855 brought Eugene Sherwood Griswold, youngest of the four Griswold brothers to Colum-

bus. He was born in Salisbury, N. Y. May 29th, 1833, a half brother of George who came in 1850 and William and Addison in 1853.

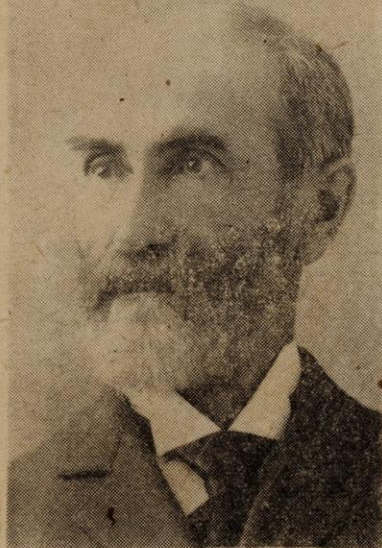
He was educated at Fairfield Academy, N. Y. then spending two years as a librarian at the Merchantile Library in N. Y. City.

When he came here he clerked in the store of Gris-

wold and Co., then taught school in Waukesha county and later in Missouri, but returned to Columbus to take over management and eventual ownership of the store.

His interest in books was lifelong and he helped start a library, furnishing space above the store, which was open for the loaning and returning of books, from two to four o'clock each Saturday.

The original subscription list of those contributing, in his own handwriting, was placed in our present library, some time ago, by his youngest daughter, Edith, Mrs. George Williams of Oshkosh.



He was married in 1863 to Miss Hattie, daughter of Rev. Dudley Tyng, universalist minister. Miss Hattie having been a frequent contributor of poems, and occasionally of prose fiction, to the

Journal - Republican as early as 1855 when she was only fifteen.

Mrs. Williams recently wrote "Libby Quickenden was librarian for many years, with the help of my mother; New books would come, and were covered with cloth covers at our house, and many is the afternoon I have sat covering those books at our dining room table."



Hattie Tyng Griswold

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Griswold purchased the fine brick house, that had been built for Mr. J. S. Manning, at the corner of Ludington and Prairie, across from the Allen-Parkinson home, now the Jones Funeral home.

They had three daughters, Florence, who became Mrs. George Buckstoft of Oshkosh; Ada Tyng Griswold, unmarried, who died a few years ago, and is buried at Hillside, and Edith M., Mrs. Williams, still living at Oshkosh. Also a son Richard who died in infancy.

Mrs. Griswold died in 1909, and Mr. Griswold died on shipboard also in 1909 while on a trip to Italy with his daughter Ada.

Mrs. Griswold, even as a young girl showed remarkable literary talent. The early copies of the Columbus Journal-Republican, in 1855, printed many poems, signed "Hattie", and the Janesville Free Press printed many signed "Harriet." In a later issue is a small advertisement to the effect that Miss Hattie Tyng would open a nursery school for tiny tots to run during school vacation.

Her daughter Edith, Mrs. Williams of Oshkosh writes of her mother "She taught school in Winnetka, Ill., when only sixteen (1856) and boarded for a week at a time in the homes of her pupils (this was called boarding around). A letter from her at that time tells of hearing "the most beautiful song I ever heard,—Stephen Foster's Swaunee River, the song hit of that period.

She was the author of several books and wrote for several magazines and papers. Some of her books were "Apple Blossoms" a collection of her poems; "Fencing with Shadows"; Lucille; Waiting on Destiny, all novels.

Home Life of Great Authors; Personal Sketches of Recent Authors; The last two mentioned are still used as reference books in many libraries.

Mrs. Williams continues "In those early days most of the writers knew each other and she had letters from many of the famous men of her time, — John G. Whittier; Higginson; T. B. Aldrich; Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe; Harriet Prescott Spofford; Alice and Phoebe Cary, and many more."

"All the people who came to lecture in Columbus were entertained at her home; — Once when Julia Ward Howe (Battle Hymn of the Republic) was at the house for tea, the children had been warned to be on their best behavior.

Mrs. Howe on sitting down to the table spilled her cup of tea over the white table cloth, much to our delight."

"There was a Wisconsin Authors Club formed in 1877 and every summer they would meet at Columbus, and many were the literary discussions held at our home. One summer they all went on a trip to Ashland, and I still have the verse written by Bill Nye on the back of a dance program as follows,

"And now kind friends, what I hev wrote
I hope you will pass O'er

And not criticize as some has done
Hitherto here before."

One of her friends wrote of Mrs. Griswold "She was one of those women fortunately not too rare, who are the salt of the earth, and the leaven of the town in which they live, a source of light and progress, a starting point for what is best in the community's intellectual and social life.

John C. Hoppin

John C. Hoppin, long supervisor of the third ward, and also city assessor and Justice of the Peace, was born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1814, and came to Wisconsin in 1836 settling in Milwaukee but shortly after going to Whitewater where he engaged in business for several years, until Sept. 1855, when he came to Columbus, where he remained until his death in December, 1875.

Shortly after locating in Columbus he became a partner in the grocery and provision store of Fulton W. Maynard, the firm becoming known as Maynard & Hoppin.

A year or two later the firm dissolved and Mr. Maynard moved to Lyons, which is now a part of Baraboo.

Mr. Hoppin then became a partner in the store of Sanford Drake, which was also a grocery store.

During the last twelve or fifteen years he lived, he was not in business, but devoted his time to township and civic affairs.

He was very precise and accurate and at the county seat his town papers were regarded as models of neatness and exactitude; He was an excellent justice of the peace, and the affairs of his court were administered with unusual ability.

His obituary in the Democrat of Dec. 11th 1875 does not give the maiden name of his wife, nor the date or place of marriage, but from it we quote". His last years were mainly a pecuniary struggle, the chief prize in which was the proper rearing and education of his children."

"His wife and eight children survive him, five boys and three girls, one of the former being only two years old."

One of his brothers was the Rev. Dr. Nicholas Hoppin of Boston, for many years rector of Christ church in Cambridge, and another, Richard Hoppin once lived on the old Daniel Johnson farm in the town of Columbus.

Many will remember the late Mary Hoppin a daughter who died only a few years ago; the family home was at 552 W. Mill street, now owned and occupied by the E. L. Goddings.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 76

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

John C. Long

A little known pioneer of 1854 or 1855, was a young German John C. Long, born in Germany in 1806, a son of Joseph Long.

Arriving in Columbus in the Spring, he bought a farm some place in the town of Columbus where he and his wife Miss Margaret Kitzerow settled and lived.

He had married in Germany in 1829 and no doubt some or perhaps all of their children were Louisa, Annie, Sophia, John and Fred.

Mrs. Long died in 1861 and in 1868 Mr. Long married the widow of Fred Nevermann of Columbus, Mrs. Sophia, mother of three children, Henry, Fred and Annie.

Also in 1868 Mr. Long sold his farm in the town of Columbus, and bought 80 acres in section 28 town of Calamus to which they moved, and to them were born four children, Charles, Louis, Ida and Lizzie. They were members of the Lutheran Church.

The information above was found on page 685 of a Dodge county history published in 1880 and nothing more recent has been found.

Linck

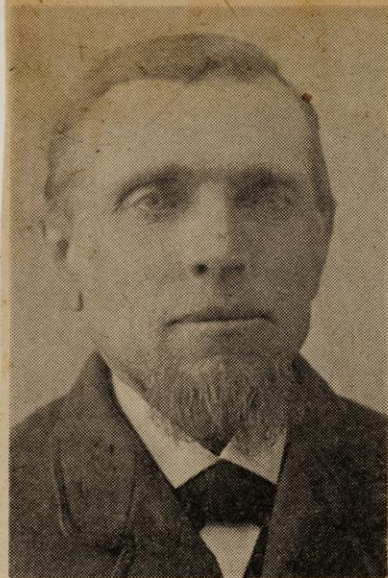
Among the settlers in the fifties many were from various German Provinces or States; One family that came in 1854 or 1855 was Franz H. Linck and his wife Catharine and several children.

They were natives of the kingdom of Mecklenberg-Schwerin, later one of the component parts of the German Empire.

There may have been other children but we are sure of Carl, George and Christ.

Carl was 19 years old when his parents came to America, settling on land in Elba. He had good schooling in Germany and also had served his apprenticeship as a mason's helper.

The first few years here he worked on his father's farm and assisted various neighbors with their work, but



Carl Linck

in 1859 he married Miss Anna Topp, who had emigrated from Mecklenburg a few years before the Lincks. He continued farming until 1899 when he moved to town, his home being the house at 416 Waterloo street.

Carl and Anna Linck were the parents of eleven children, Charles; John; Matilda who became Mrs. Louis Weideman; Emma; Minnie; Edwin; Anna, Mrs. Wm. H. Pietzner; George; Albert; Walter; and Elsie, Mrs. Emil Walters.

George Linck, one of the sons, states that his father owned the first self binder in the area.

Carl's son, George became a shoemaker, learning the trade in the store of his older brother Charles in the building now occupied by Lohr's tavern, under Frank Gruhn, the father and head of the Gruhn family.

George, after learning his trade, worked in the Gust Breuning Shoe store, and when Mr. Bruening decided to retire, George and Ed bought him out and continued in the same location for many years. All told George spent 34 years in the shoe store. George also served as chief of the Columbus Fire department for 15 years, and when he sold the store, he went on the road as a representative of a Fire Truck manufacturer. He is now retired and lives in Waterloo.

George Linck

Another son of Franz, was George Linck who learned storekeeping in Topps store and later became John Topps principal competitor, his store being located in the Schaeffer Block which is now 111 E. James. Fred Holtz got his first experience in merchandising in George Lincks store. George Holtz bought his first suit of store clothes from his brother Fred, in this store.

George married Miss Bertha Ulm, an aunt of Oscar Ulm, who once ran a shoe store here and of Mrs. Herman Dysenroth, mother of Mrs. Ruth Ward of this city Esther, Mrs. Haas jr. of Oshkosh and a son Carl of Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. George Linck were the parents of Matilda, Mrs. Otto Haas sr. of Oshkosh; Clarence of Green Bay; Hulda, wife of Ed Hovey; Josie, who married Paul Durant; Ed, who married Hattie Lewis a granddaughter of Gov. James T. Lewis, and Hannah who became the wife of Henry J. Topp.

George Linck's home was the house at 338 East James, now known as the Lueders home.

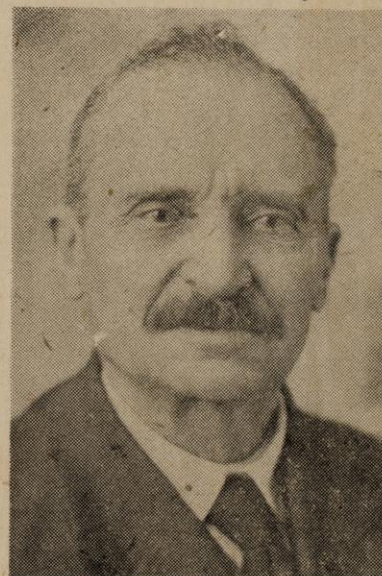
The Linck family was one of the twenty or more families, neighbors, who united to form the Elba Methodist church; George Linck of Waterloo says most of them had been Lutherans in the old country, but that a Methodist Missionary, Rev. Jakob Haas, frequently held religious services in their homes, as there was no Lutheran society nearby, so feeling the need of a church home they gladly united with others to form a Methodist society in 1855, but it was not until 1868 that it was voted to build a church which was dedicated in 1869.

Samuel & Horatio Smith

Many readers will remember Horatio S. Smith but few if any will remember his father Samuel Smith.

Samuel Smith was born in Suffolk, England and came to this country early in 1855.

Two bibles in possession of his grandson Fred M. Smith, 624 S. Birdsey street bear testimony



Horatio Smith

to the above statement. One, evidently a gift from pastor or Sunday School teacher is inscribed "Samuel, March 1, 1855. William Miles, Great Glemham, Suffolk, England." The other in more youthful handwriting reads, "Samuel Smith, arrived Hampden, Columbia county, Wisconsin, May 1, 1855"

It will be recalled that in the narrative

covering 1853 another Samuel Smith, married, came from Suffolk, England with his wife and three children, settling in Hampden, and while no proof can be found, it is reasonable to think that perhaps the two Samuels were related, perhaps uncle and nephew, or perhaps cousins.

The younger Samuel was united in marriage to Miss Choloe Lackey, daughter of Richard and Dorothy Johnson Lackey, then of the town of Hampden, date unknown.

A son was born June 13, 1857 a few months after the father's death, so the father never saw his son to whom the widow gave the name Horatio Samuel Smith. The widow later married Loyal B. Huntington of the town of Fountain Prairie, about whom we can find no information.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 77

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Horatio was raised to manhood in the home of his grandparents, the Laskeys, and became a farmer, mechanic and woodsman.

He was married to Miss Hannah M. DeBord of Illinois, and they began housekeeping on 147 acres, almost solid timber that was given to



Fred M. Smith

Horatio by his grandfather in section 28 town of Columbus.

He built a saw mill, converting his logs into lumber, and his timber land into farm land.

There were seven children born to the Smiths, Arthur who recently died at Wausau; Fred M. 624 S. Birdsey; Olive, Mrs. Harold Fairbanks, 155 S. Water; Roy and Ralph, both

mechanics at Racine; Lester, who was killed in World War I and Irma, Mrs. James Hughes of Calamus.

After the timber had been cleared and made into farmland, Horatio, a natural born mechanic did custom sawing, owned steam threshing engines, when they were still hauled from place to place by horses, and later, of course he had steam traction engines that not only pulled themselves but the threshing machine as well.

Mrs. Smith died in 1926 and Mr. Smith in 1938.

Samuel Smith is buried in Hampden cemetery on the lot of Thomas Smith whose wife Rhoda died in 1853 and the husband in 1881 aged 72 years. This almost surely means that Samuel, the subject of this story, was a relative, and that Thomas and Samuel, discussed in the 1853 installments were both related to this Samuel about whom, so little is known.

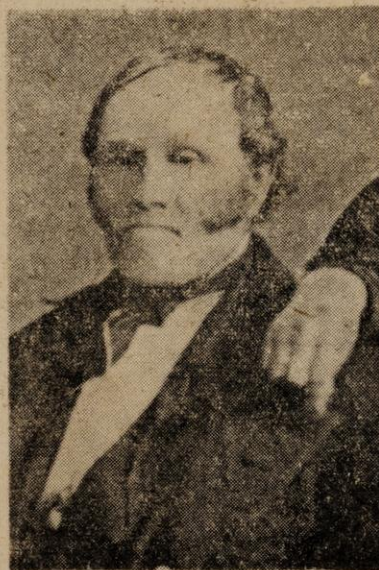
Thomas Waterworth, Sr.

Thomas Waterworth, Sr., grandfather of Jay Waterworth, 840 S. Lewis street was born in Yorkshire, England Feb. 2, 1815, a son of John Waterworth.

He was married at Keighley Church, in Yorkshire in 1837, when he was twenty two years of age to Miss Sarah Greenwood, daughter of Wright Greenwood,

of the same county or shire. He was born and raised on a farm and became a tenant farmer on twenty acres which belonged to a landlord as land owners were called in England.

When he was forty, with a wife and eight children, he decided to follow the example of friends and neighbors who had emigrated to America,



Thomas Waterworth, Sr.

where land was plentiful and cheap, in order to provide better living conditions and opportunity for the welfare of his growing family.

These friends had settled in the town of Courtland where heavily timbered land could still be had by entry through government land offices at a figure as low as \$1.50 per acre.

The Waterworths, must have been frugal for it is said that after crossing the Atlantic and traveling to Wisconsin. Mr. Waterworth still had two hundred dollars.

They may have and probably did come as far as Chicago by railroad for rails had penetrated that far by 1855, the year of their arrival, or they may have come from Buffalo to Milwaukee by lake boat, which was the way most Europeans traveled from New York to Wisconsin.

There was at that time no through railroad between Chicago and Milwaukee, and practically all transportation between those two ports was by boat, the connecting rails being completed shortly afterwards at Kenosha.

However it is known that the trip from Milwaukee to Madison was made by rail as the railroad had built through as far as Madison in 1854.

This road was then called the Milwaukee and Mississippi and had not been well laid out by competent engineers, but meandered many extra miles to satisfy bond holders stockholders, and towns that had bonded their place to raise bonuses "to get" the railroad. For example the line went from Milwaukee to Waukesha via Wauwatosa, then to Eagle, Milton, Janesville, Stoughton to Madison and on to Prairie du Chien which it reached in 1857.

Thomas Waterworth, of necessity was traveling with as little baggage and bedding as possible, the largest item being a large trunk or chest, which became lost some way some place between New York and Milwaukee; so the family had to go on to Madison with hand baggage and bundles, as much as could possibly be carried, and some of the children were too small to help, and one was still a babe in arms.

A team and wagon was hired to bring the party with their belongings from Madison to Columbus where they stayed over night, presumably at one of the two hotels then here.

From here the journey to the log cabin home of friends, was made a foot, some of the children being so young they had to be carried.

Their route was the primitive road that led to Portage, as far as Fall River and on west and north to the Horace O'Brien place, where at almost night fall, they stopped hoping they could find accommodations for the night; but the log house was not large enough to take them in, but they were permitted to sleep "under the hay stack."

Their destination was still some six miles away mostly through dense timber, along poor trails and at least one river crossing and several small branches, until they found the log house of their friend, whose name we understand was Fred Pawson.

They settled on timber land in section thirty five, town of Courtland, felled trees to clear a place for the log house which was to be their home until the present house was built in 1866.

When the cabin had been built and fitted with the crude furniture usually found in log houses of the frontier, and the family made comfortable, Thomas Waterworth walked to Milwaukee to search for the missing trunk.

The railroad agent there knew nothing about it but volunteered the information that in another building there was stored some unclaimed baggage and freight and permitted him to search through this accumulation, and at long last he found the trunk.

He learned that wagon loads of wheat from this area were being delivered and the wagons would be returning here with supplies, so he bargained with one teamster to bring the trunk to Columbus. How he got it from here to Courtland is not known to the writer.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 78

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The road from Columbus to Watertown was usually not good, so it was custom to haul two light loads that far and then double the load on one wagon the rest of the way over the Watertown Plank road a toll road to Milwaukee.

At the time of their coming here there were eight children, Mary, Grace, Hannah, Wright, Thomas jr., Sarah, Susannah and John, and as of 1880, according to Butterfield's history there were ten living children, those mentioned above, and William and Jane Elizabeth, of which only two were then at home with the parents.

A county atlas published in 1890 shows three forties in section 35 on which there was a house, sixty acres in section 36, town of Courtland and sixteen in section 2 town of Fountain Prairie in the name of Thomas Watertworth, sr.

District school No. 8 was on the last mentioned piece, and no doubt this is the one referred to in the statement "A log school house was built on his farm which was later replaced with a frame building." We understand this school house is still in use for a grade school.

Mr. Waterworth served as a school director and as treasurer; also he was what was then called a Pathmaster, which would no doubt be similar to road commissioner; also he was a staunch Democrat which at that time was the leading political party.

However many who had been democrats left the party when it split on the question of slavery.

From one of his numerous descendants we find "He was one of the chief promoters and contributors of the Courtland M. E. church which was built in 1895 on section 23, and which we understand is one of the few still active country churches."

His oldest daughter Mary became Mrs. Benjamin Crowther a farmer in Courtland who as of 1890 had close to 300 acres.

Grace became the second wife of Joseph Phillips who also had 300 acres as of 1890. It is said of him that as a young man Mr. Phillips was a farmer and a stone and brick mason who helped build many buildings in Fall River and Columbus, and that because his first wife was frail, he frequently would walk the several miles after the days work was over, in order to be with his wife to lighten her burden.

Hannah married James Hatton, who as of 1880 according to Butterfield was a farmer owning 300 acres, all fenced in section 9 town of Fountain Prairie. The 1890 atlas shows him as owning 200 acres in section 11 and none in section 9.

Wright Waterworth, the fourth child and first son, married Miss Martha Bender and owned a farm in section 20 of Fountain Prairie.

Their children were Thomas, Mabel, William and Henry. Miss Mabel became Mrs. Joseph Steele, sr.

Thomas A., the second son married Miss Lucy Bennett, daughter of Sam Benneth and became a prosperous farmer owning land in sections 26 and 35 town of Courtland.



Thomas A. Waterworth
 mos; their children were Myrtle, Mrs. Edwards; Gertrude, Mrs. John Schmidt; and Jesse, unmarried.

Susannah, the seventh child married Clark Graville, a farmer in Courtland; their children were Sarah, Grace, Freeman and Thomas; Freeman is unmarried and lives with his sister Grace on the farm in section 34.

John, the eighth child married Miss Tena Bradendorff and their children were John W., jr. of Fountain Prairie; George, deceased; Harvey, of Madison, and Walter, of Milwaukee.

William the ninth child of Thomas, sr. married Miss Helen Alword and their children were William, jr.; Guy, deceased; Hazel, Mrs. Will Schrieber, Randolph; and May, Mrs. Harvey Ufer of Milwaukee.

Jane Elizabeth, the tenth child married Frank Reak and according to a 1916 atlas, were owners of "Mount Pleasant Farm", a portion of the original farm of Thomas Waterworth, sr.

The Reaks had no children.

It is the writers understanding that none of the sons or daughters of Thomas, sr. are now living; Ordinarily we would not take space to mention so many, so far away as Courtland, as we try to cover only the trading area of Columbus in this series of articles.

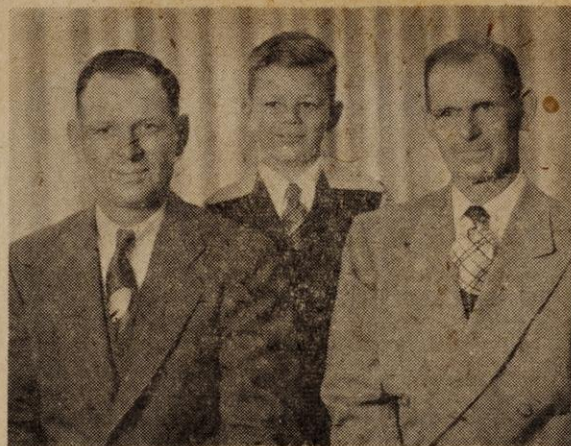
But because there are so many descendents in the area, and the story is so unusual in that an English family less than 100 years ago, came from a twenty acre farm in Yorkshire and by the turn of the century their children and their childrens children were, mostly, successful and prosperous and owners of many, many times as much land as the heads of this group left in England, shows that America is truly a land of free enterprise and freedom of action. Let us pray to keep it that way.

To attempt to enumerate and trace so many any farther, would require more time than can be taken, so no attempt will be made to carry the Waterworth story at greater length except for the story of one.

Jay C. Waterworth

Jay S., son of Thomas A., jr. and grandson of Thomas, sr., is himself a grandfather.

He was born in the town of Courtland in 1883, raised on his father's farm, and began farming for himself about 1905 at Randolph.



Willis, Thomas A. III and Jay

He was married in 1908 to Miss Margaret Jung, daughter of George Jung.

They lived on farms until a couple of years ago when they built a comfortable ranch type home at 840 S. Lewis Street, Columbus where they now reside.

They had three sons, Willis, whose wife is the former Sadie Sanden of Rio; They live on the old Brown farm, west of Fall River, and have two children, Alice and Thomas A.

Robert and Russell, twins were both married and both lived on and operated the home place on a three way partnership basis.

Robert and his wife, the former Doris Kietzman of Randolph had two children, Marie and Jay jr., living on the Hancock eighty which is a part of the Waterworth holdings. Russell and his wife who was Ramona Hemmerly of Kendall, Wis. live on the homestead, the former M. C. Hobart farm on section 32.

The Jay Waterworth family have long been members and supporters of Olivet church.

Their three sons have all had the advantage of the short course in Agriculture at the College of Agriculture at the University of Wisconsin, and this combined with their experience as practical farmers, ensures a successful future for them. Since the above was written we must record the death of Robert Waterworth on Sunday, August 10, 1952.

His widow and children only recently moved to town and now live at 555 Park Ave.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 79

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Christian Steinbach

Christian Steinbach, younger brother of Jacob Steinbach who was written up in installment 44, was born in Baden, Germany in 1831, a son of Charles and Susanna Steinbach. He worked as a farmer and in vineyards until 1853 when at the age of 22 he came to America, stopping with relatives at Buffalo, N. Y. where he was married that same year to Miss Christena, a daughter of Gotfried and Carolina Of, also natives of Baden, which presents the possibility that perhaps Christian Steinbach and Christena Of know each other, and perhaps were sweethearts in Germany.

In 1855 the young couple came to Columbus settling in Hampden where his older brother, Jacob had entered land several years earlier, (see installment 44).

Christian worked for others until 1861 by which time he had saved enough to buy his first 40 acres in section 23, town of Hampden, and by 1880 he was the owner of 160 acres.

The children of Christian and Christena were Catharine, who became Mrs. Fred Siede; Charles G., only recently deceased at age 95; Mary who became Mrs. John Schultz; Joseph C.; Caroline who married Richard Fritz; Anna who is Mrs. Otto Briese of Appleton, and Clara who became Mrs. Charles Duhring.

Emil Siede, 331 W. Prairie, Mrs. Lawrence Holsten, 141 W. Prairie and Mrs. Louis Schallert, 467 W. Fuller are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Siedes.

Charles Gottfried Steinbach, oldest son of Christian was born in Hampden in 1856 and in 1871 became a member of Zion's Ev. Lutheran church, of which he was a faithful member for over 80 years, a record worthy of note. Charles was married in 1881 to Miss Mathilda Bibow at which time he bought a farm in Elba where the couple lived for 43 years and became the parents of six children, Edward, 311 River Road; Eda, Mrs. Martin Blievernicht, 150 E. School Street; Waldo, 603 Waterloo Street; Elsie, Mrs. Ben Huebner, Marshall, at whose home her father died Jan. 4, 1952; Christian, Rt. 3, Columbus, and Freda, Mrs. John Huebner, Rt. 1, Columbus.

The children of John Schultz and Mary his wife were Ernest C., 1014 Park Ave., and Hilda and Freda, twin daughters, both of whom are teachers in Madison where they maintain a home for their father, in addition to the family home at 429 N. Ludington; Mr. Schultz is now past ninety six years of age.

Joseph C. Steinbach is dead; his son Irving has lived in Madison, but at this writing he lives in Texas.

Children of Caroline Steinbach, Mrs. Richard Fritz were Hugo; and Otto of Columbus and Clayton, a teacher at Joliet, Illinois.

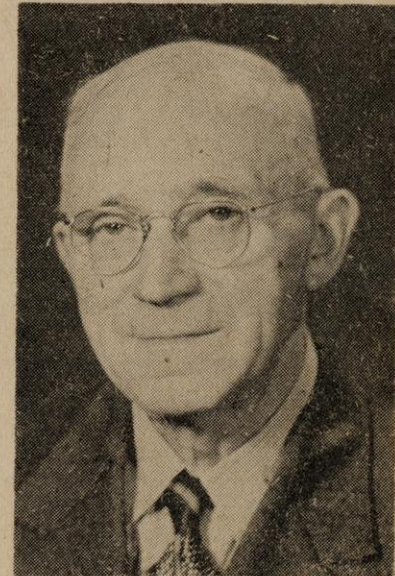
Mrs. Christian Of. Steinbach, was killed in a run away accident, May 17th, 1895, shortly after which her husband moved to Columbus where he lived on that part of Ludington now called Park Ave. for about twenty years, and at the time of his death, his survivors were two sons, five daughters, twenty two grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

Both are buried at Hillside cemetery.

Space does not permit tracing the descendants, except the family of the first born son of each generation.

Edward C. first born son of Charles G. was born on the farm in Elba in 1883.

He worked at home, attended grade school and Parochial schools. In 1907 he was married to Miss



Edward C.

Selina, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Strehmel. He purchased the adjoining farm of Wm. Strehmel, living with his wife's family and worked both farms together until the fall of 1914 when both farms were sold and in Jan. 1915 they moved to their newly built home, on River Road where they still live.

In 1915 he began clerking in the store of Pietzner and Kettelhohn where Stan Dulek's grocery store now is and four years later began working for Columbus Hardware Co. and then in the grocery store of Walter Damler with whom he became a partner and 4 years later he purchased the interest of Mr. Damler and continued to operate the store for several years.

He then worked briefly for Columbus Canning Co. and the Krueger grocery store until 1942 when he started clerking in Topps store where he still is.

The oldest son of Edward and Selina Steinbach is Alvin who after graduating from the high school, attended and graduated from University of Cincinnati.



Alvin Steinbach

He taught band and German in the schools at Athens, Wis.; Band and English at Goodman, Wis.; The next four years was spent in the Navy, and upon discharge at the end of World War II in Frankfurt, Germany he went to work for the occupation forces.

Upon return to the states he completed his work for a degree at Ohio State University, receiving his M. A. degree in 1947.

He then became instructor in German at Missouri School of Mines, and is at present on leave from said school to do further study at Ohio State

and do technical editing and translations at Battelle Institute, Columbus, Ohio.

A younger son Roger's employed at Turbiville Motors, Houston, Texas.

(Continued next week)



Charles G.



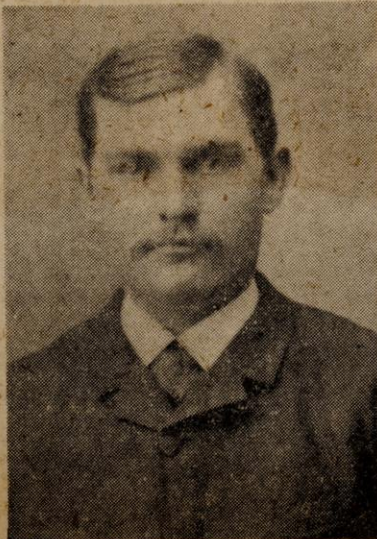
Christian



Christena



Mrs. Fred Duenow



Fred H. Niemeyer



Mrs. Herman Voigt

Installment No. 80

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Gerd H. Niemeyer

The subject of this sketch was born in Hanover, Germany in 1820. His mother died when he was five and his father three years later.

He was brought up by a neighboring farmer and did farm work or any kind of honest labor until he was twenty eight, when he emigrated to America, locating in Milwaukee in 1848 where he worked as a laborer for five years.

He then went to Portage City where he lived and labored for two or three years which brings us to 1855 when he came to the town of Columbus where he bought a 40 acre farm on section 16.

In 1853, while living at Portage he married Miss Meta Alfs, a native of Germany who had come to America in 1848, the same year he did, which leads us to wonder if they had known each other in Germany.

He bought different farms at different times, each time a larger one, selling the smaller one, indicating that he made money and saved it until he could improve his situation.

As of 1880 according to Butterfield's history he owned 140 acres lying in sections 22 and 27 town of Columbus about two miles out on the Madison Road and had three children, Eliza, Mary and Fred. He was known as "Little" Niemeyer.

There were other Niemeyers here, also in the town of Columbus to whom Gerd may or may not have been some what distantly related.

In the Republican-Journal in September-1855 there were two advertisements one of which was in the name of Henry Niemeyer who had taken up a stray heifer calf and asked the owner to come and get it: the other was Jacob Niemeyer from whose place in the town of Columbus, a red steer had wandered away, —he offered a reward to who ever might return it.

The Henry Niemeyer mentioned without doubt was Henry sr., an 1845 arrival (see installment No. 65) but nothing whatever has been found thus far concerning Jacob, whose red steer had strayed away.

Gerd's daughter, Miss Eliza, became the wife of Fred Duenow and they had six children as

follows: Walter, who married Miss Elsie Maudouse; Carl, whose wife was Miss Minnie Keeler, with one daughter Margaret, the wife of John Tobinsson, in service with the armed forces in Texas; Edwin, the husband of Miss Louise Kind, from which marriage there are two daughters, Clara who is Mrs. Walter Lewke, and Hazel, Mrs. Oscar Rake; Fred and Otto who live in Montana, Fred being unmarried while Otto has a wife and one daughter; and Lillie, who is Mrs. Otto Schaefer, of Columbus, who have two sons and two daughters.

The other daughter, Mary became wife of Herman Voigt, whose farm for years, is now one of the Kaasa farms, on highway 151 next beyond Miller's Avalon farm. The Voigt children are as follows: Ada who married Will Kind; Walter whose wife is Otilie Vick; Herbert who married Ruth Radke and have three girls and a boy; Clara and Fred, unmarried who live at 438 West Richmond st.; and Meta who married Elmer Weiland, Route 4, who live on the Niemeyer home place, and have three boys.

Fred H., the son was born in 1862 and he married Miss Anna M. Schilling.

A 1916 Atlas shows him as the owner of 130 acres in section 22 and 60 acres in section 27, the house being second beyond the Voigt farm (Kaasa's) on the right hand side.

John Brokopp is sure there was only one child a daughter, Eliza who married Henry J. Grady of Saukville, brother of Art Grady of this city. Mrs. Grady died a few years ago, leaving several children.

Gerd Henry Niemeyer and his wife Meta Alfs are buried in Hillside; the dates on the monument shows that he was born in 1826 and died in 1898, age 72, and his wife born in 1834 and died in 1902 aged 68.

Occupying the other half of the lot, with names and dates on the same monument are Arend Alfs, born 1799 died 1879, aged 80 and Meta Alfs born 1795 died 1879, aged 84.

Later in life the Gerd Niemeyers moved to town, buying the property at Ludington and School street, where their grandson Edwin Duenow now lives.

We regret that the only available picture of Mr. and Mrs. Gerd H. Niemeyer was too dim to be re-photographed.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 81

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The Bolton Family

From a 500 page volumn "Family of Bolton" privately printed in 1895 — but also including much data compiled by Rev. Robert Bolton A. M. published in 1862, we find on page 166 that the Wisconsin Boltons of York, Deansville, and Sun Prairie are descendents some of Jason and some of John Ward Bolton, who were descendents of Mr. Edward Bolton from Witney England, who came to the Manor House at Finstock in Oxfordshire England, because of his marriage to an heiress of the property.

This branch of the Bolton family runs back to at least as far as 1556 in which year one Henry Bolton was a burgess in Oxfordshire.

Edward mentioned above was one of many Edwards and was a deeply religious man, a personal friend of John Wesley one of the founders of Methodism.

Edward had three sons, of whom the older son was also Edward and according to the Genealogical Chart of this branch the older son and his children and childrens children, mostly, remained in England, with the exception of John Ward bolton his second son who emigrated to Deansville, Wisconsin, in 1856. He and his wife, Elizabeth Cox had two sons, James Edward Ward Bolton, William John Bolton, and two daughters Caroline Helen and Clara Edith.

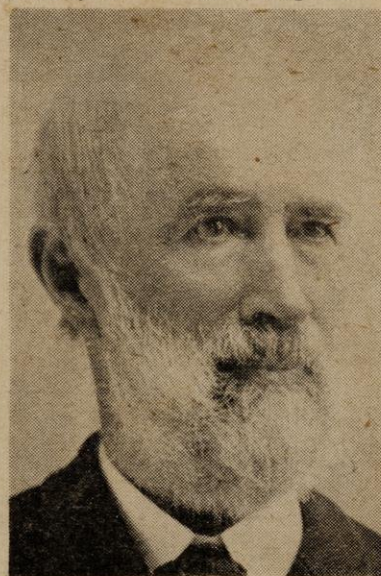
Jason in whom we are primarily interested, was born in England Dec. 14th, 1797, is listed on the chart only as having "emigrated to Wisconsin," and there the record stopped.

However from papers in the hands of Rev. Leroy C. Partch, which includes an abstract of title we find, that on June 26, 1845 Jason Bolton received from the United States a certificate of entry covering the S.W.¼ of S.W.¼ of Section 23 and the N.W.¼ of the N.W.¼ of Section 26 T 9 R 12 or 80 acres in the town of York a mile east of York Center.

Also that in Sept. 1848 he purchased and received a warranty deed from Edward Rankin covering the N.W.¼ of the S.W.¼ of Section 2, which adjoined, and gave him ownership of 120 acres.

Having interviewed Wm. Bolton of Waterloo, a 91 year old man, nephew of Jason and his

wife and daughter, we learn that Jason was twice married but never having known the first wife he does not recall her name. However one entry in the abstract mentions Jason Bolton and Olive Bolton. We understand that from this marriage there were several sons and daughters, a total of nine.



Jason Bolton

We know from the abstract mentioned above that Jason Bolton was in the territory of Wisconsin at least as early as 1845, and that he may have been here earlier.

After the death of his wife, which perhaps was in 1853 or 54, after putting in his crops in the spring he left his farming in the hands of his sons with instructions to see that the harvesting was properly done in the fall, he returned to England to marry Miss Alice Edge, and upon returning here late in the fall found that the and the years



Alice Edge Bolton

harvesting had not been done crops were almost ruined.

We have been unable to find a record of any names of the children from his first marriage, and only that "some of them went to Nebraska and Colorado. Mr. Wm. Bolton of Waterloo, recalls hearing that his uncle and aunt coming out from Milwaukee in a wagon, over uncertain roads, camped out over night under a large tree that still stands near the York cemetery beyond the turn in highway 73.

An interesting side light is shown in the photographic reproduction of a receipt issued to Jason Bolton by H. Vincent agent of the Milwaukee, Watertown and Baraboo Valley R.R. Co. Dec. 20th, 1858 showing that Mr. Bolton on that date shipped to H. Ransom, Milwaukee, 2 quarters of beef, weighing 235 lbs.

The railroad, originally called the Milwaukee and Watertown, had extended its rails to Columbus one year before in 1857, which event will be properly written up in the story of that year.

Alice Bolton Harris

The only child of Jason and Alice Edge Bolton, was Alice, who was born on the farm April 13th, 1855. When she was about 12 years of age her parents moved to Columbus where she continued her education.

An abstract of title shows that on June 30th, 1857 Jason Bolton purchased two acres on the east side of Waterloo road from Thomas Gardner and wife being part of a 20 acre tract once owned by William W. Drake and sold by him to Rev. Dudley Tyng (the abstract spelling is Thing) on July 18, 1851, who later sold it to John Williams and he to Thomas Gardner. On Aug. 1st, 1859 Jason Bolton placed a mortgage on the property for \$1268.37 giving a note running for three years bearing 12% interest annually.

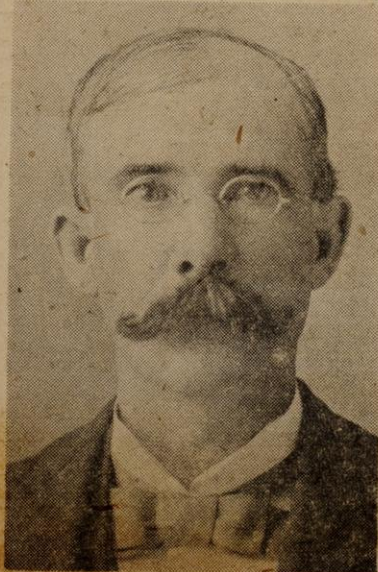
This property has been identified as that now owned and occupied by Richard P. Miller, the watchmaker, on Waterloo street.

This house became the Bolton residence when they moved to town in 1867.

When about 13 Alice Bolton united with the Methodist church of which she was a member until 1906 when she withdrew by letter and united with Olivet Congregational church.

When eighteen years of age in 1873 she was married to Edwin H. Harris and to them one son Floyd was born, who died at the age of 21 in 1897, at Durango, Colorado.

(Continued next week)



E. H. Harris



Mrs. Alice Harris



Floyd Harris

Installment No. 82

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Ed Harris whose family lived in Rio, came here to work as a carpenter when the large M.E. church was erected beginning in 1872. Later he was a cabinet maker in a furniture store and undertaking service, when caskets were still hand made, rather than factory jobs. In his later life Mr. Harris was inactive in business. He was a past master in the Masonic Lodge of Columbus; he died in 1920.

Mrs. Harris was very active in the Order of the Eastern Star, for well over 50 years having received a 50 year Gold Star of which she was very proud; was one of the organizers of Hillside Cemetery Association in 1905 and held the office of secretary continuously from 1905 until a few years ago; was a faithful member of Olivet church from 1906 until her death Sept. 1st, 1952, and for years made calls upon, the sick, the aged, the shut ins and every time she made a call she left a glass of home made jelly.

She ministered to the sick as a neighbor and friend, and in 1913 graduated as a practical nurse from the Chantaugqua School of Nursing, and continued in that work for about 25 years.

For a brief time after her marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harris lived in Rio, their came to Columbus

to live with her widowed mother in the family home on Waterloo street.

In 1896 George Stevens was building a house on what was then Broadway, which the Harrises fancied, so they bought it before it was completed. This home was never lived in by any one else and for the past 56 years has been the home of Mrs. Harris, and here her mother died in 1903.

For many years, Mrs. J. E. Bolton widow of a cousin of Mrs. Harris made her home with Mrs. Harris, then entered the Masonic Home at Dousman where she died a few months later several years ago. This lady was before her marriage, Mary Ann, one of the Vance sisters, a sister of Sarah Jane Vance, who was Mrs. O. M. Dering and mother of Guy V. Dering.

At the time of her death Mrs. Harris was the second oldest person living in Columbus, only James Quickenden being about fifty days older.

Various Church Societies

In previous installments we have recorded the formation of several different religious groups of specified denominations, one of which groups the First Congregational Church Society, which included also some of Presbyterian faith, had built a church building about 1850, which still stands upon its original site, the multiple apartment house on Mill street, opposite the Walker Lumber Co., and the first Calvinistic Methodist Welsh group which had built a log church three miles out on what is now highway 151, the Beaver Dam road, in 1846.

The German Methodists organized in 1852 but built no church until 1866; the Baptists formed a society in 1853 and completed a church building in 1864.

In 1855 a group of German farmers south of

Danville, most of whom had been Lutherans in the old country, feeling the need of a church home, joined with other neighbors after Rev. Jakob Haas, a missionary, had for some time held Methodist services in the German tongue, in homes in the neighborhood and organized a Methodist society and in 1869 built and dedicated a church.

German Lutherans

By 1855 there had been quite a heavy migration of Germans to this area, those of Bavaria and other Catholic German states settling in the area around East Bristol. While those from the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg and other Protestant German states found the area here to their liking.

The desire to enjoy religious privileges of their preference, with which they were familiar, led to the formation of a Lutheran society in Columbus in 1855.

The first ministrations, held in the homes, were by Rev. Fachtmann of Watertown and then by Rev. Oswald, who when private homes proved too small, held services in the old school house, a part of which is now the home of the N. B. Pomeroy at 426 S. Ludington.

Among these early members were the following families; Joachim, Christian, Henry and David Boelte, Henry Lange, Christian Westen, John Mauth, Joachim Herman, John and Christian Schwiesow, John C. Lang, Christian Miller, Fred Specht, Fred Kuhl, Charles Linck, Henry Niemeyer, John Topp, and many, many others whose names the writer does not have.

The first church building was built at the corner of Birdsey and Newcomb streets in 1859 while Rev. H. P. Duborg was pastor.

A more detailed account of subsequent buildings will be given in later installments.

Postal Facts

It was in 1855 that Registered Mail Service was established, and return receipts available, this making it possible for the sender of a letter to know that letter had reached the addressee.

Here are the years in which postal service started, and some of the developments.

In the beginning, there were no postage stamps, but the receiver of a letter was required to pay the charges which might be considerable, as were as long time in reaching him.

First Post Office in America was in 1639. Boston Post Road designated as a mail route in 1672. Benjamin Franklin named Deputy Postmaster (Colonial) 1753. Post Offices and post roads established 1782. First mail carried by steamship 1813. Abraham Lincoln named postmaster, New Salem, Illinois 1833. First railroad designated "Post Roads" 1838. Post Office opened in Columbus, H. A. Whitney named postmaster, see installment No. 26, 1845. Gummed postage stamps adopted, but privately printed, and purchased by postmasters for resale 1855.

(Continued next week)

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

From the Columbus Republican of Dec. 13th, 1855 we take the following notices all referring to the mails, and please bear in mind this was before the coming of the railroad, and movement was by either horse back or by a horse drawn stage.

Columbus Mail Arrangement

The mails arrive and depart as follows: Eastern and Southern daily mail, via Madison, (where the railroad from Milton ended) arrives at 10 o'clock a. m.; departs 1 o'clock p. m.

Northern daily mail, via Beaver Dam and Fond du Lac, arrives at 12 a. m.; departs, 10½ o'clock a. m.

Eastern mail via Watertown (where the railroad did not reach until 1856) and Milwaukee, arrives Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at 6 o'clock p. m. Departs Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 6 o'clock a. m.

Northern and western mail, via Portage city, arrives Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 o'clock, p. m.; departs Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 7 o'clock a. m.

Eastern mail, via Lowell and Oak Grove, departs Wednesdays at 7 o'clock a. m., arrives (comes back) same day at 6 o'clock p. m.

Southern mail, via York Center and Hanchettville, arrives Fridays at 12 a. m.; departs same day at 12 a. m.

(Can any reader tell us where Hanchettville was and its present name?)

End of 1855.

Daily Mail From Milwaukee (Editorial)

What is the reason that we cannot have a daily mail from Milwaukee? We have a daily stage now, and we are certain that with a little exertion on the part of our citizens would secure the object.

The advantage this would accrue to our businessmen are manifold. The state of the market at Milwaukee regulates the prices of our market, and the fluctuations of the former market often embarrasses our produce dealers, when if they were in receipt of the prices current at Milwaukee daily they could act advisably and regulate our prices accordingly. They would not be buying on an uncertainty, but would know what they could give without running any risk. We are all interested, and we hope that proper measures will be taken to secure the desired object.

Prepayment By Stamps

The Washington Union calls attention to the fact that by the law of March 3rd 1855, requiring the postage on all letters, not sent free, sent by mail within the United States, and not from or to a foreign country, to be prepaid, it was also enacted that from and after January 1, 1856 "the Postmaster General may require postmasters to place postage stamps upon all prepaid letters upon which stamps may not have been placed by the writers".

The Union also learns that "the Postmaster General has decided to require postmasters to comply with, and carry into effect, this provision of the law," and "if not already done, to supply themselves with postage stamps accordingly by sending their orders for them to the Third Assistant Postmaster General".

Of course it is not intended nor expected that this regulation shall throw upon postmasters the labor of affixing postage stamps

to letter where the writers might without inconvenience, have done it for themselves.

The main thing is for postmasters to keep themselves supplied with stamps, that all persons having occasion to use may readily obtain them.

T. Laidley — Columbus, January 10, 1856

To give some idea of the names of people in the area for whom there were letters, uncalled for, at the Post Office in Columbus as of February 15th 1856, the following is the list advertised in the paper of February 21st by postmaster A. Griswold.

Baker, C. K.	Morgan, J. W.
Baker, William	Pickett, Joseph
Babcock, Miss Eliza	Potter, Jace B.
Bennett, Isaac	Robinson, Samuel
Cowles, M.	Raymond, N. N.
Coe, J. C.	Robinson, Nathaniel
Crow, William G.	Robinson, Noah
Davis, John	Roberts, A.
Durard, O. J.	Rapp, George
Dexter, Thomas	Stevenson, William,
Estabrook, Jonathan	Shannon, Henry A.
Foss, Mrs. Sarah N.	Trunk, J. A.
Good, T. J.	Wallace G. T. 2
Jones, John	Wallace G.
Jones, H. E.	Waugh, William
Johnson, A. A.	Wallace, Thompson
Keyes, P. C.	Willis, O. H.
Lloyd, S. M.	Vale, Martha
McDougal, Archibald	Vanderheoff, James

Foreign

Franz, John	Mhoring, Michael
Hensel, Henrich	Weilsen, Taussten
Heidebrecht, Johan	Puff, Michael
Heiman, M.	Paschen, Tochim
Heirdalt, Jacob W.	Rush, Michael
Kule, Fr.	Shafer, Joseph
Linder, George	Sibert, John
Mullen, Ferdinand	Thompson, Mr.
Moret, Carl	A. Griswold, P. M.

January 10, 1856

Thos Laidley who had opened a candy making and ice cream business in November 1855, advertising that he would manufacture candies of every description, and sell at both wholesale and retail, including Ice cream, Pyramid Cakes, Iced and mottos to order for Balls, Weddings, or Parties, inserted a new advertisement in January, 1856 as follows.

Thos Laidley No. 9, James street (opposite Maynards,) Begs to announce to his numerous patrons and friends that having completed his repairs and in addition to his store has fitted up a room for the express use of ladies, and gentlemen accompanying ladies, where he will serve up Oysters on the most approved New York style at the unusually low prices of twenty five cents per dish, Fried, Stewed or Raw.

He has also made extensive arrangements with oyster dealers in Madison; he is prepared to furnish families with quantity at 75 cents per can and warrant them fresh or the money returned. Another ad in the same issue read "Sportsmen Arouse! For the time has come when you should all be on the alert for Laidley wants 100 DOZEN QUAIL every week. Also 1000 pounds TURKEYS, Also 1000 pounds CHICKENS for which he will pay cash at his Confectionary Store.

(Continued next week)

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

John B. Cleveland

John B. Cleveland, was born in Saratoga Co. N. Y. in 1819, lived with his parents until 1837 then went to Ashtabula Co., Ohio where he learned the mercantile 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 farm 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.

He was married in 1845 to Miss Julia Coleman of Ashtabula, 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 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.

Emmons E. Chapin

One of the prominent lawyers and politicians of early Columbus was E. E. Chapin.

He was born July 14, 1829 at Venice, Cayuga county, N. Y. received an academic education and became a lawyer; was married in 1853 to Miss Emily Blanchard of Aurelius, N. Y. and in Oct. 11854 came to Wisconsin locating in Oconomowoc and moved to Columbus in Jan. 1856.

His wife was a sister of Col. H. W. Blanchard a Wisconsin pioneer of 1836 who later located in Watertown as proprietor of the Blanchard Mills.

Undoubtedly Mr. Chapin learned of the opportunities in the new state of Wisconsin and was influenced in his decision to go west, by his brother-in-law.

Mr. Chapin was a democrat in politics and for many years was a member of the Democratic State Central Committee, participating in every congressional and state convention from 1857 to 1879, and although often urged to become a candidate for office, he always refused, being content to hold local office of non-partisan character.

He was one of the trustees and also supervisor of the village in 1872-3. In the fall of 1873 when it was determined to incorporate as a city form of government, he was appointed by the trustees to draft a charter and procure the necessary legislation for its enactment.

The city charter was drafted by him, passed in the legislature and approved by the governor Feb. 26, 1874 and Columbus became a city, although there was considerable opposition.

In 1874 Mr. Chapin was appointed by the governor as a member of the state board of Charities and Reform of which he became vice-

president and had much to do towards inaugurating the present system of prison management and discipline.

Mr. Chapin was elected president of the Board of Education that organized, the Columbus free high school under a state law passed in 1875. He was president of the board for several years and in 1878 presented the diplomas to the first graduating class of seven who were Laura Bassett, Mary R. Cook, Julia M. Davies, Carrie Genung, Nellie Ida Loomis, Elouise M. Stephens and Genevieve A. Stephens.

He was one of the charter members of Columbus Lodge F & AM Mason No. 75 which received its charter in June 1856, and subsequently became master, and in 1875 he became deputy grand master of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.

There were two Chapin sons, Herbert who was an employe of the C.M. & St. R.R. Co. and Clarence still at home attending school as of 1880. James Quickenden says the Chapin Home was on Prairie street and that the Chapins moved to Milwaukee where he became a prominent attorney.

A check of the abstract of title shows that Mr. Chapin bought the lots at corner of Main and Prairie from Wm. A. Polly in 1867 and sold his property to Samuel Hasey in July, 1882.

The house was newly build for Mr. Chapin probably in the late sixties and the sale to Samuel Hasey establishes the approximate time that Chapin moved to Milwaukee.

Nothing is known as to where he may have lived from his arrival in Jan. 1856 and the building of the new house some twelve years or so later.

This property, known as the Hasey home is at 415 W. Prairie and is now the home of Edwin Quentmeyer.

Also there probably was an older house on the property, either torn down or more likely moved away to a different location to make room for the Chapin residence.

While Butterfield does not state that Mr. Chapin ever lived in Watertown, he does mention that Mrs. Chapin was a sister of Col. Blanchard of Watertown, owner of the Blanchard Mills.

This writer believes that Mr. Chapin may have lived in Watertown before coming here, or at least that he was a partner in a Watertown business for a Republican-Journal of Nov. 1st, 1855 contains an advertisement of French and Chapin, Storage, Forwarding, and Produce Commission Merchants, at the Red Warehouse, Watertown, Wisconsin.

Liberal advances made on property in store for sale or shipment and consignments respectfully solicited. Signed F. L. French, E. E. Chapin.

It does not seem likely that there would be two different men with the same name and initials.

It should also be remembered that the Milwaukee and Watertown Railroad was under construction between Oconomowoc and Watertown which meant that Watertown was to shortly become an important rail head, which would greatly shorten the haul of the wheat, corn, cattle, hogs and sheep raised in areas north, west or south of Watertown to reach the markets in Milwaukee and beyond.

Mr. Chapin's keen trained legal mind could have been an asset for a partner with forwarding experience, and also Mr. Chapin may have had some idle money and wanted to put it to work.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 85

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

John A. Erhart

Among the many young Germans who emigrated to America in the early 1850's because of the political unrest, and to avoid enforced military service in Germany, was John Erhart who came to America in 1853 but did not come to this area until a few years later.

He was born in Saxony, one of the German states Sept. 1, 1834 and was four years old when his father John R. Erhart died. His mother Louisa married Ferdinand Baerwoldt, and with him emigrated to Columbus, Wisconsin in 1856.

However her son John A. Erhart had come to America in 1853 when nineteen years of age, after having served a three years apprenticeship in a harness shop.

He came to Milwaukee, then the goal and center of German emigrants, and worked in a harness shop for a year.

In 1854 he went to Fox Lake and worked for two years in the harness shop of J. R. Decker, who later became a newspaper publisher here in Columbus, founding the Republican in Oct. 1868.

In the spring of 1856, then twenty three years of age young Erhart, having carefully saved his wages, was able to buy a half interest in a harness shop in Beaver Dam which he sold at a profit in the fall, and came to Columbus, becoming a partner with Edward Vedder, which relationship lasted two and a half years when he bought out Mr. Vedder and became sole owner.

In Oct., 1858 he was married to Miss Caroline Liebing, of Columbus, a native of Germany, and to them was born Annie, Ida, Charles A., and Oscar T.

He built a home on Manning street, being the rear part of the Krause home at 518 E. Manning st., and late in 1874 or early 1875 he built the house at 428 West James, now the home of John L. Albright, having sold the Manning st. house to Julius Engelke who a year later sold it to August Krause who in 1876 built the front part of the house.

Mr. Erhart was one of the town supervisors in 1866 and a member of the village board for two years and when Columbus went under a city form of government, he became a member of the council in 1880.

He became a member of Columbus Lodge No. 775, F & A Masons in 1859.

Mr. Erhart and all members of his family were members of the Lutheran church.

James Quickenden says that Oscar Erhart became a druggist and went to Minneapolis, where he had charge of the drug department in a large department store.

Fred Liebing, 141 So. Main st., is a nephew of Mrs. Erhart, and from him we learn that both Annie and Ida Erhart as well as the two sons, went to Minneapolis, both the girls married there, Charles became a real estate operator, and

Oscar later left Minneapolis and opened a drug store of his own in La Crosse.

The Erhart house, now the Albright home was one of the many fine homes built by R. D. Vanaken, grandfather of Mrs. Albright, Mrs. Eichberg, Mrs. Bunsen and Mrs. Rudolph Lueders, and of Clark Smith, now dead, and Charles Smith now of Janesville, all children of Mr. and Mrs. T. Jefferson Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Erhart in later life, after all their children had located in Minneapolis, also moved to that city, where both are buried.

Julius (Fuchs) Fox

Among the 1856 arrivals was Julius Fuchs who shortly Anglized his name to Fox. He was born in Prussia one of the East German states, Nov. 19th, 1827 his father, William was a German tailor or "Schneider" and his mother Wilhelmina Kazloskike was of Polish descent.

As was customary in all parts of Germany for boys to learn a trade Julius at the age of fourteen was entered upon a four years apprenticeship at the shoemakers trade in the town of Reetz, and after serving his time he was put into a job of traveling salesman in various other parts of Europe which work he carried on for eleven years.

In 1855, at Reetz, he was married to Miss Kazloskie, a daughter of Gottlieb and Caroline

Breuning, which indicates that her mother, probably a widow, had married again to Mr. Breuning an uncle or at least a kinsman of Gustave Breuning who has been written up in a previous article in this series.

In May 1856 the couple sailed from Hamburg for New York from where they came directly to Watertown where they stopped for a short time with friends or relatives until Fox could decide upon a suitable location which proved to be Columbus where a sister in law, a widow Mrs. Gottlieb Breuning had settled a short time before.

He opened a shoremaking shop and store here which he conducted for nine years, during which time, from 1858 to 1861 his nephew Gustav Breuning was apprenticed to him to learn the shoemakers trade.

Fox then farmed for a year or so and then switched to grain buying and selling for a short time until he bought the Hotel Whitney in 1868 changing its name to the Fox house which he conducted for several years.

As of 1880 besides the Hotel which he owned and operated. he was the owner of 400 acres in the town of Columbus and was father of five living children and three dead.

At some later date, unknown as this is written, Mr. Fox became involved in extensive litigation with Mr. John Sutton, and some time thereafter the Fox family all moved to Minnesota.

None of the descendants live in this area and the Julius Fox family were not related in any way to the several Fox families in this area.

(Continued next week)



John Erhart



E. E. Chapin



Herbert Chapin

Installment No. 86

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Richard D. Vanaken, Sr.

One of the foremost carpenters and builders of early day Columbus was R. D. Vanaken who was born in Ulster County, N. Y. in 1830.

At the age of 15 he became apprenticed to the carpenter and joiners trade at Kingston, N. Y. and continued in the business there until 1856. When he came to Wisconsin, locating in Columbus, then a thriving and promising village, which he decided, offered a good future to a builder who also had considerable knowledge of architecture.

With him came his wife the former Miss Charlotte Eckert and perhaps one or two of their three children.

Butterfield's history of Columbia County published in 1880 credits him with having been the contractor on many of the most prominent business blocks, churches, and residences built between 1857 and 1880, and specifically credits him with having built at least three of our churches; the Lueders and Krause block (Columbus Milk & Ice Cream Co.); the C. Leitsch block (Wood & Alff or Derings and the tavern next door); the Griswold block (Krogers); the H. M. Brown, (B & E Gift Shop) the Union Bank (now the Telephone Co.) and the residences of F. Farnham (Henry Altschwager); A. Sexton (Robert Eilerts home); Lucius Fuller, (Fred Raether); Dan'l Fuller, (Zeigler home); James Fayette Allen (Jones Funeral Home); John A. Erhert, (John Albright); and many others in the city and surrounding country, and not less than two hundred sixty in the area, according to Butterfield.

It is known that Mr. Vanaken worked closely with Henry Boelte, then the leading masonry contractor, the former taking the contract for all wood work, mill work and painting, while the latter would contract to do the foundations, almost invariably of native lime stone, the brick work and the plastering, on many jobs they did together.

Mr. Vanaken, served as a member of the city council, as did his younger son R. D. Vanaken Jr.

The Vanaken home was the square house at 401 East James street.

There were two sons and a daughter, Wilson the older was

also a carpenter working with his father, while R. D. Jr. was a telegrapher in his younger days but later became a veterinarian, his place of

business being on the north side of James street about where Marshall Wright's Used Car lot now is.

It was in the building his father had built as a planeing mill and sash and door factory.

The daughter Mary, became the wife of T. Jefferson Smith and mother of two sons Clark, deceased; Charles, now living in Janesville; Sadie, Mrs. Rudie Lueders; Laura, Mrs. George Bunsen; Carrie, Mrs. Harry Eichberg and Katharine, Mrs. John Albright all of this city.



Dr. R. D. Vanaken

Mr. Vanaken died in 1918 and his wife in 1895.

George Holtz, who in his younger days was in the lumber and building material business, says that he has figured a great many estimates and sold building material to a great many different people and that Mr. R. D. Vanaken was one of the finest, fairest, most pleasant man he ever knew.

From his obituary in the local paper we quote "For many years, or until the infirmities of age forbade, he followed the vocation of building contractor, employing a force of men erecting buildings of all kinds. It is said that nearly one half of the buildings now in the city, both residence and business places were erected by him.

He was engaged in this work at a time when there was little mill work to be had as now, all the work of making mouldings, brackets and other furnishings having to be done by hand.

Many of the farm buildings now standing in this vicinity were built by him. He would go into the woods with his men when the trees were felled and the timbers prepared for the buildings, his gang doing all the work from the felling of the trees to the completion of the building."

Copies of early Columbus papers, indicate that a small sash and door mill was established here in 1855 by Thayer & Tomkins, but evidently they were not equipped to make mouldings. At a later date Mr. Vanaken had a small shop of his own, in which he made up his own sash, frames and doors.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 86

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Newton A. Robinson

Newton Robinson who clerked in several different stores here, was born in Glens Falls, Warren Co., N. Y. Aug. 19th, 1828, a son of William and Lydia Warner Robinson.

When only 15 or 16 years old Newton began working in a store at Glens Falls remaining as a clerk until 1850 when he took a better job in Granville, Washington Co., N. Y. in a store where he stayed five years, and then decided to go west.

In 1855 he came to Dodge county, Wis. and stopped in Randolph for the winter, but in the spring of 1856 he took a job of clerking in the store of Daniel E. Bassett in Danville, with whom he remained for two years and a half when he began working in the other Danville store owned by Ed. H. Silsbee who was a brother-in-law of Dan'l Bassett.

After a year he came to Columbus and worked as a clerk for Uriah Davis and Silas Axtel in the dry goods store of Davis & Axtel on lower James st. with which firm he remained until 1869.

He then worked one year for Fuller Brothers, in their store which was in the building occupied by Harry Eichberg and his father, Wm. Eichberg before him for a great many years as a shoe store, and then three years for Farnham, Allen & Co., grain dealers, whose elevator was the building at Broadway and the Ry. freight depot, now occupied by the Columbus Co-op Shipping association.

He was town treasurer in 1869 and became town clerk in 1872. In Jan. 1879 he became bookkeeper for J. S. Manning at the Mill.

What he did after the Manning mill passed into other hands is not known to the writer.

In 1860 Mr. Robinson was married to Miss Francis J. Mallo, daughter of D. Mallo, editor and publisher of the Columbus Journal-Republican which paper was founded in 1855.

Mrs. Robinson died in 1875 leaving a son Newton F.; time or place of Mr. Newton Robinson's death has not been found.

John K. Foster

The Fosters were well known and prominent in the Fall River community when this writer came to Columbus in 1902.

We are indebted to Mrs. Katharine Foster Dyer

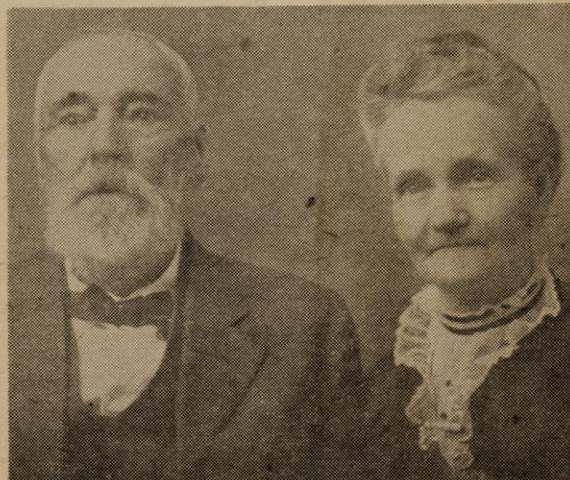
of Long Beach, Calif. now in her 75th year for much of the information herein, given in a letter dated April 5th, 1952.

John Knapp Foster, born in Middlefield, Otsego county, N. Y. Aug. 15th, 1832, was the fourth child of Orin Foster and Emeline Knapp Foster.

John K. Foster was married Jan. 26th, 1852 to Catharine Decker of Cherry Valley, N. Y.

They lived in New York state the first four or five years of their married life and to them were born two sons, Adolphus Devere, and Fayette Corneilus, the former in 1854 and the latter in 1856, before they came west.

Sometime shortly following, perhaps in the fall of 1856 or the spring of 1857 the family came



Mr. and Mrs. John Knapp Foster

to Wisconsin but just where they first located is not clear.

Mrs. Dyer writes "I have heard my father tell of delivering grain by oxen in Milwaukee before the railroad was put through".

A third child Mary Elizabeth was born Oct. 5, 1861 at Brothertown, Wis.

Mrs. Dyer says "As Mary E. was born in Brothertown (which is on the east shore of Lake Winnebago) and father spent a winter in the north at what is now known as Rice Lake. While he was running a hotel at Brothertown, he must have spent some time there."

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 87

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

"He was taking supplies north by ox train, when he was snowed in and camped until spring at the Rice Lake site, proceeding on north at break of winter."

"He returned to Fountain Prairie in the early sixties, later moving to the township of Columbus where John Jr. was born in 1866.

Since Mrs. Dyer uses the words "returned to", it perhaps means that when first coming from N. Y. they came to Fountain Prairie, and after an absence of a few years at Brothertown and or elsewhere, "returned to" Fountain Prairie.

She refers to the farm being "east of the John T. Pick farm and across the highway. The John Pick farm of 60 acres is shown on a map in an Atlas dated 1890, as the N. W. corner of section 6 town of Columbus, so east of and across the highway would put this farm some place in section 31 of Fountain Prairie.

Mrs. Dyer says "in 1868 he returned to what is now known as the Turkey Farm west of Columbus on highway 16, which definitely locates the farm as that shown in the same Atlas as the F. C. Foster land laying in sections 29 and 32, totaling 493 acres" on which farm Katharine M. Foster was born May 2, 1877. "While there John K. not only bought and shipped stock but became well known as an auctioneer".

"Mr. and Mrs. John Foster were always to be relied on to help care for the sick, or to lay out the dead, and even took charge of many funerals.

Mrs. Foster attended at many births."

"In 1884 they moved to the Batchelder place in Fall River where the mother died in 1886."

"On July 3, 1888, John K. Foster was married to Elizabeth Baxendall and from this second marriage was born, Jeanette Alice in 1889; Bessie Emeline, in 1891 and Jessie Merab, in 1894."

Mrs. Dyer says "most of the old timers you have written about bring back childhood memories to me.

Mrs. Nellie Proctor Andrews, was my second teacher and Walter, Clara, Fred and Adelaide Proctor were school mates."

John K. Foster organized and became president of the Fall River Bank and owned many buildings in Fall River. He died in 1924.

Jones' history of Columbia Co. page 707 published in 1914 gives considerably more detail about John K. Foster, and differs only slightly from what Mrs. Dyer has written.

But little has been ascertained about the elder son Adolphus, excepting that he married and farmed in the Fall River area, and that all of his heirs went to California many years ago.

Likewise we have no information about Mary Elizabeth other than that she was born Oct. 5, 1861.

F. C. Foster

Fayette C. Foster, second son of John K. Foster was born in 1856 and was an infant when his parents came west, and became a farmer and stockman, like his father.

He married Miss Kate Miller, daughter of the William Millers of Green Lake County, and together developed one of the finest country estates in Columbia county where they resided until about forty years ago when they moved to California.

Mr. Foster became the owner of 297 acres of his father's land, and his wife owned 194 acres adjoining on the east.

They raised a family of eight children, Carl, Annie Lauri who died just after finishing high school when about seventeen, Carl, Faynette, Ralph, Wayne, Beatrice and John.

Earl and Carl when young men homesteaded land in Western Canada but returned to Wisconsin later.

All the living children except Earl, went to California at the time the parents moved there.

Earl married Miss Carrie Sutton oldest daughter of the H. Eugene Suttons, and lived for some years in the large home at 444 West Prairie st., built by S. W. Andrews and now the home of the W. J. Dunns.

Earl, for some years was associated with John Blanchard in buying, feeding and selling lambs and sheep in the sheds north of Columbus and west of the Beaver Dam road.

Earl died on July 8, 1927 and is buried at Hillside, leaving his widow, now a resident of Hollywood, Calif., and three children, Gordon, of Hollywood, who is a professional musician, having his own band, and is also manager of a department of the famous farmers market at Hollywood.

He is married but has no children.

Ruth, the only daughter, became Mrs. Karl Francis of Houghton, Mich. They have two boys Steven and Karl Jr.

Russell, the youngest son, is a C.P.A. and is a chief accountant in the business office of the University of which he is a graduate of the school of Commerce and Business Administration. Russell lives in Middleton with his wife, the former Jane Park of Champaign, Ill. and have three children, Nancy, Susan and Betsey.

Fayette C. Foster had a number of interests aside from his farming operations; Director of the Fall River bank, one of the organizers and incorporators, and first president of Fall River Canning Co., and is believed to have had an interest, with others from this area, in the Rib Lake Lumber Co.

John Foster Jr.

John Foster Jr. was born Jan. 21st, 1867, grew up on the farm and was married to Miss Mary Louisa Babcock of Fall River, a sister of Mrs. J. L. Engelke.

They farmed at different places before moving to Fall River, where he built the large home across the street from Kreyer Machine Co.

He continued to own and operate farm land after moving to town.

To them were born four daughters, Phyllis, Prudence, Catharine and Viola.

This Foster family moved to California in 1914 and located on a few acres at the edge of Long Beach where Mr. Foster built a few houses. This piece of land was in the Signal Hill area and when oil was discovered there, several wells were drilled on the Foster land and the royalty coming in every month since has made the family independent of financial worries. Mr. Foster died in 1941.

Katharine Foster Dyer

Katharine M. Foster, the fifth child of John K. Foster was born May 2, 1877, grew up and attended school in the area, and was married to Mr. G. L. Dyer of Fall River, a son of George Hazard Dyer, emigrants to Wisconsin from Dutchess County, N. Y.

Since Wayne B. Dyer, second settler in Fountain Prairie, was also from Dutchess County, N. Y. it is possible that the two Dyer families came from the same ancestors, and were descendants of Col. Charles Dyer.

Mrs. Catharine Decker Foster (the first Mrs. John K.) died in 1886, and in 1888 Mr. Foster was married to Miss Elizabeth Baxendall, daughter, of P. P. Baxendall a farmer in Fountain Prairie, and from this marriage, three daughters were born.

Jeanette Alice, born in 1889, unmarried, is a well known artist in Chicago whose specialty is painting on glass; the writer has seen some of her work painting "in reverse" on glass which is then silvered to become a mirror. She works in water color as well as in oils.

The second daughter, Bessie Emmaline, was born in 1891 and is now Mrs. Maurice T. Carr of Berwyn, Ill. whose husband has for many years been connected with the Western Electric Co.

Their children are Betty Lynn, Mrs. Richard Johnstone; John Maurice, in college; Robert Foster, in the armed forces in Germany, which interrupted his work in an art school; Richard Wayne, a student in Illinois Normal School, and Kathleen in secretarial work in Chicago.

(Continued next week)



Gordon



Earl



Fayette C

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

The youngest daughter of John K. Foster is Jessie Merab, now Mrs. Roy Udell of Fall River, Mrs. Udell and her children being the only descendants of John K. Foster still in the area.

The Udell children are, Foster, who married Miss Carolyn Plumb of Beloit, and they have one young son, Richard. Foster Udell served in World War II and for a number of years has been with the Ray-O-Vac Company in Madison and for quite some time has been in charge of certain still secret research for the government, now under development at Ray-O-Vac.

John, the second Udell son is a senior and Gerald, the third is a junior both in Fall River high school.

Mrs. Udell is an alumna of Columbus high school, her class having held a class reunion in the summer of 1952.

Dr. George M. Paine

Dr. George M. Paine was born in Orwell County, Pa., near the N. Y. State line, a son of Edward Lathrop Paine and grandson of Rev. Edward Paine.

His father was a country store keeper at Orwell, then a furniture manufacturer at Elmira, N. Y.

Several years later he moved to Canistio, on a river of same name in Steuben Co., N. Y. where he bought two saw mills, one on each side of the river.

One mill, which had been idle he converted to the manufacture of furniture, and the other he continued to run as a saw mill, and also operated two stores, one in each of the two lumber camps.

The lumber market was Baltimore and the only means of transportation was to float it in rafts, down the Canistio to the Delaware and on to Chesapeake Bay and Baltimore.

The men in charge of the rafts had to walk back, across Maryland, Penna., and into N. Y. state, or get lifts when possible with farmers or teamster going north.

Thus the young George M. Paine grew up with first hand knowledge of logging, lumbering, saw mills and store keeping.

As the children grew older Mr. Paine, in order to give the family better home surroundings, schools etc. then moved to Addison, a sizable village, several miles down river, where he also rented a building and operated a third store.

George Paine First attended school in Elmira, then at Canistio where his sister Elizabeth taught the school, and then Addison academy.

When sixteen he went to Rochester to learn dentistry in the dental office of Dr. Ansel A. Morgan, who was called Dr. although he had no degree for at that time there was no school to confer the degree.

After a year or two with Dr. Morgan he bought out a dentist Dr. Lawrence at Bath, County seat of Steuben County, where he practiced two years.

He then spent a year at Alfred Academy, Alfred Center, N. Y. This was a Seventh Day Adventist institution, which later became known as Alfred University; While there Paine practiced dentistry on the boys and girls attending, to earn the money for his tuition and living expenses.

Late in 1854 or 55 Dr. Paine, his brother Charles and his father all decided to take a look at the west, perhaps because an uncle Joseph Bibbins and family had already located in or near Chicago.

They went on to Milwaukee by rail, the connecting link at Kenosha having been laid only shortly before. They hired a spring wagon with

a canopy top to drive around the country and drove from Milwaukee as far as Portage City where they arrived the day before Christmas. Dr. Paine wrote "I remember it was so warm that we rode with our coats off. The next day, however, there was as bad a blizzard as I ever saw. I decided to go back to Columbus, which seemed to me a bright village, and practice my profession there. My father and Charles went back to Milwaukee for the winter and the next spring my father located at Oskosh."

The Republican-Journal of Jan. 3rd, 1856 mentions to arrival here of Dr. George M. Paine of Rochester, N. Y. to open up a dentists office, and suggests that there should be liberal support as a good dentist was badly needed here.

Since there was not enough professional business to keep him busy. Dr. Paine engaged in considerable outside activity as the following excerpts from his letters indicate.

"The next spring my father located in Oshkosh (where he started a saw mill called Paine Lumber Co., which later became a very large operator and is still in existence).

"I used to get lumber from the Oshkosh mill, which was sent to Beaver Dam and which I had hauled from there to Columbus to a small lumber yard I started there."

"At one time, (in a trade) I acquired a fine new hickory buggy, made in Watertown, which I sent up to Oshkosh. Mr. Philetus Sawyer saw the buggy and took a great fancy to it. It had a pole as well as shafts. Mr. Sawyer (who later became one of Wisconsin's United States Senators) said it was just what he needed for a political campaign on which he was entering, and gave me in trade for it several hundred acres of wild land which had been cut over.

"After a little I traded the land for dry goods in Milwaukee, and was able to secure a half interest in a dry goods store in Columbus."

(The store in question was that of Hulburt and Dodge, from which Mr. Hulburt withdrew late in 1857, according to a news item in the paper of that time.)

"Mr. Dodge, my partner, had the sign painted Paine and Dodge. I moved my



George M. Paine

once over the store, and practiced dentistry in my spare moments."

"I was thus a very busy man in my five or six years in Columbus."

"Another activity in which I engaged was selling land (lots) on commission for James T. Lewis (later governor) who owned a village plat. (West Columbus). He told me that I was much more

successful in selling lots than he was and gladly named a price on a tract of land, divided in various lots, and let me have anything I could get above the price he fixed.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 89

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

"I built a brick house on one of these lots, and boarded with occupants, Mr. and Mrs. Ireton. He was a clerk at our store."

"Later, when my father's business at Oshkosh needed me, I disposed of my interest in the store at Columbus, bringing goods with me as my share of the sale. I sold my partner, Mr. Dodge, my house, and sold my other real estate in Columbus."

"While in Columbus I became acquainted with a family by the name of Smith. The father was a local Methodist preacher, who had (lived on) a farm two or three miles from (N.W. of) Columbus. There were two or three children.

The oldest boy, Clinton Smith, sold his farm, went to Ripon and opened a bank, where he did well. I used to correspond with him and on my visits to Ripon I would stay at the hotel, but would visit with them a good deal."

"Clinton Smith told me in a letter that he and his wife had made the acquaintance of a fine lady, Miss Martha Wheeler, the music teacher in Ripon College, and had become much interested in her. They said she was of fine family and as nice a woman as they had ever met. On a visit to Ripon I met her and became acquainted. She was a remarkable singer, which helped win my heart. We became engaged and were married on Candlemas Day, 1863 in New York City at the home of her aunt."

These most interesting and somewhat intimate personal notes are from a memo written in 1916 by George M. Paine, then President of Paine Lumber Co., Oshkosh, who 96 years ago was a dentist and business man in Columbus.

This information came to this writer, through correspondence with Mr. George Paine Nevett, currently President Paine Lumber Co., a grandson of Dr. Paine, and who at this time is District Governor of Rotary in this, the 210th district of R. I.

The Rev. Smith referred to was E. J. Smith probably a brother of T. Clark Smith, Dennis, Joseph and Lewis Smith all of whom have been written up in early installments.

Dr. Payne's first office was on lower James street above a store, and later when he became a partner with G. T. Dodge in a brick building on Ludington st., he moved his office there.

Later, as stated, he sold his interests here and joined his father in business at Oshkosh, where the Paine Lumber Co. is, now in the 5th generation, still one of the leading industries in that city.

Within a few week, of his locating here, Dr. Paine was routed out by a night fire, in the Silsbee building on lower James st. where his office and sleeping room was located. From the Journal of Jan. 1856 we quote in part "The heaviest loss was to the building. Some of the goods in the store of Messrs. Axtell and Davis were damaged by water which came down from the floor above, where the fire was. Mr. Hammond the Daguerreo artist and ambrotypist, Dr. Paine, dentist and Mr. Kile who occupies a part of the building as a dwelling, suffered loss. The

worst we have to tell is that Dr. Paine's pocket book, which was dropped in the confusion, was preferred of forty or fifty dollars."

Who Was Butterfield?

This writer has frequently been asked this question, and like others he has wondered if he was a relative of one of the several Butterfield families who lived in Columbus in the 1850's.

We knew that he must have been a professional writer of history for in 1880, the Western Historical Company, Chicago published County Histories for several counties in Wisconsin, including Columbia, Dodge and Dane, and we do not know how many other counties.

Our Columbus Library has copies of both Columbia and Dodge county histories, as do also many of the descendants from pioneer families, but the library had none of Dane county.

In order to do justice to pioneers who had settled in neighboring York and Bristol townships, the Wisconsin Historical Society, supplied this writer on loan, a surplus copy of a History of Dane county, and we are now in position to tell you who Mr. Butterfield was, and since we have quoted him so frequently we are sure our many readers will be glad to know about this friend and benefactor "who they have never met."

C. W. Butterfield

He was a son of parents who moved from Brattleboro, Vt. to the village of Colosse, Oswego county, N. Y. where Charles was born July 28, 1824; Ten years later the family moved to Seneca county, Ohio.

The son's early advantages for education were limited, his studies beyond the district school, were entirely self imposed and without instruction.

At the age of 18 (1842) he returned to N. Y. and began teaching district school in Chantauqua county, N. Y.

He afterward attended two terms at the State Normal school at Albany, N. Y. but because of failing health, he quit school and spent a few months traveling in Europe, returning to his parents home in Ohio, in the fall of 1846.

In 1847 he turned his attention to writing, doing a history of Seneca county, Ohio which was published in book form the following year. This volumn was said to have been the first strictly county history ever issued in separate book form west of the Alleghany Mountains.

Also in 1847, when he was only 23 years of age he was elected superintendent of schools of Seneca county, and re-elected again the following year.

Upon the discovery of Gold in California early in 1849 he resigned to join a group making an overland trip to California.

The next year he became a candidate for superintendent of Public Instruction, but was defeated by only a few votes.

In 1851 he returned to Ohio, studied law, and in 1855 entered into the practice of law in Bucyrus, Crawford county, Ohio, after having served during the previous year as secretary of the Ohio and Indiana Railroad company.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 90

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

In spite of his law practice he found time to write and published in 1858 a treatise on punctuation, which was highly acclaimed and "commended for the accuracy of its definitions, the clearness of its arrangements, and the choice of language." In 1878, an abbreviated copy of the book, especially, adapted to the needs of common schools, was published.

In 1873 Mr. Butterfield's well known Monography "An Historical Account of the Expedition Against Sandusky Under Col. William Crawford" was published.

It has been said that no book of its class, excepting perhaps, Parkman's Pontiac, was ever received with more general interest and favor.

The Atlantic Monthly said "This history has a general value as a study of pioneer life and warfare, which we would be sorry to leave unmentioned."

The New York Genealogical and Biographic Record said "Aside from the exciting recital of the almost fabulous and romantic adventures and escapes of many of the officers and privates, and the painful relation of the hardships of the disastrous retreat, not the least interesting are the biographical and genealogical sketches of the most prominent actors in the expedition."

The New York Observer "The terrible death of Col. Crawford by torture, is depicted with so much vividness and power that one, reading it, almost feels that he is a personal witness of the terrible transaction." These observations, a few of a dozen or more comments by newspapers and magazines of eighty years ago indicate that without question "Mr. Butterfield was possessed of many of the best qualities of an historian, and also unusual ability as an author."

In 1875, Mr. Butterfield moved to Madison, Wis. consin, drawn there by the beauty of the city between the lakes, and her extensive libraries.

In 1876 he together with Dr. Lyman C. Draper, a work made up of the many romantic passages in our countries history, the book being entitled "The Heroic Age of America" which is replete with accounts of border forays, conflicts and incidents.

In 1877 he published "The Washington-Crawford Letters", a valuable contribution to the early history of the trans-Alleghany country.

In the fall of 1877, Mr. Butterfield completed the leading article, a brief history of our territorial and state history, to be used in an illustrated Atlas of Wisconsin.

His next work was to edit the "Washington Irving Letters", another addition to Revolutionary Annals of our Country. His annotations were drawn from a long list of sources in the United States and also from the State Papers office in London, England, in order to approach the subject from both sides.

Two more pieces of work also bear his name, "The History and Biographical Annals of the University of Wisconsin" and the "History of the Discovery of Wisconsin."

Father Hyacinthe, a world renowned orator and lecturer of seventy five years ago was a brother-in-law, having married Mr. Butterfield's sister.

With this sort of background, it is no wonder that Mr. Butterfield sensed the need of and opportunity for the writing of county histories of this young and rapidly growing state.

County histories of the subscription type in which the subscriber signed an order for a copy of the book, to be paid for when published and delivered, and in return was entitled to a brief biography written from data the subscriber furnished to the solicitor, are as a general thing not regarded as good, and were looked upon by real historians as more or less as a racket, but there are usually "exceptions that prove the rule."

This writer, after two years of research, is convinced that in C. W. Butterfield we have a writer of experience and integrity, who made painstaking research of documents of record, and wrote history as it should be written, a record of facts.

The three county histories with which this writer has become familiar, Columbia-Dodge and Dane, were all published in 1880.

Other county histories, known to have been written by Butterfield are Rock and Fond du Lac counties, which this writer has not seen, as they are not of use in the story of Columbus; and we doubt not that there are other county histories by him, perhaps published at a later date.

We do not have knowledge of when Mr. Butterfield died, or of his family connections, nor have we been able to find a photograph.

There is a possibility that he may have been related to the Butterfields here but we can find nothing on it one way or the other.

Calvin Baker

Calvin Baker, a pioneer who came to this area in 1856 or 7 was born in Franklin county, Vt. in 1808 and while still a young man, his parents, Remember and Cynthia Stannard Baker moved to Genesee Co., N. Y. where his father followed the trade of millwright, (one who takes charge of care and upkeep in a mill).

Later they went on farther west to Lansing, Michigan in which state the parents died.

Calvin was the oldest of seven children, four sons and three daughters, and like his father he followed the trade of a millwright, working with his father.

Indoor work did not seem to be good for him, and following a breakdown of health he quit this work to seek outdoor employment.

He returned to New York state where he became a wool buyer for the N. Y. market, and in 1834 he was married to Miss Susanna Blodgett, of Genesee C., N. Y. who died in 1841.

His second wife was a widow, Mrs. Anna Schofield of New York city, a daughter of George and Betsey Hague.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker came to Wisconsin in 1857 and located on land in the town of Fountain Prairie where he followed farming and stock raising for a few years.

(Continued next week)

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

In 1862 he joined with one his brothers in a detective agency business and in 1863 he was awarded a captaincy in the Quartermaster's Dept. in Washington, where he remained until the close of the Civil War and then returned to his farm in Fountain Prairie, devoting his full time to farming until 1872 when the Bakers moved to Columbus.

His home here, which was built for him, was the house now owned and occupied by Dr. E. M. Poser at 348 South Dickason Blvd. (then Broadway).

When noting that Capt. Baker's mother's maiden name was Stannard this writer immediately thought of Ray Stannard Baker, writer of many short stories many years ago in the Saturday Evening Post, and other magazines, under his own name, and many books under the Nom de Plume of David Grayson, so some research was done to see if by any chance there was a connection with Capt. Calvin Baker.

We find that Ray Stannard Baker was a son of one of Calvin's younger brothers, Joseph Stannard Baker, and that their ancestors ran back to the 1630's when their first American progenitor came to Boston. Ray S. Baker has written that he 'was 1/64 French and the rest of his ancestors on both sides had created a mixture of Scotch, Welsh and English with a small trace of French.

Capt. Baker's great great grandfather Capt. Remember Baker was a cousin of Ethan Allen of Ft. Ticonderoga fame, and during the Revolutionary War. Remember Baker was a captain under Gen. Schnyler, who sent him in command of a scouting party into British held Canada, where he was shot dead in an Indian ambush on the Sorel (now called Richelien) River. His head was cut off and carried on the end of a pole, together with his personal effects, to the British garrison at St. Johns, where the British found a masonic emblem among his effects, whereupon they bought the head from the Indians and buried it.

One historian wrote that "His death made more noise in the country than the loss of a thousand men later in the war."

The Bakers in successive generations had pioneered in Mass., Conn., Vermont, New York, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Joseph Baker, younger brother of Capt. Calvin Baker returned from service in the Civil War where he was Capt. of a troop of Michigan Cavalry to Lansing Michigan where he was married to a graduate of Olivet college in Michigan, took up farming, but had the pioneering urge of his pioneer ancestors and his oldest brother, so came to Wisconsin to look around, probably after his brother Calvin had left the farm in Fountain Prairie and had moved into his new house in Columbus in 1872.

Joseph, in 1874, brought his young wife and four year old son from Lansing, Michigan to locate in the wilderness of northwestern Wisconsin, along the St. Croix River, where he hewed out a farm from heavily timbered land, and here his son, destined to be a writer, grew up with the country as a farm lad.

There are several of his books, including an autobiography in the local library.

Since writing the above we have discovered the name C. K. Baker among a list of letters advertised as uncalled for by postmaster Addison

Griswold Feb. 15th, 1856, which shows that he may have been here a year earlier than indicated by Butterfield's history.

We have heard from two or three sources that while Capt. Baker was in the Quartermasters dept. in Washington, he was in a privileged position to acquire a number of very fine pieces of furniture taken from southern mansions during the Civil War, and that one fine divan or sofa from Capt. Bakers home was acquired by the late Charles Wesley Johnson, father of Walter, Harry Paul and Miss Jessie Johnson.

When interviewed about this Walter Johnson of 531 W. Richmond street, said that when the household effects of Capt. Baker were sold after the death of Mrs. Baker, about a year after Capt. Baker died, his father purchased a number of pieces of furniture including several chairs and two couches or divans, one of which was a large and beautiful piece made of mahogney, and upholstered in red plush.

This furniture was installed in the home of C. W. Johnson, at the corner of School street and Broadway (now Dickason) diagonally opposite from the Baker house, now the Dr. E. M. Poser home, where it remained until after the death of Miss Jessie Johnson, after which it was taken to Milwaukee where it is now in the home of Neal Johnson, son of Harry Paul Johnson.

The Johnson house was formerly the home of Wm. Haselton, brother of the better known G. W. Haselton. Wm. Haselton was a partner in a store together with Wm. Johnson, an uncle of Walter Johnson.

Capt. Baker died in 1897 and his wife in 1898 and both are buried at Hillside. As far as we know, the Bakers had no children, that being the general impression gained by numerous enquires.

We regret also that no photographs of the Bakers seem to be available. Should any one know of the existence of pictures, we will be glad to publish them.

Both Capt. and Mrs. Baker were members of Olivet Congregational church.

Hiram Seffens

One of the master workmen who left many monuments to his skill, in Columbus, was Hiram Seffens, a brick mason and plasterer who came to Columbus in 1856.

Hiram Seffens was born in Yorkshire, England in 1822, a son of Wm. Seffens who was a soldier in the British army defeated in the war of 1812.

At the close of that war he returned to England resuming his work as a wool carder; but always of a mind to come back to America sometime.

About 1828 Wm. Seffens and wife and 8 children set sail on a sailing vessel, this being before steam ships had been developed, the passage requiring about six months.

Small pox broke out, almost every one on board coming down with it, but while all of the Seffens family had it the only death in their family was a small baby girl who was buried at sea; when the landing was made in New York, Mr. Seffens found work to support his wife and the remaining seven children.

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

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 92

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



At the port of embarkation, all of their possessions were carefully searched to see that he was taking no drawings or designs of labor saving machines or equipment out of the country.

He 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 in this country.

The son Hiram became an apprentice to a brick layer, then a journeyman workman, and finally a master mason, which also included plastering; and in time had worked his way west as far as LaPorte, Ind. and during his sojourn there he was married to Miss Margurite Watkins, probably in the mid forties.

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

Early in 1856, the Seffens family left Niles, Michigan in a covered wagon bound for Waterloo, Iowa where an older sister of Mrs. Seffens was living. After reaching Waterloo, and not liking the prospects there, they retraced their long and tiresome way, this time bound for Wisconsin, where another sister of Mrs. Seffens and her family had settled a few years before on farm land near Ripon.

The assumption is that on the way back from Iowa, after crossing the Mississippi River at Dubuque or perhaps at Prairie du Chien, they passed through Columbus on the way to Ripon and returned here after visiting and looking for a good location, evidently having been impressed with Columbus, then a rapidly growing village, with plenty of work in sight for some time to come.

After arrival here he bought some lots on the south side of Fuller st. at the corner of Ann st., upon which he built a temporary wooden house at the back end of lot, where the family consisting of wife and three children, Mary 9, Edgar 5 and Lizzie 2, lived comfortably for a few years and where Mildred, Mrs. James H. Secor, now of Elko, Nevada, was born in 1860.

About two years later he built a larger and more permanent house on the front part of the lots, in which a son Charles was born in 1863 and in which the family lived for about ten years.

This house is now the home of Edward (Cap) Stark; 575 W. Fuller st., and the temporary house previously mentioned, still stands and is now Mr. Stark's garage, just back of his workshop.

In 1870 Mr. Seffens bought a lot (or possibly two) on Prairie street upon which he built a brick house to which he moved his family and sold the Fuller st. house to Josiah Whiting who

lived in a house in "the grove", just beyond the present end of Fuller st.

The information thus far used as well as much that follows, comes from the daughter Mildred, now 92 years of age who makes her home with her son Dr. Charles E. Secor (70) a practicing physician at Elko, Nevada.

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

Mr. Seffens "frequently worked with Mr. Henry Boelte who was a fine stone mason, and built most of the basements for homes and stores, while my father did the brick laying and plastering".

Among the homes and business building mentioned by Mrs. Secor as having been built by her father were the Farnham house (H. J. Altschwager) 553 W. James; Elija Butterfield (John Lobeck) 306 W. James; John Williams (Lowell Larson) 352 W. Prairie st.; The George Butterfield, (John Topps now Russell Moore); The Seffens house, later known as the Stevens house the Clarence Miller house, the Guenther house and now the John Miller house, 332 W. Prairie; and the writer has no doubt he may have helped to build many other large brick houses, such as the Allen home (Jones Funeral home); the J. S. Manning, later and better known as the E. S. Griswold house; the Whitney home, until recently the Albrecht Funeral home; the John Erhart house (John L. Albright); and others; The Methodist church; the Baptist church; the Episcopal church and St. Jeromes Catholic church.

However in 1873 local building must have been slow for Mr. Seffens moved to Augusta, Wis.

where a school house and several brick stores were being built; about two years later, the work having been finished he returned to Columbus which had a great deal of brick work in the next few years.

During this period were built the Griswold Block (Kroger store); the Leitsch block at Ludington and Mill sts. (Derings);



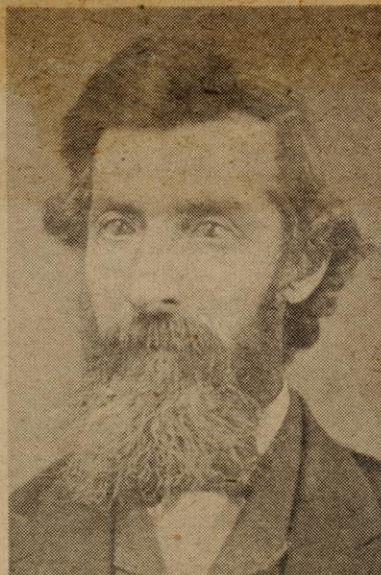
Margurite Seffens

Bassett, Davis and Price (Western Auto Supply); Olivet Congregational church; German Methodist church and the Lutheran church.



Mrs. James Secor

Mr. Seffens was a member and supporter of the Baptist church, served as clerk, and was a



Hiram Seffens

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. The Wm. Lewis', Elija Butterfields', Merriam's, Ingalsbee's and others were members.

Mr. Seffens work was interrupted by a period of service in the Union Army during a portion of the Civil War in which he was a Lieutenant, and after the war he was assistant Postmaster of the Legislature in Madison during the administration of Gov. James T. Lewis.

Installment No. 93

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

In 1878 Mr. Seffens decided to move farther west, so he sold the Prairie st. house to John J. Sutton, and moved his family to Jefferson county, Nebraska where he owned a farm.

There in 1879 his youngest daughter Mildred was married to Mr. James H. Secor, son of Peter Secor of Fall River.

The daughter Mary, Mrs. Sam McClatchie died in 1941 nearly 94 years old; the sister Lizzie died when she was 87; the brother Edgar at age 83; Charles in 1950 aged 87, is buried at Stoughton his late home, leaving Mrs. Secor the only survivor. There are ten grandchildren of Hiram Seffens living who bear the name of Seffens and 10 or 12 great grandchildren.

After some years in Nebraska, Mr. Seffens came back to Wisconsin, locating in Osseo, where he died in 1888.

In an exchange of a dozen or more letters, the first one in Feb. 1952 Mrs. Secor has given the writer a great deal of general information about her recollections of her girlhood, (up to eighteen years of age) in Columbus; Her letters if published in their entirety would be most interesting, and several incidents she mentions will be drawn upon, when writing about the year of their occurrence.

Such as in 1875 when the daughter in law of Dr. E. D. Kanouse gave birth to quintuplets, four of them living at birth; and even a photograph of the five, taken by photographer Hoskins of Columbus.

In 1948 when Mrs. Secor last was in Columbus, she flew to Chicago from Nevada, and went by car to Stoughton, her father Charles then still living, brought her to Columbus to see the two houses on Fuller st. and the Prairie street house. She was 88 years old at the time, and was 92 in Oct. 1952.

The picture of Mrs. Mildred Seffens Secor was taken when she was 90, and was still chaplain of the American Legion Auxiliary Post, having served for 15 years when she retired.

From time to time as occasion permits we will draw on Mrs. Secor's letters for details of stories we could have obtained in no other way.

William L. Lewis

William L. Lewis was a full brother of and four years older than the better known James T. Lewis.

They were grandsons of Samuel Lewis whose home was at Brimfield, Mass. and sons of Shubael Lewis and Elinor Robinson, William having been born in 1815 at Clarendon, Orleans county, New York.

His father, Shubael Lewis was born poor, became a highly successful and respected man of means through his own efforts, and acquired large estates in New York and later in Wisconsin.

He was married in Jan. 1815 to Miss Robinson who died in 1884 while the children were in their "teens".

In 1835 Shubael married a second time to Miss Parna Nichols who was all that a mother could be to the several children placed under her care, and to her teachings, example and influence the children felt largely indebted for their success in life. After her death Shubael Lewis married his third wife, Mary Bugbee.

William was the first born; the other children were Shubael R., born in 1817; James T. in 1819; Hiram W. in 1823; Mary Jane in 1825; Andrew in 1828 and Lydia A. in 1834.

Shubael R. was a distinguished soldier in the war with Mexico, and was first to scale the walls at Chapultepec and for his gallantry on the field, was presented with a sword. Shubael was married Aug. 18, 1839, when he was 22 to Mrs. Sarah Ann (Nichols) Brown, widow of Harvey Brown, M. D.; Shubael Lewis died in 1856.

William, the subject of this sketch received his education in the common schools of New York, and began his merchandising career in a store at Bergen, Genesee county, N. Y.; On Oct. 7, 1841 he was married to Miss Eliza Ann Martin of Charenden, N. Y. and after a few years at Bergen they returned to Clarendon where he operated a store and also a mill for several years.

In 1853 he sold his business and bought the Hawley Mills in the town of Hawley in Orleans county, N. Y. which he ran for three years, but

all this time he was restless and wanted to go to Wisconsin, where his brother James had located in 1845 and had done so well in this new land of opportunity.

Butterfield's history says he located in Columbus in the spring of 1857, which may be the year he brought his family here, but the abstract of title shows that on Aug. 9, 1856, Lot 10 of Lewis's addition to the village of West Columbus was transferred in its entirety from James T. to Wm. L. Lewis; this indicates that he was here himself in 1856. Lot 10 at that time had only the Lewis house, this writers home since 1917, but included all the ground where later were built the Trumbel home, now that of Allen Else, and the Davis home, better known as George Ward's, recently sold to John Van Roo.

No doubt it was Wm. Lewis's experience in the milling business in N. Y. that prompted the erection of the stone building on the rear of the writers property, which is said to have been built and operated as a grist mill powered by a large windmill similar to those seen in Holland and other European countries, and in some portions of Quebec.

He acquired a farm of 312 acres in sections 1 and 2 town of Columbus, which later became known as the Deglow farm, but it is believed that he never lived on the farm.

When his brother James T. was elected secretary of State in 1863, Wm. accepted a clerkship in the office in Madison, and continued in 1864 under Luscious Fairchild, James T. Lewis having been elected governor serving in 1864-5.

Wm. Lewis returned to Columbus after his two years in Madison, the remainder of his life being devoted to superintending the farming operations and other local affairs.

He was one of the building committee of the Baptist church and he and the members of his family remained members, as long as the Baptist church remained active.

One of Mr. Lewis first activities after his arrived here was to assist in the organization of the first bank to operate in Columbus, further proof that he was here in 1856, for it was in Dec. of 1856 that he together with C. C. Barnes, and James Barnes organized the "Bank of Columbus" and Mr. Lewis became president and James Barnes cashier. Some three years later the bank was sold to Willard Scott and Vosburg Sprague, of Naperville, Illinois, who operated it for two years until it failed in 1861.

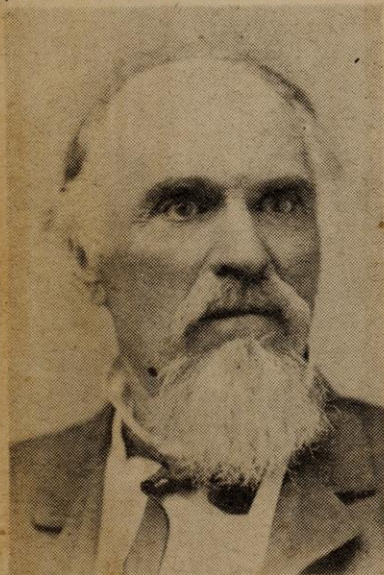
It was in Sept. 1861 that Mr. R. W. Chadbourn opened a privately owned bank, in the same building and which two years later in 1863 under the National Banking Law became the First National Bank of Columbus, its number 178 indicating that it was one of the very oldest, the 178th, National Banks in the U. S.

Children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis were Martin J.; Adella, (Mrs. D. M. Inman); Anne E. (Mrs. M. D. Thompson); all three of whom had

moved to Dakota prior to 1880 Jennie, deceased; and Lillie, who became Mrs. Morgan and likewise moved to Dakota some years later.

No descendants of the Wm. Lewis family are known to be living in this area.

Wm. Lewis is not buried here, having gone elsewhere to make his home with one of his children, and the date of



William L. Lewis

his death has not been ascertained.

His wife is presumed to be buried here but because of snow, her grave has not been located.

(Continued next week)

(Continued from last week)

Col. Harvey M. Brown

Col. Harvey M. Brown, after whom the local G.A.R. post was named, and the father of Mrs. Dorothy Brown Webster, and Harry W. Brown of Milwaukee, came to Columbus about 1850, the exact date not being known.

He was a son of Dr. H. M. Brown, M. D. and Sarah Ann Nichols Brown, born in Orleans, Co., N. Y. Dec. 26th, 1836. His father died before he was born, leaving the young widow to face life alone.

From a penciled memo in Col. Brown's own adult hand writing, but undated, he says, "I came to Wisconsin in 1836; took passage with mother on board the schooner "Ceres", Capt. McCumber, embarked at Oswego, N. Y. in April, were 7 weeks on board. Paid \$20 for passage. I was 14 months old."

Undoubtedly this was written long after the event, which he was too young to know about at the time, and cannot be quite accurate; for having been born in Dec. 1835, it would have been Jan. or Feb., 1837, when he was 14 months old, and the Lakes would have been frozen. We are inclined to conclude that it was in April 1837 at which time he would have been about 18 months old.

From his obituary which was written by his good friend A. C. Parkinson, who at that time, Oct. 27, 1893, was editor of the Milwaukee Daily Times, it gave the time Mr. Brown came to Wisconsin as, when he was about two years old, and settled near Kenosha, which at that time was called Southport, which was a larger village then, than was Milwaukee which had a population of only about 100 when Milwaukee County was formed, and all of what is now Wisconsin was a part of Michigan territory.

On page 971 of Butterfield's history of Columbia County, we find on Aug. 18, 1839 the widow of Dr. H. M. Brown was married to Shubael Lewis.

Shubael Lewis was a son of Shubael Lewis sr., and Eleanor Robinson Lewis, and born Nov. 3, 1817; he was two years younger than his brother, William L. and two years older than his better known brother James T. Lewis, who became Gov. Lewis of Wisconsin during the Civil War.

Shubael Lewis must have come from N. Y. state to Southport, or Kenosha at about the same time or soon after the widow Brown, and it could even have been on the same sailing ship, but this is purely conjecture.

At any rate he became Harvey Brown's step-father when Harvey was about four years old, and on Oct. 25th, 1841 a daughter was born to Shubael and Sarah Ann Nichols Brown Lewis; at Brighton, Wis. presumably some small place near Kenosha.

The baby was named Elenore Parma Lewis after Eleanor Robinson, the husband's mother, and Parma Nichols, his step-mother: other children born to the couple were a daughter Beatrice who became Mrs. Dunham, and two boys who died in infancy.

With the outbreak of the Mexican war Shubael volunteered: Butterworth says "he was a distinguished soldier in the Mexican War—the first to scale the walls of Chapultepec (a massive fort on the hills defending Mexico City) and for his gallant conduct on the field was presented with a sword.

This war was in 1847 by which time his step-son Harvey Brown would have reached twelve years of age.

In Mr. Parkinson's eulogy of Col. Brown, he says, "Sometime near 1850, we believe, he re-

moved to Columbus". It is understood that the home of Harvey Brown and his mother, Mrs. Shubael Lewis and her two daughters, was a frame house that stood about where Bellack's Tailor shop now is on what was then called Broadway, according to Dorothy Brown Webster, who says her father often pointed out the site of his first home in Columbus.

Nothing is known, and so far research has found no reference as to whether Shubael Lewis ever returned to his family either at Brighton, or here. Butterfield says merely "he died in August, 1856" and does not mention where.

Mr. James T. Lewis came to Columbus in 1845 after having come from N. Y. by boat to Milwaukee where he bought a pony for \$30.00 on which he rode up along the Lake Shore which was almost completely unsettled, to Green Bay, a small place, the French had settled over a hundred years before.

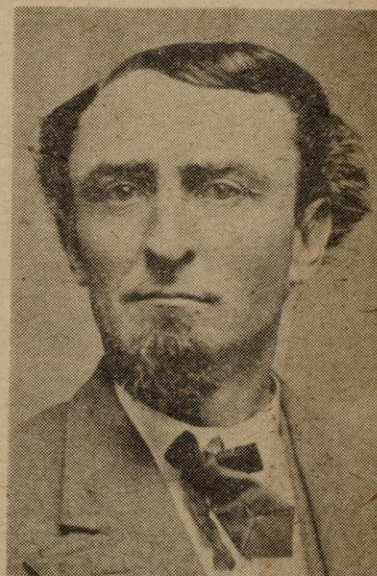
From there he turned toward Madison following a faint trail through where Appleton, Neenah, Oshkosh and Fond-du-Lac now are with a few cabins there, and also at Waupun and Beaver Dam to Columbus where he decided to hang out his shingle as a lawyer.

Five years later his brother's family and perhaps his brother as well, came, perhaps because by that time James T. was firmly established here.

No newspapers earlier than 1855 are known to exist, but careful search through the issues of 1855-6 fails to find any reference to Shubael Lewis. When Butterfield's history was published

in 1880 he must have gotten his information from either James T. or his older brother, Wm. L., both of whom were living then, Wm. L. having come in the fall of 1856.

Harvey Brown's first regular occupation here was to operate a dray. For the benefit of the present generation, a dray was a horse drawn truck or wagon used for

**Col. H. M. Brown**

general hauling for hire, primarily freight to and from the depot to places of business; moving household furnishings etc.

He eventually started a store in a frame building on James st., where the Jones building now is; (Maloney's Jewelry store). He established that business, which was books, stationery, watches, clocks and jewelry in 1865 after he had returned from service in the Civil War.

In 1868 he was married to Miss Helen Cooper, daughter of Horace C. and Julia Williams Cooper of Columbus (see installment No. 41) and to the couple was born a daughter Dorothy and a son Harry.

In 1876 he built the H. M. Brown building across the street from his first location, and moved his stock into the new building.

Col. Brown retired from business about 1890 and died Oct. 27, 1893.

(Continued next week)

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Mr. Brown owned an entire block in the residential section, between School and Railroad, now Richmond st., and Lewis and Charles st., in the center of which he built a very fine, and commodious building, eventually intended for a stable, as he was a lover of fine horses, intending to build a fine residence fronting on Lewis st. about where the H. L. Zeidler home now is.

However, temporarily, he and Mrs. Brown decided to live in the intended stable, and in this

building, the children were born.

Death took him before the residence was built, and the building intended for the stable was never used as such.

The family continued to live there until 1901 when the building was torn down, the lumber being used in the construction of their second home.



Mother of Col.
Harvey M. Brown

The block was a nicely landscaped with trees, shrubs, and a well trimmed hedge and included an orchard and vineyard, some of the fruit trees still standing.

The large clock in the B & E Gift shop was purchased by Col. Brown when he moved into his new building. Later it was sold to Otto Boelte, the jeweler who occupied the store for years, and is still rendering service where all who look into the B & E window may see it.

The second home of the Browns was the large house, now the home of Mrs. W. F. Damler at 410 S. Lewis st., and they later built a smaller house where daughter Dorothy Brown Webster still resides at 452 S. Lewis. Mrs. H. M. Brown died Sept. 27, 1930.

The Browns were active in Olivet Church where Dorothy was superintendent of the primary Sunday School for twenty years. She was also assistant organist for a part of that same period and became organist about 35 years ago when Miss Adelaide Proctor moved to California. She has taught many children to play the piano, having taught music for a great many years.

In 1926 Dorothy was married to Mr. Nelson Webster of Naperville, Ill. who moved to Columbus where for several years he served as City Clerk. He died in 1943.

Harry Brown, after graduating from high school, read law in the office of W. C. Leitsch, later graduated from law school and began practice in Milwaukee, but close confinement and much reading of law affected his eyesight to the point that he went into business instead of continuing his practice.

For about forty years he has been in the book and stationery business, H. W. Brown & Co. on East Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee.

He was married to Miss Ellen Ayotte, of Park Ridge, Ill., and to them were born two sons Willard and Robert both of whom are married and between them have 10 children, all of Park Ridge, Illinois.

Harry's second wife is Miss Florence Blum of Milwaukee.

Harvey M. Brown, both before and after the Civil War was fond of horses and later in life he accumulated quite a number of fast horses, which, when he realized his end was not far off, he turned over to his friend, the late A. H. Whitney, to dispose of for him.

A life long ambition, which he was unable to gratify, was to become an actor, a tragedian. It was largely Col. Brown's deep interest in the Harvey M. Brown Post of the G.A.R. that succeeded in getting the soldier's monument.

We have purposely left his war record as a conclusion to his life story, and quote portions of the tribute paid him by his comrade and fellow townsman, Gen'l. A. C. Parkinson.

"However much we may feel the poverty of words, the memories of a comradeship first formed on the 'tented field' more than thirty years ago, strengthened by the trials and hardships of war and since endeared by intimate association in private life, bid us speak of him whose name appears in the caption.

Col. Brown died at his home in Columbus just before midnight Oct. 27th inst. For several days he had been forewarned of approaching death, and with the same resolution and calm courage with which he awaited that dreadful assault at Cold Harbor nearly thirty years ago, he here awaited the inevitable coming of the all conquerer.

At the outbreak of the war, he helped recruit Company I of the thirty-first regiment, and was subsequently chosen lieutenant of the company of which Col. J. B. Vleet, of Milwaukee, was captain.

He remained with this regiment until the early part of 1864, when he was commissioned by Governor Lewis to be major of the thirty-sixth. In all its fierce battles and terrible experiences Major Brown participated until he fell fearfully wounded in front of Petersburg.

He was left for dead upon the field and laid between the lines for an entire day, while savage fighting was going on continuously. His mangled and almost lifeless body was finally secured under cover of darkness. After days of indescribable suffering he so far regained strength as to be removed home.

Ever after, however, he was a constant sufferer from the effect of the wounds he received while fighting with Grant in the memorable summer of 1864.

During his long residence in Columbus Col.

Brown was one of its best known and most public spirited citizens.

He had held many local offices and served two terms as mayor, and was postmaster during Mr. Cleveland's first term.

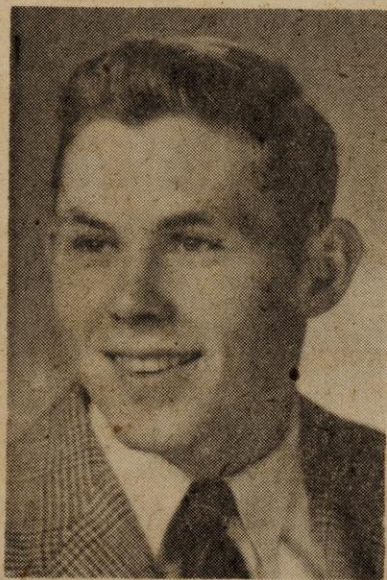
He was fond of good horses and had bred and owned many. He enjoyed trotting races and was a frequent race-goer. A day or two before his death a friend called to inquire about his health, and was surprised to see the sick man so cheerful. Noticing his surprise, the colonel reassured him by saying, "the doctor has agreed to tell me when I am getting near the wire".

He was buried in his military uniform, the casket being draped with the United States flag, and some of his old comrades active as bearers".

However the funeral, a large one, was under the auspices of the Masonic Lodge of which he had long been a member.

We are pleased that from Mrs. Dorothy Brown Webster, we have secured photographs from which we can re-produce pictures of 5 generations, from Col. Brown's mother down to Willard Brown Jr.

(Continued next week)



Willard Brown Jr.



Willard Brown



Harry W. Brown

Installment No. 96

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

James Inglis

James Inglis, a settler in Hampden in 1857, was born in Selkirkshire, Scotland in 1828 a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Johnson Inglis.

James was apprenticed to the weavers trade at the age of 14, which trade he learned and followed until he was 21; He then came to America in 1849 landing in New York, but going at once to Amesbury, Mass., a weaving center, where he was employed in a woolen mill for three years.

But the discovery of gold in California a few years earlier was a strong lure to young men, and in July 1852 he left Mass., and started for San Francisco, by ship to the Isthmus of Panama and by another ship from there to San Francisco, having walked across the mountains Isthmus of Panama.

From there he went into the interior of California, where he engaged in mining until 1856 by which time he had apparently accumulated enough wealth to contemplate matrimony, for he returned to Scotland where in March 1857 he was married to Miss Isabel, daughter of James and Mary Hall.

The day after their marriage, James and Isabel Inglis started on a honeymoon trip to a new home in America, sailing from Liverpool, and landing in New York.

Their destination was the town of Hampden, Columbia County, Wis. where there were several Scotch families, from Selkirkshire.

However they came via Philadelphia, the reason for which is not clear.

They located on 130 acres in section 24 which became their home for at least a great many years, and here their children were born and raised. As of 1880 the children were listed as Mary, Elizabeth, Jessie, Davina, Olive, Thomas, Jennie and James.

Mr. Inglis, is said to have not only walked from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, across the Isthmus of Panama, but at one time or another saw much of South and Central America, the greater part of the United States and had crossed the ocean five times.

Mary, the oldest, became Mrs. James Oliver of the town of Columbus, and mother of four children, Lester, Jessie, and the twins Rodney and Ruth, Lester being a retired mail carrier in Minneapolis.

Lester Oliver, died since the above was written, and was brought to Columbus for burial. His, was a Masonic Funeral, held Thursday, March 12th at the Jones Funeral Home.

Jessie Oliver married Charles Harrington and lives in Clipper Gap, California. Mr. Harrington has been dead for several years.

Rodney Oliver married Mildred Lobeck and had three sons James, who farms on the Henry Breyer farm; Charles who with his wife (Marlis Gogert) and three children lives in Spenard, Alaska; and Donald in service with the navy in the Kodiak Islands. Rodney Oliver died in 1935.

Ruth Oliver, Rodney's twin, married Charles Finger in 1923 and had two children Mary Lou, an anesthetist at Misericordia Hospital in Milwaukee and Robert who farms with his father. Mrs. Finger died in 1951.

Elizabeth Inglis married August Weber of York Dane Co. and is survived by an adopted daughter.

Jessie Inglis, became, Mrs. Cyrus Montgomery of Hampden and is survived by several grandchildren.

Davina Inglis married Walter Luey whose son Rodney lives on the old Luey homestead on County Trunk K where his son Richard and wife Joan and son Richard jr. resides; Walter's daughter Marion Luey is Mrs. Kaep, living in Greenwich, Conn.

Olive, became Mrs. Arthur Leffingwell, whose husband is still living at age 88 at Verona.

The Leffingwell children were a son Thomas who married Miss Beatrice White and who has four daughters, Blanche, Janet, Louella, a registered nurse in Milwaukee, and Arline, Mrs. Philip Desnoyer of Green Bay. Bessie and Blanche (Mrs.

Dicemch) both deceased, are buried at Hillside.

Thomas H. Inglis was married to Miss Victoria Pick, daughter of John T. Pick, and later became a resident of Redwood Falls, Minn. They had two children, Donald formerly a salesman of heavy machinery for a Minneapolis Hardware firm, is now a Ford automobile dealer in Glencoe, Minnesota, and a daughter Jessie, who with her husband, Dr. Frank Dunkel, a practicing physician lives at Fishtail, Montana.

Janet or Jennie Inglis, married Frank Bell, to whom we are indebted for much of the information concerning his wife's family.

The Frank Bell family which will be more fully written up later, consist of two daughters, Frances Elizabeth, Mrs. Henry Konkel of Hampden who has four girls, Genevieve, Mrs. Puschner of Wausau; Margery, Mrs. Halverson, of Madison; Gertrude, Mrs. Kenneth Fritz, of Columbus, and Mary Jane at home; and also two sons, Robert and Thomas at home. The younger daughter Margaret Ruth, is Mrs. Marvel Lee, living on the home farm; their children being James S. and Janet Alice.

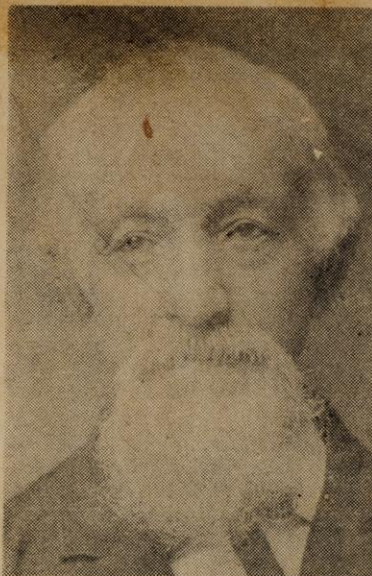
The youngest of the Inglis was James jr. who after being graduated from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor went to Redwood Falls, Minn. to practice dentistry. He was married to Miss Minnie Swett at Fond du Lac. They had one daughter Mrs. Kenneth Pollock of Fort Scott, Kansas. She and her husband recently adopted a family of four children who had lost their parents. They also have two other adopted



Isobel Inglis

children. After Minnie's death Dr. Inglis married Miss Gertrude Hicks of Tracy, Minn. They had three sons Dr. James H. of Los Angeles, Dr. Stephen P. of Redwood Falls and Dr. Wm. H. of Redwood Falls. There are five grandchildren including one pair of twin boys. Dr. James Inglis passed away at Redwood Falls in 1943.

All three of the sons and ten maternal cousins went through World War II and returned from that conflict unscathed.



James Inglis

1913 and both are buried at Hillside.

James Inglis, his son, still living, once practiced dentistry in Columbus, as we have noted his professional card among those listed in the newspapers, but we failed to note the year of issue.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 97

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Inglis

Occasionally, after a family sketch, and sometimes after only a portion of it has been published, some one brings in additional data that would have been used at the proper place if we had known it at the time. We are always glad to make corrections or additions if brought to our attention promptly.

In the Inglis family story published last week, in mentioning some of the descendents, others were inadvertently omitted.

Rodney Luey, son of Walter Luey and his wife Divina Inglis, was married to Miss Adelaide Dathan and to them were born twin children, Roger and Phylis, which later died. Their next was a son Richard mentioned last week, and a younger daughter Marjorie, who still lives at home, was inadvertently not mentioned.

Other changes, minor corrections to the original copy brought in by Frank Bell, are: Olive Inglis Leffingwells children were Bessie and Blanche, deceased and Luella Arline and Thomas.

Dr. James W. Inglis, Sr. is not living but died in 1943; Two of his sons James Jr. and Steven are dentist and William is an M. D.

D. F. Newcomb Jr.

One of the pioneers who came here at an early date was Daniel Franklin Newcomb, Sr. about whom no story has been written sooner, because of insufficient information, but we are now in possession of the necessary data received from his youngest daughter Sarah, or Sadie, Newcomb Marling of Madison.

Daniel F. Newcomb was born at Darien, New York, Sept. 22nd, 1816. A son of Daniel and Abigail Bailey Newcomb, who became parents of ten children, Daniel Jr. being one of the younger ones.



D. F. Newcomb

The father was born in 1782 and the mother in 1785 or about the close of the Revolutionary War, and came to Wisconsin in 1846 settling in Madison, and in 1851 moved to the vicinity of Milton, Wis. where Mr. Newcomb died in 1865 at the age of 83, and Mrs. Newcomb several years sooner. Both are buried at Milton.

Since Mr. Newcomb Sr. was 64 years of age when they moved to Wisconsin, it is likely that all ten of the children were born in N. Y. Most of the children married and settled in the Madison area.

From information gleaned from different parts of Butterfield's history we know that Daniel Franklin Newcomb was in Columbus at least as early as 1849 as he was a charter member of Columbus Lodge No. 40, Independent Order of Odd Fellows organized in Sept. 1849.

He was also a member of Independent Order of Good Templars, a temperance society open to both men and women, in 1850.

Also in 1850 when James E. Eaton who was Post Master as well as Justice of Peace, left for California in the Gold Rush, he resigned the Post Mastership in favor of D. F. Newcomb, who moved the office to Griswolds Store, an older building which was removed when the present Griswold Block was built.

When Franklin Pierce became president he appointed Addison Griswold as postmaster, who retained Mr. Newcomb as assistant, in actual charge of the mails, as well as a clerk in the Griswold store.

Mr. Newcomb acquired land which later became three blocks of lots on James street between Spring and Lewis sts. and one on Harrison st. between Spring and Main sts.; part of it was from Lewis Ludington and part from John Hustis.

On this land he developed our first nursery from which came many of the stately Maples and graceful Elms that line our streets and are the envy of many travelers and visitors.

Mr. Newcomb must have had as a partner, one of the three Chadbourn brothers, for advertisements in papers of 1855 were in the name of Newcomb and Chadbourn; but whether it was Reuben W., Smith W. or Charles H. Chadbourn, we do not know.

Some time about 1856 Mr. Newcomb moved his nursery to ground lying on the slope between the cemetery and the river, presumably beginning at Newcomb street, the street just beyond the Catholic church.

Newspaper advertisements from Oct. 1855 on through 1856 offered 31 choice residential lots for sale, over his signature, as well as some lots on Water street.

Newcomb's addition to Columbus, consisting of the four blocks already mentioned, was not recorded until 1859, but we do not have the actual date.

Mr. Newcomb was elected Register of Deeds in 1856 and served two years 57-58, during which period he must have lived in Portage City; In 1867 he was one of the village trustees.

A photograph of D. F. Newcomb appears in an album belonging to the Masonic Lodge indicating that he was a member of that order. The photograph is too dim for reproduction so we are using one supplied by his daughter.

His daughter Sarah, Mrs. Walter Marling of Madison, states that her father married Miss



Mary Julia Butterfield, daughter of John and Sarah Jacques Butterfield of Columbus May 13th. 1855, and that her father died here in Feb., 1874 at the age of 58, having lived here 27 years. Also that he had built the brick house later and better known as the John Topp house.

Mr. Newcomb later built a frame home on School

Mrs. D. F. Newcomb street "opposite the old Grady home" in which house Mrs. Marling was born in 1871.

An obituary appeared in the Republican, of Feb. 14th, 1874, in which he was referred to as a merchant. Upon inquiry from Jim Quickenden we learn that D. F. Newcomb once had a general store where the Bellack store now stands.

The children born to the Newcombs were Franklin Butterfield, born in 1858; he never married, and became a bookkeeper. His marker at Hillside shows his death was in 1925.

Edwin Reno, born 1860 died 1894, who became a salesman for Morrison & Plummer, Wholesale Drugs, Chicago, married Miss Nevada Elizabeth Hooker.

Martha Adelaide who married Marshall Parkinson of Madison, a nephew of A. C. Parkinson, who worked for a few years here for Allen & Parkinson then moved to Madison and was in the Lumber business, the firm being Miller & Parkinson, which later became the Marling Lumber company.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 98

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Mrs. Marling writes that her parents first lived in a red brick house a block from the City hall and across the street from the Harvey Loomis home. This would be the house better known as the von Briesen home, now the Lobeck home, 306 W. James.

Also that her mother married a second time to Jeffery A. Farnham, a banker and real estate man in Wausau, in April 1882, and that he died of pneumonia only a few weeks later.

They lived in Wausau four years, then returned to Columbus to make a home for grandmother Butterfield, who lived for sometime thereafter.

Mrs. Newcomb's name appears on the list of members, of Olivet Congregational church.

While the Newcomb family lived in the School st. home, Mr. Newcomb built a three room addition along the Main street side of the house for grandmother Butterfield.

Mrs. Newcomb took into her family Miss Belle Pederson, after her parents died and brought her up. She became a district school teacher, and later married Orin Trowbridge; The Trowbridges had one son Paul.

When daughter Sadie Newcomb was married her mother moved to Madison, selling the home to Mr. Trowbridge who owned the creamery back of Olivet church.

Later Paul Welk bought the Trowbridge house and the Trowbridges moved to McAllen, Texas and later to Florence, Alabama where they had a creamery and ice cream factory. Mr. and Mrs. Trowbridge died and later Paul died but Mrs. Paul Trowbridge and her son still own and operate this business.

Paul Welk, removed the three room addition and the lumber was used in construction of the Ford home at 426 S. Main, now the Will Evans home.

Mr. and Mrs. Marling (Sadie Newcomb) live at 21 N. Prospect Ave., Madison, Wisconsin.

In gathering data about the Butterfield family, the grandparents of Mrs. Marling, the former Sarah or Sadie Newcomb, and the several sons and daughters of the Butterfields, the writer has run across a number of side lights that also concerns the Newcombs.

Reference has been made to the red brick house most often called the von Briesen house, so through the courtesy of Mrs. Marie Lobeck Curtis we have had the privilege of examining the abstract of this house of which the most recent owners were Mrs. Curtis' parents the late Mr. and Mrs. John Lobeck, from which we note.

This property is on a portion of lots 1 and 2 of Block one of Birdsey's addition to Columbus, recorded in 1850.

Almon P. Birdsey on June 5, 1855 sold the two lots each with 60 ft. front on Spring st. with the length of 150 ft. on James st. to Edward H. Silsbee, an early Columbus merchant who was brother-in-law both to Daniel E. Bassitt, and Wm. E. Griswold, the three men having married three Sofield sisters.

Mr. Silsbee built the house in 1855 which is made of home made brick, doubtless made by Mr. James Webster, the only brick maker known to have been here before the Hayden Brothers established their brick yard on the Elba road about across the road from the Club 16 tavern.

In Oct. 6th, 1856, about which time Mr. Silsbee sold his stock of merchandise here and opened a store in Danville, where his brother-in-law Daniel E. Bassett, also had a store, he sold the red brick house to Daniel F. Newcomb.

The Newcombs owned the house until July 31, 1866 when he sold the property to William H. Butterfield his brother-in-law. Mr. Butterfield lived there persumably until they sold it Sept. 8th, 1883 to Ernest von Briesen.

The von Briesen family owned and occupied the house for many years, even after the death of Judge von Briesen, and then built the adjoining smaller house, now the home of Mrs. Ruth Deysenroth Ward; and in 1909 the south east 55 feet of lots 1 and 2 on which the red brick house is located, was sold to Dr. and Mrs. E. C. Oviatt.

In 1919 the Oviatts sold the property to Hon. Owen R. Jones in whose family the title remained until it was bought by the Lobecks several years ago.

This house, while not the oldest brick house in town, has never had the red brick walls painted, it is perhaps the best example of what the exterior walls of many Columbus homes were like nearly 100 years ago.

Another item of interest is that one of the Butterfield sons, John Spencer Butterfield became the owner of a saw mill in Mississippi, sawing yellow pine lumber, some of which was marketed through the lumber yard of his brother, Wm. H., which yard was located where Walker Lumber Co. yard now is; the School st. home of Mr. Newcomb, now the home of Paul Welk, as well as the two houses nearest to it on School st., were all made of Mississippi yellow pine lumber, shipped here by Mr. Newcomb's brother-in-law Spencer Butterfield.

F. M. Black

The fact that Frank McCauley Black was elected Master of Columbus Lodge No. 75 Free and Accepted masons when it was organized June 12, 1856, indicates that he probably had been a mason, and very likely master of a Lodge elsewhere, probably in New York or New England before he came to Wisconsin.

It also implies that he may have been a resident of Columbus for some time before 1856; Research through old newspapers shows that he was secretary of a Republican committee and a delegate to a convention in Oct. 1855. He also was listed as of 1855 as recording secretary of Columbus Division Sons of Temperance No. 82 which met every Tuesday evening in the Odd Fellows Hall, above Silsbee and Swarthouts Drug store, on lower James st. about where Duke Lohr's tavern now is.

Research and inquiry discloses that his occupation was that of a carpenter. We find that he was town clerk in April 1856 as he advertised a town meeting to be held in the office of R. W. Chadbourn at 9 a. m. Saturday, April 10th for the purpose of hearing applications for licenses.

He was a Republican in politics and must have been active as his name as secretary appeared again in connection with the County Republican committee in the presidential campaign of 1856 when John C. Fremont was the Republican candidate and James Buchanan the democrat and winner.

He was also interested in the organization of the first brass band in 1856 being one of the committee to solicit subscriptions to buy instruments.

The exact time he came here and where he came from is not a matter of record in the search thus far made.

He was married here to a sister of John, Nelson and Jacob Swarthout, but nothing has been found as to the date nor their place of abode.

There were three children, Charles, George and Laura. Charles, the older son, was married to Miss Carrie Eighme of Oshkosh. The name of Georges wife is not known; and Laura never married.

At some time, date unknown, but presumably while the children were still unmarried, the family moved to Chicago, where in time both Charles and George became good writers and both became reports for the Chicago Times. Mrs. Black died in Chicago and was brought to Columbus for burial, her grave being in Hillside cemetery.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 99

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

In later life Mr. Black and his daughter moved to Washington state where he was again married. Laura died there, was cremated and her ashes sent here for burial.

Charles was a frequent visitor to Columbus and always spent his vacation here with the Swarthouts.

He had only one child a son Richard who is believed to be a resident of Kansas City. Charles' wife died in Chicago and was brought here for burial.

George had children but we have no knowledge of them or their mother. George died in Chicago while still in the prime of life.

The picture of F. M. Black reproduced here is an enlargement of a small photograph taken in Chicago after his removal to that city, obtained from Mrs. A. H. Proctor.



F. M. Black

Mr. Black was one of the members of the building committee in charge of the first brick school house, built here in 1858 at a cost of \$5,000 the contractor being John Haydon.

Frank Huggins

Frank Huggin's name first appeared in a June 1856 issue of the Columbus Journal-Republican when attention was called by the editor to an advertisement of a new drug store that had opened for business June 12, 1856, by Mr. Frank Huggins.

This store was located on lower James street one door below the variety store of Hart Drake & Co.

The advertisement called attention to the following items, "Drugs and medicines, paints, oils and varnishes, dye stuffs, perfumary, glass, glassware, Camphine, burning fluid, lamp oil, of the best quality, Tanners and Neets foot oil, toilet and shaving soap, and fancy goods. Also pure wines and liquors for medical purposes. Physicians prescriptions carefully compounded."

His place of abode was the house at 353 South Ludington st., long known as the Otto Baker home where Mrs. Baker still resides.

At some later date, Mr. Huggins moved his stock of drugs and other articles to a small building occupying half the width of a lot between the Griswold store, and the Fuller store which would locate it where the south half of Kalk Drugs now is.

While still at that location he was appointed Post Master during Lincoln's first administration. Some time earlier when Addison Griswold was post master under Pres. Franklin Pierce, Griswold moved the post office into a small building that adjoined, the Griswold store on one side and also the Huggins Drug store on the other side.

When Huggins became post master he installed the post office in the building adjoining his small drug store and cut in a door to connect with the rear end of the P. O. and here he conducted his drug business and by merely going through a connecting door he would be behind the post office letter boxes.

He remained on Ludington st. until 1868 when he moved into one of A. G. Cooks buildings, which later became the Millinery shop of Mrs. O. M. Dering and is now the Ladies exchange of



Mrs. Alice Topp, 140 W. James: The Cook buildings were built in 1859.

In May 1869 Mr. Huggins relinquished the P. O. to Mr. John Swarthout, and how Mr. Swarthout happened to become post master is another story worth repeating right here.

Mr. Swarthout had supported James Lowth for postmaster, Mr. Lowth being a Civil War veteran who had lost one leg in the war.

Mr. Swarthout was instrumental in having a fellow townsman Gerry W. Hazleton, Congressman from this district, appoint Mr. Lowth, but at the last minute Mr. Lowth's "one foot got cold" and he decided that he did not want the job, so the congressman recommended the appointment of John Swarthout who was not even a candidate.

Mr. Huggins was an active member of the Presbyterian church, and was also active in Civic affairs and in the Masonic Lodge.

He was the second man to be elected Master of the Lodge, serving in 1859, succeeding Mr. F. M. Black who served in 1856-7-8.

He was elected a village trustee in 1870 and in 1872 became president of the village board serving as such until 1874 when Columbus obtained a charter to incorporate under a city form of government, largely through the combined efforts of Mr. Huggins, E. E. Chapin, a lawyer and R. W. Chadbourn who constituted a committee to go before the State Legislature.

Mr. Lewis J. Sawyer became our first Mayor and Mr. Huggins one of the alderman from our second ward, this being in 1874.

His name does not appear among names of the aldermen the following year, which may mark the approximate time of his departure from town.

Time does not permit research projected way ahead of current (1856) reading of the old newspapers, and therefore much that we might learn will be missed temporarily.

Mr. Huggins sold his drug business to two Welshmen, Thomas Morris, who was a registered pharmacist, and Tommie Evans, who was not; the year of this business change is not known at this is written, but will doubtless be disclosed from later readings, and will likely to be found to be 1874 or 1875.

Nothing is known as to where Mr. Huggins came from, or the maiden name of Mrs. Huggins, but it is known that there was one daughter Julia, whose name does not appear in the graduating classes of the high school, the first class to graduate being in 1877. From which we may assume they were no longer residents of Columbus, and we regret that no pictures have been found.

Dr. J. C. and Silas Axtell

Silas Axtell, was a brother of Dr. James Axtell who had come from one of the eastern states, possibly, New York, and located in Columbus, in 1845, being our first physician. His brother Silas, nine years younger came here in 1855, or at least that is the first record we find of him.

In the newspaper of Nov. 22, 1855 we find the following item "We have just been informed that a new store is to be opened in Bassett's Block in this village in the course of a few days," and in the same issue an advertisement of the Empire store, "a new store with new goods and new prices", by Davis and Axtell.

This was Uriah Davis, grandfather of Miss Dora Edwards, an early merchant here who had come here possibly ten years earlier, and we are sure of Mr. Axtell's name as the name Silas appears in the advertisement.

Mr. Axtell was active in civic and fraternal affairs, having been elected Master of the Masonic Lodge in 1860, 1861, 1866, 1870 and 1871.

We do not have access to township records, much to our regret, but we find that when Columbus was organized as a village in 1864, with Mr. R. W. Chadbourn as the first president of the village board, one of the trustees elected was Silas Axtell, the others being F. F. Farnham, John Hasey and Thomas Smith.

From 1864 on we do not find his name in Butterfield's history, so search was made in the cemetery. The grave of James C. Axtell was found, the stone showing his birth year as 1820 and his death in 1862. Further search was made which established the fact that Dr. Axtell was a Civil War casualty, he having been a surgeon in Company, Capt. J. F. Hazleton and Col. J. J. Guppy. Both early residents of Columbus.

Another stone, a modern one, indicated the grave of Silas Axtell, born in 1929 and died in 1911.

Pictures of Frank B. Newcomb and Edwin Newcomb received too late to run with the Newcomb story last week.
(Continued next week)



Edwin Newcomb



Frank B. Newcomb

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Search of the newspapers of 1911 disclosed an all too brief obituary, but from it we learn that some time after the Davis and Axtell store previously mentioned, the firm became Axtell and Churchill. We can only conjecture which Churchill, as there were two, Dr. E. Churchill Dentist which probably lets him out, but it could have been Joseph E. Churchill, perhaps before the firm of Churchill & Sexton, grain merchants, was formed.

Subsequent reading of old files of news papers may throw further light on it.

The obituary states further "Having sold out his business he moved to Augusta and from there to California where he resided until a few years ago (1911) when he moved to Oak Park, Chicago where his death occurred.

Only a year before his death he visited Columbus greeting old friends and neighbors and his death surprised most of them.

The remains were accompanied by his wife and his daughter, Mrs. Lelia Sackett.

They were met at the depot by a large number of the older people of our city who had gathered to do final honor to their old friend and neighbor. A short service was held at the depot and again at the grave, the Rev. Emery officiating.

Another grave stone shows the name of Sarah Axtell Medbury, born 1822 died 1903.

Research through files of the newspapers of that year came across an item headed "Mortuary", in the issue of March 25, 1903, from which we learn that Sarah was the wife and widow of Dr. James C. Axtell and that she came to Columbus in 1847.

Since the Dr. was an 1845 arrival, when his age was 5, the assumption is that after having established a practice here, he probably returned to his former home neighborhood, where he either married Sarah, or if he had been married prior to 1845, then he had gone east to get his wife; we are inclined to the former rather than the latter assumption.

Dr. and Mrs. Axtell had a daughter Mary, and according to the obituary, "After the death of her husband (1862) and her daughter Mary (no grave stone) she left Columbus and returned to her former home in the east. (place or state not mentioned)"

"After her marriage to Mr. Medbury (time or place not mentioned) she lived for a few years at Beaver Dam, but after the death of her second husband she came back to Columbus to die among her old friends."

She died March 16th, 1903 at the home of her friend, Mrs. A. G. Cook, at the age of 82; this raises the question of whether Mrs. Axtell was possibly a relative of Mrs. Cook, whose maiden name was Sarah J. Rockwell of Otsego county, New York.

James Quickenden says that when Mrs. Medbury came back to Columbus to live, for quite a while she lived with Mr. and Mrs. John Swarthout, and later went to live with Mrs. Cook, where she died; he does not think there was any relationship, and that Mrs. Cook, her good friend, simply provided a home for her.

Andrew O. Sexton

Andrew O. Sexton was born in Central N. Y. Dec. 2, 1822. In 1846 he moved to Wisconsin, and a few years later settled on a farm south of Columbus where he lived as a bachelor until 1851 when he returned to N. Y. to near Buffalo, where he was married to Miss Annette Farnham who returned with him to his farm, but whether this was in Columbia Co. or in town of York in Dane Co. is not known.

Four years later, in 1855 they moved to Columbus where Mr. Sexton was engaged in the grain and produce business, in which he was engaged until 1901.

The couple, apparently had no children for none are mentioned in the obituary appearing in the Democrat of Nov. 20th, 1908, the only sur-

vivors mentioned being his wife, and a brother Abel Sexton of Newport, Indiana, two years older.

He held numerous offices of trust and responsibility and according to his obituary was mayor of Columbus for two terms, but the years were not stated.

Perhaps he was a Mason before he came to Columbus, but if not, he must have become a member shortly after Columbus Lodge No. 75 was organized in June 1856, although his name does not appear as a charter member; as of 1861 he is listed as senior warden which office held for three years, becoming master of Lodge himself in 1864 and between then and 1878 he had five times served a year as master, but not consecutively.

He is said also to have been a local authority on the intricacies of the ceremonials of the Blue Lodge and the Knights Templars.

We do not know when the grain buying and shipping firm of Churchill and Sexton was formed, nor the location of their business prior to 1877, in which year a substantial and commodious warehouse was built near the depot, for their use and occupancy.

In fact it could be that there was an older warehouse on the same site, as a map dated 1876, now in the writers possession shows a similar building 25x140 ft. Or it could be that Butterfield made an error when he states 1877 as the year it was built. This was and is the warehouse occupied by M & S Feed Co.

The Sexton home is the house at 443 W. Prairie now occupied by Robert Eilert, and long known as the Weller house.

The obituary says nothing about a Masonic Funeral. Burial was by Rev. Robert Hopkin of Olivet church.

Joseph E. Churchill

Was born Oct. 22, 1829, in Champlain, N. Y. son of James and Eliza Churchill both of whom were also born in Champlain.

He came to Columbus in May 1854 when 25 years of age, and continued to reside here until his death in May 1910.

In Oct. 1877 he was married to Miss Julia A. Bull and to this union was born one son Rodney who with his mother the widow and a sister, Mrs. Anderson, survived him.

Mr. Churchill was for many years one of our leading business men, and was honest and upright in all his dealings.

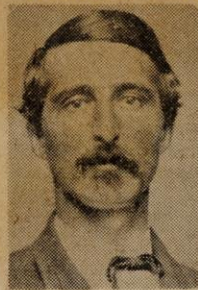
He was one of the charter members of Columbus Lodge No. 75 F & A Masons, and at various times held office leading up to the Master of the Lodge which he was in 1879.

The funeral services at the house and at the grave were conducted by Rev. Robert Hopkin of Olivet Church. The obituary does not mention anything about a masonic service.

It is not known what work he was engaged in when he first came to Columbus, but some years later he became a partner with Silas Axtell in a general merchantile store known as Axtell and Churchill. This was probably in the late fifties, and certainly before 1864 the approximate time that Silas Axtell moved to Augusta, Wis.

It is quite possible, and future research may tell us that Mr. Churchill may have bought Axtell's interest when he moved away.

However in 1877 a grain warehouse was built and operated by Churchill and Sexton, who ran it for many years. It is the warehouse operated for many years by Guy V. Dering, and now owned and operated by M & S Feed Co., 256 W. Church St.



J. E. Churchill His widow lived for many years and died in 1944.

(Continued next week)

Installment No 101

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Plats & Additions

Previously mentioned in this series of articles have been the original Ludington plat of 9 blocks in 1844, his first and second additions in 1849 and 50; Birdseys Addition of 9 blocks in 1854, Birdseys second addition in 1855 and James T. Lewis' village of West Columbus consisting of 26 blocks, in 1854.

1856 was a year in which there were numerous new additions opened, which are now mentioned, as well as others platted at later dates.

Ingalsbee's Addition recorded April 9, 1856 consisted of 3½ blocks lying south of West Columbus between Fuller street and Hamilton with four streets, John, Center, Ann, and Dix each only one block long running north and south.

Farnham & Co's Addition, recorded June 25, 1856 consisted of 13 lots in block 1 laying west of Farnham st. which runs north and south; 11 lots of various sizes and shapes in block two, lying between Farnham st. and Waterloo road; 7 lots in block 3 north of and facing Folsom st., between Farnham and Waterloo.

Tyng's Addition consisting of 16 lots north of and 15 lots south of Poet st. between Farnham st. and Waterloo road all in block 1.

Manning's Addition, consisting of all lots between the creek crossing E. James and the river on the north side of James st., and lots in the triangle bounded by E. James, Mills st. and Waterloo, recorded in August, 1856.

Warner's Addition consisting of two blocks west of of Dix st., and between Fuller and Hamilton st., recorded Sept. 29, 1856.

Lewis' Addition to the village of west Columbus consisting of 26 blocks and fractions of blocks, lying between Lewis st. and Hibbard st. and from the section line, called Line st. on early maps, and six or eight blocks between Hibbard st. and Maple Ave. portions of which were vacated to farm land years ago: Block 19 and 22 along the south side of Maple Ave. are well built up as far out as Turners, and some four or five houses have been built facing Turner st. in recent years. This addition was recorded Aug., 1856.

William's Addition, recorded March 4, 1857 covers a fraction of a block north of James st. east of the present Legion Court, and what is called Cook's hill running down to the Borden property and 7 lots facing W. James (Otsego road) being south thereof, and the triangle between W. James and Maple Ave.

Warner and Fullers Addition, recorded May 12 1857 was vacated in 1868 (went back to farm land) except for block 6 of 10 lots, which has probably been subsequently vacated as there are no houses on it. It would have been between Fuller and Hamilton, north of the bend in Lodi road.

Whitney's Addition, recorded April 28, 1857 consisted of the lots between Water st. and the river on both sides of Whitney st. one block long. There are some six or eight houses on it but much it is in the Canning Company yard.

A small addition of five lots in a single block on the east side of Waterloo st. pretty well out was called Laura Gibbons Addition which was recorded Oct. 28, 1858.

Newcomb's Addition, recorded in 1859, consisted of four blocks, three of which lay between James and Harrison sts. and from Lewis to Spring, while the forth block was between Harrison and Prairie and Main and Spring. These four blocks had previously been planted to nursery stock, Newcombs nursery, from which came many if not most of the beautiful Maple and Elm trees that arch over many of our streets. However Mr. Newcomb was advertising lots for sale as early as 1855 four years before his addition was recorded.

Butterfield's Addition, recorded in 1878, consisted of twenty lots, half of which, south of Williams st., a dead end street running east from Waterloo, has reverted to pasture; on the north side of the street there are a few houses, the last of which is that of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Schulz, and immediately back of their garden, in the

Koblitz pasture, can be seen the remains of the turntable where to Milwaukee and Watertown Railroad Co. yards were located when the road built in to Columbus in 1857. The terminus, where the depots was located, was back of the present homes of Fred Boelte and James Quickenden.

City maps of 1916 show the Maxwell Addition of four blocks facing the Madison road just beyond the park, date recorded not shown.

1856 At Fall River

While a village began there in 1846 when A. A. Brayton moved to that area (see installment 31 for details) it was not until 1856 that Braytons plat for a village was registered and the place was officially recognized as a village, even though a village form of government was not in effect for several years more.

In 1853 a Cemetery Association was formed with the following trustees: S. C. Higbie, S. M. Smith, Samuel Lashier, J. D. Bullis, E. T. Kearney, Christopher Brown, Thomas Benner, S. B. Hancock and Elisha Roberts as trustees.

Three acres of ground was purchased from Mr. Brown, and the first burial was that of Mr. Brown's son.

In 1849, S. C. Higbee erected a building for an hotel which he called Fall River house; he operated it for 11 years then sold it in 1860 to George Sickles; between 1860 and 1880 the year Butterfield history was published it was owned or operated successively by Mr. Miller, John Fields, John Young, Richard Blake, S. L. Batchelder, C. Palmer, Lewis Norton and John Hicks. The house was built large enough for 20 guests.

No information is at hand as to its location, and its operation or ownership since 1880.

A post office was designated in 1857 with A. A. Brayton, the first post master; a few of the other early post masters in the following order, were S. C. Higbee, F. W. Stiles, and S. H. Bronson.

In 1850 a log school house was built, the district being designated No. 1; In 1856 a second school house was built nearby and the children of primary age attended one and the higher grades the other.

A Methodist church society had been organized in 1844 by a missionary, the Rev. Stephen Jones; the members were T. Clark Smith, his wife Sarah Smith, Rev. E. J. Smith, a former minister and his wife Martha Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Aaron E. Houghton, with E. J. Smith the designated leader.

Worship at first, for a few years was held in the homes of members, but as the settlement grew, and a log school house was built the meetings were held therein; In 1855 a church building came into being, built at a cost of \$2,000.00 and this building was enlarged and rebuilt in 1875 at a cost of \$1200.00.

There were a number settlers of Baptist faith who were organized into a church society in 1847 by Elders Green and Reed pioneer preachers.

However a legal organization was not perfected until 1867 when there was organized the "First Regular Baptist Church and Society", and two years later in 1869 a building 38x60 ft. was built at a cost of \$5000.00.

The first Trustees were H. C. Brace, J. A. Franklin, L. B. Reed and Loyal Morton.

The Railroad was not built in to Fall River until 1864, the first agent being a Mr. Hildreth.

In 1856 Dr. Hanson Hurd started a factory for manufacturing Lucifer or Sulphur Matches. The Dr. operated the business for two years, then sold out to M. and E. H. Bronson who successfully conducted the business until 1860 when it was sold to Prime & Randall who continued it for two years when it passed into the hands of Folsom & Grout, but the later firm were soon forced to suspend due to the hard times prevailing during the Civil War; At one time, under which ownership we do not know the factory is said to have employed as many as twenty "hands" as employees were then called as practically all work in that period was done by hand.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 102

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Manufacture of cigars, usually a one man business was started in 1873 by C. Palmer who sold out to D. Robbins, who soon suspended; Later cigar manufacturers were Charles A. Taylor, for about a year and then Z. B. Russell in 1879 who employed one "hand" and also worked at the bench himself.

Also in 1873 a cheese factory started operations when O. B. Prime began, and made about eighty thousand pounds the first year, and by five years later the volume had just about doubled.

Perhaps some one in Fall River could bring the Fall River story up to date. It would be a welcome addition to our efforts as we are handicapped by lack of data beyond 1880.

A notice in the Journal-Republican, of Feb. 21st, 1856 said "Providence permitting, the new M. E. church at Fall River will be dedicated to the worship of Almighty God, March 2nd, 1856 at 10½ a. m. Friends of the surrounding vicinity are cordially invited to attend, signed David Lewis."

About The Railroad

As the work of grading on the right of way, construction of bridges and culverts, in advance of actual laying of cross ties and iron rails, slowly drew near, the farmers through whose lands the road was to pass began to fear possible killing or crippling of cattle, horses or other livestock, or at least injury from fright, as the locomotive whistle blasted the quiet surroundings and the cars rattled along at the incredible speed of fifteen to twenty miles per hour.

News, or rumors, spread that many cattle had suffered injury "down towards Watertown"; that the company was not keeping its promise to build stout fences on both sides of the right of way, to keep the cattle out, so farmers held "indignation meetings" to demand what they called their rights.

The following undated documents were found in the papers of James Webster, and are loaned by his granddaughter Winnie Webster (Mrs. Fred) Proctor.

"At a meeting of the citizens of the towns of Elba and Lowell, through whose lands the Milwaukee & Watertown R Road passes, held a meeting pursuant to Public Notice, at the house of H. Hinman in said town of Elba on Saturday, the 8th of May (probably 1856).

Harry Hinman was chosen chairman and Job W. Hartley, secretary.

After a spirited discussion of the subject of fencing the said railroad, of the great damage and inconvenience which as already resulted to the farms along the line of said road through the want of broken fences, and in view of the probability of another season passing without fences being made by the rail road company unless some united action is taken by the farmers interested, the following resolutions were un-aminously adopted.

1. Resolved, That we, as farmers owning and working farms through which said railroad passes, have suffered from the want of proper fences along said road, and forbore until "forebearance has ceased to be a virtue" and we now demand that the railroad company shall and must fence their road if they expect to run the same.

2. Resolved that unless said company fences their road after a reasonable time from the service of these resolutions upon their agent, we pledge ourselves to stand as one man, in defense of all the rights and privileges which the constitution and law of the state entitle us.

3. Resolved, That we know our rights and dare and will maintain them.

4. Resolved, That we do sincerely believe two weeks from this date to be a sufficient time for said railroad company to fence enough to secure the farmers owning or working land through which said railroad passes, against all damages.

Harry Hinman, chm.

Job W. Hartley, Sec'y."

We have no record as to whether the passage of the Resolutions we have quoted produced the desired effect within the time limit set or not.

Apparently Mr. James Webster persued a more direct method as will be seen from the following document.

"The Milwaukee & Watertown Railroad Company, for and in consideration of one dollar to them in hand paid by James Webster of the town of Elba, County of Dodge and State of Wisconsin, do hereby agree to construct two good and sufficient crossings over the line of their road when the said road passes through the land of the said Webster and also build a good and substantial fence on both sides of said line and maintain the same.

Dated at Elba, Feb. 28, 1856.

(Written and signed by) O. F. Blount Agent, Milwaukee & Watertown Railroad Company.

The Railroads

For a year or two previous to 1856 there had been much talk of the prospects of one or more Railroads coming to or even through Columbus.

Many meetings at many different communities had been held trying to find ways and means to entice a railroad to these different places, and means to raise the money to help build the line.

Subscription lists had been circulated, men representing those who hoped to build had been in direct contact with the leading men in village and country, had addressed meetings in the school house, but the railroad seemed as far away as ever.

In 1852 the state granted a charter to a group of men who proposed to build a railroad from Milwaukee to La Crosse, but no work of construction was done on it until 1854.

Another road called the Milwaukee, Fond du Lac and Green Bay was chartered in 1853 and began active construction that same year, grading about 25 miles, and securing a site for a depot in Milwaukee, that city even extending credit of \$200,000 to the company.

However by Jan. 1854 this company had reached the end of its credit, and as a result there was a consolidation with the La Crosse and Milwaukee company which did have some money and credit but had not begin work.

The name La Crosse and Milwaukee was retained, the twenty five miles of grading was utilized and the new work was pointed towards La Crosse instead of Green Bay, and some time in 1855 the line was constructed as far as Horicon.

Milwaukee & Mississippi

Another line called the Milwaukee & Mississippi a few years earlier had built as far as Waukesha by way of Wauwatosa and Brookfield, a total of 20 miles — in 1852 it reached Milton — in 1853 to Stoughton and in 1854 to Madison and in 1856 it reached the Mississippi at Prairie du Chien. In 1859 or 60 this company defaulted in the payment of interest on the bonds that had been sold which resulted in foreclosure and a newly organized company called the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien took its place succeeding to all its rights and property. This included an eight mile branch from Milton to Janesville which was later extended thirty four miles to Monroe.

The Milwaukee and Watertown road was chartered in 1851 to build a line from Brookfield, 14 miles out of Milwaukee and on the Milwaukee & Mississippi, to Watertown by way of Oconomowoc.

By 1854 this line reached as far as Oconomowoc which became an important shipping point for the produce from this area, materially shortening the long haul by wagons to Milwaukee, which had previously been the only outlet except for local consumption.

By ammendments to the charter the line was authorized to build as far as Columbus, but it was still a long time and distance away.

(Continued next week)

(Continued from last week)

On the first day of October 1855 the road was completed as far as Watertown, shortening still more, the hauling distance from Columbus to the end of the line.

An editorial in the Columbus Journal-Republican of April 19, 1855 is quoted in its entirety as typical of many other such articles published.

"Milwaukee, Watertown and Columbus Railroad."

It will be seen, in another column of our paper, that the company have advertised to receive proposal for building this road from Watertown to Columbus.

This move is highly important to the farmers, mechanics and every body else living within the large circle of rich farming country which naturally centers at this point, and will vitally affect their property and prosperity. One hundred and twenty five thousand dollars of Milwaukee City Bonds are pledged to the extension of this road are yet unexpended, and a large part of this amount can be used to build the road from Watertown to this place.

The towns of Hampden, Otsego, Fountain Prairie and Columbus have voted to take sixty thousand dollars in stock, and we doubt not that the town bonds will be promptly issued and this stock taken, as all of these towns are largely interested in the success of this great enterprise.

In addition to this, we have "taken" in this vicinity about 33 thousand dollars in cash, and stock all as good as gold. These items form a good basis for commencing operations. We can take some more, say 17 thousand dollars, making in all 50 thousand, and with this amount, we doubt not, that on or before the first day of September 1856, we shall hear the cheering whistle of the engine and have cars running into our town, bringing with them the noise and bustle of a large and active business, largely enhancing the value of our farms and village property, and increasing the prosperity, happiness and comfort of all our people.

Speed the good work—no holding back—let every man do his duty."

A similar but longer article concerning the necessity of Watertown doing its part, appeared in the Watertown Democrat a few days earlier which contains an enlightening sentence as follows.

"These towns (townships), by law, take stock for certain amounts, and issue bonds in payment."

LaCrosse and Milwaukee

Referring again to the LaCrosse and Milwaukee Road—The road was extended Westward through Beaver Dam to Fox Lake which points were reached in 1856, about the same time the Milwaukee and Watertown reached Watertown: A year later the LaCrosse road (often called the old line) reached Portage City and on to Kilbourn City by August and to New Lisbon in November 1857.

In its issue of May 22, 1856 the Columbus Journal had several items, one which said that the engineers of the Watertown road were engaged in surveying a route to Portage City by way of Fall River.

Another item copied from the Watertown Democrat stated that the bridge across the Rock River was under good headway, with all of the timber on the ground ready for use.

Another item covered an attempt by Byron Kilbourn of Milwaukee and a Mr. Rose of Beaver Dam holding a meeting at Fall River, to try to build a 12 mile branch Railroad from Beaver Dam to Fall River at a cost of \$100,000. The

editor pointed out that it would only cost \$30,000 to build a road from Fall River to Columbus to connect with the Watertown road expected to reach Columbus before the years end and that the mileage to Milwaukee through Columbus would be only 65½ miles but through Beaver Dam it would be 77½ miles.

The paper contained an advertisement giving the arrival and departure of trains from Watertown as follows. An express train leaving Milwaukee at 8:10 a. m. would arrive Watertown at 10:30 a. m. and returning would leave Watertown at 3:20 p. m. and arrive at Milwaukee at 5:35 p. m.

A mixed freight and passenger train called Accommodation Train left Watertown at 5:30 a. m. arriving Milwaukee at 9:30 a. m. and returning left Milwaukee at 5:55 p. m. arriving at Watertown at 9:30 p. m.

Also that stages ran in connection with the Express (passenger) trains from Watertown to Portland, Waterloo, Sun Prairie and Madison; Milton and Jefferson; Oak Grove and Juneau; and Columbus, Fall River, Otsego, Wyocena, Portage City and Baraboo.

Another ad from the Milwaukee and Watertown Railroad Co. called attention to the fact that all stock subscribed for before Feb. 15, 1856 was now due and payable and that those subscribers who had not the cash could settle by note with interest. That all subscription not settled by June 15th would be placed with an attorney for collection.

Local Stockholders Meet

The paper of June 19, 1856 contained a Notice of a meeting of stockholders of the Milwaukee and Watertown Railroad, and all those interested, to be held at the schoolhouse on Saturday, June 21st, 3 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of taking into consideration, the location of the depot, of the expected Railroad.

From a report of this meeting printed in the next week paper we judge it was a protest meeting held to pass a resolution requesting the Railroad officials to build the depot and yards at the place that had originally been decided upon (and which was done) rather than to change to a new location west of the village which would necessitate the purchase of right of way across several blocks comprising the residential section, to surmount a high ridge (Charles st.) and serve no useful purpose other than to enhance the value of certain Real Estate recently purchased West of the ridge on which the new owner, Mr. A. P. Birdsey had built a tavern called the Mountain House.

Our First Train

However, one thing or another delayed the construction, time after time and articles about the lack of progress appeared in the local paper about once a month from May 1856 to May 1857 when at long last rails having been laid, the first passenger train arrived in Columbus May 25th gaily bedecked with banners. This was a special excursion train from Milwaukee with about 100 passengers, and was met by a large crowd of Columbus people and the Columbus band, which played "Hail Columbia" as the train slowly approached the depot.

The passengers were escorted to the Columbus Exchange Hotel where a sumptuous feast was served by landlord H. A. Whitney, speeches were made, and at 2 o'clock the passengers boarded the train for the return trip to Milwaukee.

Many things, mostly financial troubles; legislative delay; a re-organization; some bad winter weather and what not had interfered.

(Continued next week)

Installment No. 104

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The Land Grant

In the spring of 1856 Congress had made a grant of land to the state of Wisconsin, to aid in the building of a railroad from Madison or Columbus, by way of Portage City, to the St. Croix River and from thence to the west end of Lake Superior.

A session of the Wisconsin Legislature was held in September 1856 to "dispose" of the grant, and seemed to favor extending the land grant to a new company rather than to one of the three roads mentioned earlier in this article.

In the meantime, Byron Kilbourn the dynamic president of the LaCrosse and Milwaukee whose rails had already been laid as far as Fox Lake and were building towards Portage City, had succeeded in effecting a consolidation with the Milwaukee and Watertown.

History records that Kilbourn was able to "propitiate" by "pecuniary compliments" enough of the members of both houses to induce them to pass a bill, conferring the so called St. Croix grant upon the LaCrosse & Milwaukee road.

The vote in the assembly was 62 to 7 in favor and in the senate it was 17 to 7.

At a session of the legislature a committee was appointed to investigate the matter and their report stated that bonds in the amount of \$5,000 were set aside for all members of the house who had voted favorably, while \$10,000 in bonds was the amount given to each of the 17 senators.

A few months after the close of the 1856 session, the land grant bonds of the LaCrosse & Milwaukee became worthless, and neither the LaCrosse company nor its successors ever received any portion of the lands granted to the state.

During 1857 the rails of the "old" line or Northern division of the LaCrosse & Milwaukee succeeded in extending its rails to the Mississippi at LaCrosse, and the LaCrosse & Milwaukee sold what had been the Milwaukee & Watertown, including the line to Columbus, to the "Madison, Fond du Lac and Lake Michigan" and that name was changed to Milwaukee & Western which built the branch from Watertown to Sun Prairie.

In 1863 both the LaCrosse & Milwaukee and the Milwaukee & Western reverted to the bondholders and the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway company was the new name.

In Sept. 1864 the 28 miles of track from Columbus to Portage was completed, along the line of the present right of way, and the original entry to the city abandoned, and the present brick freight house was the new depot for both passengers and freight.

The Butterfield Families

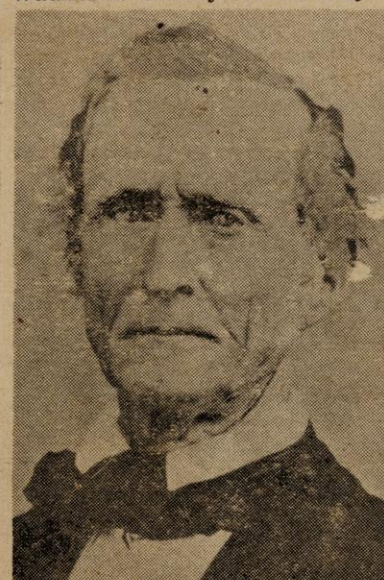
The Patriarch or head of the several Butterfield families that lived here in the early days of Columbus was John and Sarah Jacques Butterfield who came to Wisconsin, in adult life, some time in the eighteen forties, locating in Waukesha County where they conducted an inn

at Brookfield, about where Brookfield Jct. now is.

They came from Washington County, N. Y. from near Smith's Basin.

At a later date the family came to Columbus, where for a time Mr. Butterfield conducted the inn or tavern built by H. A. Whitney.

This was in the period before a newspaper had been established



John Butterfield

here so we have no way of checking, but in Mrs.

Imogene McCafferty's "Reminiscences" on page 6 she writes "In 1849 or '50, Mr. Ingalsbee purchased the Hotel. His father-in-law, Mr. Butter-

field, became manager. In the fall of 1851, my husband traded his fine farm (now the Ingalsbee place) for the hotel property and changed the name to Columbus Exchange."

Mr. Butterfield's granddaughter, Sarah or Sadie Newcomb, Mrs. Walter Marling, born after his death writes "Grandfather Butterfield had an inn at



Sarah Butterfield

Brookfield Junction, then had the old hotel across from E. S. Griswold's store."

Mr. Butterfield's parents were Elija born in 1763, died in 1851 and Hannah, born in 1772 and died in 1853. While they may have been born in one of the New England states, they were in later life residents of Washington County, N. Y. and were, as far as this writer knows, never in Wisconsin.

John and Sarah Butterfield had six children all probably born in New York state, and most if not all were adults when they came to Columbus.

Elija Butterfield

Their first born was a son Elija named after his grandfather. This Elija was born in Kingsbury, Washington County, New York June 10, 1822.

His earlier years were spent on the farm of his parents, until he was about seventeen. He must have had the advantages of at least a district school education, and perhaps of an academy, for when he was about seventeen years old he left the farm to teach school in the winter months and ran a canal boat on the Erie Canal in the summer time, which perhaps meant that he, like president to be, James A. Garfield trod the tow path behind a mule which was the motive power of the early canal boats.

He continued to teach winters and canal boated summers until he was 21, when he began following merchantile pursuits, first going to Albany and then to Troy where he was engaged in the tobacco business which he followed for about four years.

In 1846 when he was 24 he was married to Miss Mary Bacon of Fort Ann, N. Y.

It was in the spring of 1847 that Elija and Mary Bacon Butterfield came to Wisconsin, according to information found on page 1592 of an early history of Milwaukee, but whether this was also the time his father John's family came to Wisconsin, or whether John preceded or came later is not known.

From the history mentioned we quote "Leaving Troy in the spring of 1847, he came direct to Milwaukee, by the lakes, which was the usual and customary way to travel from the east to this area.

On arrival in Milwaukee, he engaged in various lines of business, was for a time in the boot and shoe trade, and afterwards entering the insurance business, and after gaining experience he in time accepted a position as superintendent of agencies for the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company of Newark, New Jersey, and afterwards for the Equitable Life Insurance Company of New York. This work meant a great deal of travel and took him to many parts of the country including the Pacific Coast, while so engaged.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 105

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

It is believed that he at one time was a resident of Columbus, or at least was here at various times, as James Quickenden recalls that



Elija Butterfield

born here in 1860 as the youngest daughter of Hiram Seffens, writes concerning the Elija Butterfields as follows. "The Elija Butterfield family moved to Milwaukee sometime in the 70's. I remember that Mr. Butterfield made a trip to Europe, taking his oldest daughter with him, about 1870-81.

frequently in the early years of the Baptist church here, when they were without a regular minister, Elija Butterfield occupied the pulpit. Since Jim was born in 1855 it must have been some 15 or 20 years later for him to have personal knowledge of church matters.

Our correspondent in Elco Nevada, Mrs. Secor, who was

That was a very wonderful journey at that time. There were 5 children in that family Bacon, Laura, Ed, Fannie and Alice; I knew them intimately for that family and ours all attended the Baptist church.

The Newcomb store where my uncle James Lowth clerked when he married my aunt Mary Watkins, mother's sister, was on James st. next to the white brick bank on corner of James and Broadway, (now the Telephone building).

Afterwards the store was owned by Myron Sawyer, one of the three Sawyer brothers. (This would be where Bellack Clothing has been located for well over 50 years.)



Sarah Jacques Butterfield

Through an error in last week's issue, a picture of daughter Mary Julia was published, instead of Sarah Jacques Butterfield, the mother, whose picture is shown.

Sarah Maria, the second child of John and Sarah became the first wife of Mr. A. W. Ingalsbee and the mother of five children. More details about the Ingalsbees will

be given in a subsequent article to follow.

George Butterfield

The third was George C. Butterfield who became a merchant here in 1855 and probably continued for some years. He announced the opening of his store, and mentioned a great many items, in the form of poetry in the issue of the Journal-Republican of Nov. 8th, 1855 and continued without change for many issues. The poem is good enough to give it space. It is as follows:

RHYMES FOR THE PEOPLE

'Now is the winter of our discontent
Made glorious summer by' these New Goods
from York.

To Be Exchanged For
WHEAT, CORN, OATS AND PORK

A New Store, New Goods and New Prices,
Made up of staple realities and life's spices;
Flummery jewelry, socks for 'Babes in the Woods.'
India rubber over-coats, and neat little hoods;
Ladies' wool, long, and double dress shawls;
Gents 29 shilling pants, and blue over-alls;
Blue shirts for only four shillings,
Cotton warp, and all cotton fillings,
Calico, muslin, and knit under-shirts,
Fancy fixings, and gew-gaws for flirts,
All wool sheeps' grey, and lots of satinett,

Tweeds, cass mere, and broad cloth better yet
Clothing of all the latest fashion and cuts,
Shanghai coats, and tight pants for struts;
Five dollars only, for farmers over-coats,
And fancy ones for gentlemen and bloats;
Long pocket vests—some to show suspenders
Hats warranted not to smash on benders,
Highly ornamented, laid and figured silk,
Embroidered crape shawls, white as milk;
Calicoes, paramettas, merinos and delaine,
Ring, streaked, speckled and plain;
Tam board collars, and worked under sleeve
Galaon, or most any thing you please;
Comforters, feather-dusters, and carpet-bags,
Most everything kept in the line of rags;
First rate brown shirting, 8 cents per yard.
Tweeds, 1 shilling made when the times were so hard.
Elastics with tin clasps, for German trade,
Paper buttons, 'so poor, holes were not made
Red topped boots, with very shu'toes,
Just the fashion, every one knows;
Crocker, a variety, also of hats and caps,
Hardware, full assortment, and notion traps;
Forks, spades, shovels, and grub-hoes,
Ox marrow, lard, scented with rose;
Cow bells glass ware and globe lamps,
Locks and latches to keep out the scamps;
Glass, nails, chains, and iron clocks,
Hatchets and hammers to break the rocks;
Curay combs, cards, and brushes for grooms,
Holes for mice, and splinter new brooms;
Hay knives half bushels and looking glasses
Codfish turpentine, and molasses;
Bed-cord, buck saws, and hemp rope,
Salt, saleratus, starch and soap—
Hook hinges, helves and mop handles,
Axes, pipes, and tallow candles;
Sugar, 10 cents per pound—tobacco, twenty,
Tea, four shillings and coffee plenty—
Mackerel fish in barrels, or neat little kits;
On groceries generally, intend to—'give 'em fits'
Peagoric and pain-killer, quality rare,
Manufactured with the utmost care
On unerring principles, for family use,
'Tis genuine, 'factum facto' no ruse;
Warranted to be well taken before shaken—
Small doses, no use, till fits are broken.
I might go on and enumerate all day,
And then not name half we here display;
All we ask—come in, examine for your selves
The traps scattered round, and piled on the shalves.
Get prices—compare quality and style,
Then if we don't sell, we'll be satisfied awhile.
The season has come to prepare for the cold,
And I've winter goods that must be sold
On time or for cash, as the case may be,
At figures surprising—just call in and see.
The stock is composed of old things and new,
Calculated for use—as may be seen at a view
Now the course to pursue, is simple and plain:
Go first to market, and sell your grain
For the highest price you can get—
Then buy where you can the cheapest,
I never knew one to lose by it yet,
And the plan is by far the neatest,
The town is growing—shop round,
You don't know what bargains may be found
Try the new cōmers who are anxious for trade.
Remember always a shilling saved is one made.
The old traders may deal fair,
Still you may find better ware
To suit your purposes elsewhere—
There buy—if you can on the square,
at better rates;
There's no friendship in trade.

The harvest is ended, the flocks all shorn,
The meadow cut down and wheat housed in the barn,
Health peace and plenty—bountifully rains
With fine pleasant weather to market grains;
But thankful, dear people—bless the donor,
To think you should thus have the honor
To be favored on so liberal on plans,
Abundance, and to spare to ungrateful man,
At remunerative prices, \$1.50 for wheat—
And prices clear up far all kinds of meat—
Matters and things ain't as they used to was,
When Farmers worked hard to earn by their sweat,
Enough in winter, and then come out in debt.
War about Turkey and tea in China, because
They couldn't agree on the balance of power,
Let them fight, and we will sell the Flour.
Ah! the good time promised has truly come,
And Wisconsin Farmers are counted some
In the majestic commercial world abroad;
Such is our good fortune—bless the Lord!
'Tain't every one can be a poet,
More as asleep can be a goat'

GEO. C. BUTTERFIELD

Columbus Nov. 8, 1855.

George C. Butterfield's wife was Miss Lettie Tenney of Dalton, New Hampshire, to whom he was married at Rochester, Minn., some years after the Butterfields came to Columbus.

George C. Butterfield's home for many years was a frame house that stood at the northwest corner of Lewis and James, diagonally across from the F. F. Farnham house, on what later became a part of the lawn of the A. M. Bellack home, now Hugh Caldwell's home.

Later George acquired from his brother in law, Daniel F. Newcomb, the brick house long known as the John Topp house, now the home of Russell Moore, 521 W. James st., and William Butterfield then occupied the house at Lewis and James for years.

When this writer came to Columbus over 50 years ago it was known as the Ben Yale home. It was later acquired by A. M. Bellack and dismantled to make his lawn.

Mrs. George Butterfield was an artist and this house was noted for oil painting she had painted on the wood panels in different parts of the house.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 106

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The names of both George and Lettie Butterfield are found on the list of members of Olivet church — they had no children.



Mrs. George Butterfield

Josephine Linck, daughter of George Linck, an early merchant here.

Mr. Durant later moved to Milwaukee where he became successfully known as tax attorney.

From the files of the Democrat of Nov. 24, 1893 we find the obituary of George C. Butterfield from which we take excerpts.



George Butterfield

After conducting his store here for about four years, in 1859 he sold out and joined a company bound for the west, the Pike's Peak excitement having tempted him.

He went as far as California where he remained for about a year, when he returned here, but went shortly after to Chicago where he remained until 1865 from which time on Columbus remained his home; it is believed this is about the time he was married.

The Democrat continues "very few of our readers are unacquainted with his peculiar traits of character; Odd and blunt, he was an intense thinker and the possessor of a wonderfully active and fertile brain which gave birth to many excellent as well as unique ideas concerning economics, politics, constitutional law and government.

He wrote considerable and his ideas frequently found expression in the daily papers.

He sought to exert his influence in behalf of the masses, "whom he longed to have emancipated from the thralldom of an autocratic form of government." In earlier years he was very active in politics and could always be depended upon to make a speech.

Both are buried at Hillside and only the initials G. C. B. and L. W. B. show on their markers.

While they had no children of their own they gave a home to, and practically raised Paul Durant who became an attorney, and married Miss

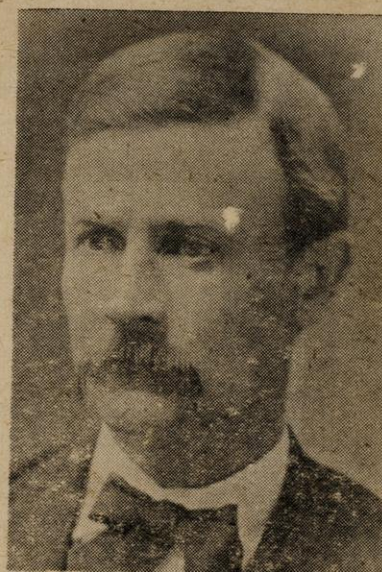
He was missed from his accustomed haunts for only about a week, in his last illness. His funeral was conducted by Rev. H. J. Ferris of Olivet church.

A map of Fountain Prairie as of 1890 shows that George C. Butterfield was the owner of 140 acres in sections 35 and 36.

Next child of John and Sarah, was their daughter Mary Julia who became the wife of Daniel F. Newcomb, the story of the Newcomb family having been published only recently, installments 97 and 98.

John Spencer Butterfield

John Spencer Butterfield was the fifth child and third son. He is well remembered by a few



old timers as having gone to Chicago where he engaged in business, and later joining with a man named Norcross they established a saw mill in a town they founded in Mississippi, which they called Norfield, in which business they became wealthy.

John S. Butterfield's first wife was Mollie Westgate and from this

union there were two sons and a daughter, Charles, Sarah (Mrs. Arend) and William Westgate.

After his wife died he married her sister Emma Westgate, and from her there was a son Ralph B. and a daughter Edith.

Lander Butterfield, a lawyer in Chicago, on the legal staff of the Santa Fe R. R. is a son of William Westgate Butterfield.

Mrs. Darwin Blanke of Madison is a granddaughter of John Spencer Butterfield.

Out of six children of John Spencer Butterfield, only one, a son William Westgate Butterfield is still living at 2047 North Raymond st., Pasadena, Calif.

William Butterfield

The youngest child of John and Sarah was William H. Butterfield, perhaps the best known and well remembered son, because he lived here longer. Two of his six children are still living, Ada, Mrs. P. H. Salter of 1204 Nebraska Ave., Norfolk, Nebraska and her sister Josephine Mrs. Jack Weills, of Medford, Oregon.

Mrs. Salter lives with her son, Dr. George Salter, also of same address in Norfolk. Mrs. Wm. H. Butterfield was Miss Josephine Dayton, their other children were George D, Carroll, Arthur and Spencer.

William Butterfield acquired considerable land; a map of 1890 showing him as the owner of 428 acres, all in one body, lying in sections 25, 28, 35 and 36, town of Columbus, part of which is now the Kehl Turkey farm on the Waterloo road.

He is also remembered as being for years a buyer and shipper of livestock.



He perhaps actually ran the farm and lived on it at one time, but in 1866 he bought the red brick house, known as the von Briesen house, corner of Spring and James st. from his brother-in-law, Daniel F. Newcomb, which he continued to own until Sept. 1883 when he sold it to Ernest von

William H. Butterfield
Briesen sr.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 107

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Several years later he sold out here and moved to Norfolk, Neb. where he acquired 13,000 acres of land, upon which he fattened cattle and hogs, in which he made considerable money.

So far as can now be determined, the historian C. W. Butterfield, so often quoted, was not at least closely related to the family herein discussed.

Asked where her grandparents, John and Sarah Butterfield resided in Columbus. Mrs. Marling said she believed they returned east for awhile, and when they returned to Columbus, they lived with their daughter and son in law, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Ingalsbee. John Butterfield died here in 1867, aged 69, some years before Mrs. Marling was born; Sarah died in 1889 aged 86. Both are buried at Hillside.

Adolphus W. Ingalsbee

Adolphus W. Ingalsbee was born in Washington Co., N. Y., 1822.

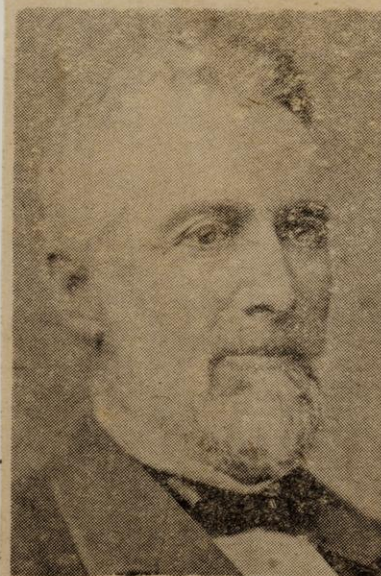
He went to California in 1849 spent 3 years there returned to N. Y. in 1852. He came to Wisconsin fall of 1852 and to Columbus in 1853.

In October 1853 he was married to Sarah Marie Butterfield, daughter of John and Sarah Butterfield formerly of Washington Co., N. Y.

In all probability the two families were friends and neighbors in N. Y. and the removal of the Butterfields to Wisconsin may have been the reason Mr. Ingalsbee came here after returning from California. He was 31 at the time.

The Ingalsbees had 5 children Ralph, Minnie, Burr and Camilla, the youngest all of whom preceded him in death, and Elnora, who became

the wife of T. S. Maxwell, a Columbus dentist, younger brother of the better known John S. Maxwell, once a local attorney who later moved to Milwaukee. After Mrs. Ingalsbee died, he later married a widow, Mrs. E. G. Thayer, of Milwaukee who had one daughter Gertrude who became Mrs. Melendy.



A. W. Ingalsbee

For a great many years he was a capable live stock buyer and was well known to every one in the surrounding area.

He was once the owner of the Hotel or tavern built by H. A. Whitney, which for a short time was operated by his father-in-law, Mr. Butterfield until, Harvey McCafferty traded some land for the hotel the name of which was changed to



Columbus Exchange. The Ingalsbee land holding increased gradually to the point where he became one of the largest land owners in Columbus.

The dates given in Mrs. McCaffery's little booklet published in 1916, written from memory, are not correct as to the time Mr. Ingalsbee owned the hotel.

Mrs. A. W. Ingalsbee

The Ingalsbee home, now the Clarke Arnold home at 546 S. Park Ave. (Ludington) was built for him by Robert Quickenden (Jim's Father) in 1853, and

was originally a frame house, with foundations made wide enough to later carry brick veneering, which was not added until some years later.

Mr. Ingalsbee once owned all the land from Fuller St. to the Madison road and from the Madison Road to the River Road as well as several pieces in Elba.

He platted the Ingalsbee Addition of three or four blocks south of Fuller to Hamilton, and also with A. P. Birdsey, the Birdsey and Ingalsbee Addition across the River in Dodge County consisting of 12 blocks.

We find no record, up to 1880, indicating that Mr. Ingalsbee was active in Civic affairs, or in the church life or Fraternal circles of that period.

Mr. Ingalsbee died, in Jan., 1905, of cancer of the throat, in his 83rd year; the funeral was held in his late home, conducted by Rev. Leonard of Olivet church.

After the first Mrs. Ingalsbee died, Adaline Dott who had worked in the home, remained as housekeeper until Mr. Ingalsbee married again, when she went to live with grandmother Butterfield in her apartment in the Newcomb home at School and Main sts.

James T. Lewis

The accompanying photograph of Hon. James T. Lewis was taken about the time he was governor of Wisconsin 1863-65, or perhaps a few years later.

It is from a steel engraving used in a United States biographical dictionary published in 1877, and used as a frontis piece. His biography, in more detail than this writer has seen in other published works about Mr. Lewis is found on pages 5, 6 and 7.

A brief biography of Mr. Lewis appeared in installment No. 23 of this series, but from time to time, as more material comes to light on the early pioneers, it will be published.

James T. Lewis came here in 1845 being so far as known our first lawyer, and is easily our most famous resident, having served the state successively as district attorney, county judge, member of the constitutional convention, member of the general assembly, state senator, member of a court of impeachment, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, and governor.

He more than once declined appointment to Federal positions of importance, and in 1865 refused nomination of governor for a second term.

It is not known where the Lewis family first lived in Columbus, but the first house he built here was what is now the central portion of the writers home at 711 W. James St., which he built in 1854, in which the family lived while the higher, front part with the couple was being built, and at the same time his beautiful four Columned colonial home was being built across Charles st. standing where the home of the sisters, and chapel at the hospital now stands.

In Aug. 1856 his brother William L. Lewis acquired the property when the James T. Lewis family moved into the Colonial mansion a picture of each of which is shown herewith.

On page 695 of Butterfield's history will be found a brief account of an incident, a deer hunt, in which Mr. Lewis took part during the winter of 1845-46, his first winter here, at which time there were no log cabins or homes of any kind except those in to the original settlement which

The ridge from the present site of the County Normal School to beyond the cemetery, was mostly heavy hardwood timber with here and there small openings, called oak openings: the oak trees, some of the most outstandingly beautiful that may still be seen here and there about town indicate what was, a little over a hundred years ago, a virgin stand of timber.

It was along this ridge of a width of from Lewis st. to Hibbard st., that the hunting area described.

In the mail only a few days ago this writer received from Mr. Carl Deysenroth of Chicago a four page story, written by Gov. James T. Lewis, perhaps 25 years after the hunt took place. We have examined the manuscript carefully and compared the writing with other known specimens of the hand writing of Mr. Lewis, and there is no question of its authenticity, it is entitled.

(To be continued next week)

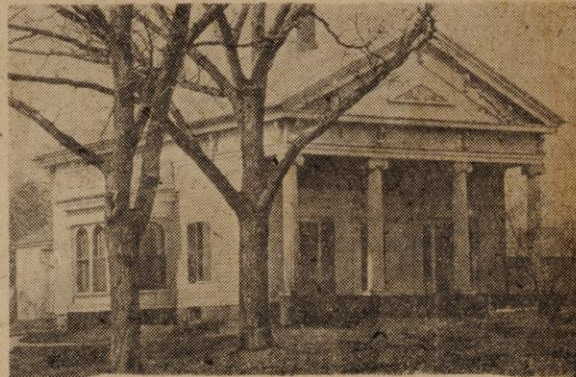
Installment No. 108

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



Lewis Residence, 711 W. James St.

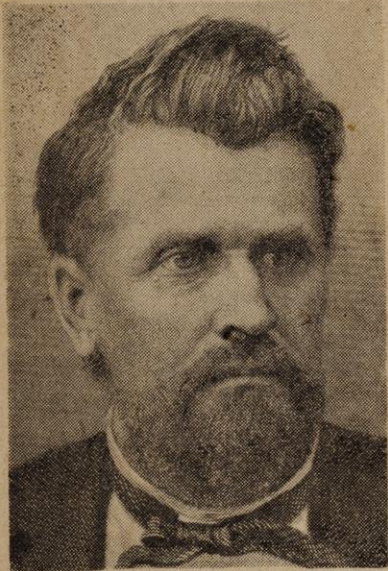


Governor Lewis Colonial Mansion

Lack of space prevented showing these pictures last week.

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 in 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.



James T. Lewis

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 & Cadv—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 trickled 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 at 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.

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.

St. Joseph's Church, East Bristol

Prior to the late 1840's very few pioneers of Catholic faith had settled in this area.

From a large volume entitled history of the Catholic church in Wisconsin, we learn that as early as April 1847 occasional services were held in the homes of the few German Catholic settlers in the area around East Bristol, the ministers being Father Inama and or Father Gaertner, both of whom resided at Roxbury, a township in the northwestern part of Dane county east of the Wisconsin River across from Prairie du Sac and Sauk City.

It was during the administration of these two ministers, and between 1847 and 1850 that the St. Joseph's congregation was formed, and the few German Catholic families built their first small church, which we understand was a structure of logs.

From 1850 to 1853, Father Etschmann of St. Raphael's Church, Madison, was in charge, and during that period a paritioner Michael Schmitt donated six acres to the congregation as a site for a church, school and cemetery.

During 1854 their spiritual guidance was in the hands of Father Haider of Jefferson, who made occasional visits, and in 1855 until June 1856 it was Rev. John Baptist Hasselbauer, born in Bavaria who became resident pastor, bringing with him a bell, the first in the area and regarded as an unusual luxury.

In June 1856 the very Rev. Martin Kundig who had some years earlier (1841) came to Milwaukee from Detroit with Right Rev. P. O. Lefevre the first Bishop to visit Wisconsin, was given charge of St. Joseph's at East Bristol and St. Columbkills in Elba.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 109

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

Father Kundig had established the first Catholic school in Milwaukee in connection with St. Peters church, classes being held in the basement.

Four years later he went east to secure teachers, and six sisters from the convent at Emmetsburg, Maryland came back with him.

He was not permitted long to remain at relatively unimportant places as he had great organizational ability, but he was left here long enough to organize St. Jerome's church in Columbus as well as to care for Elba and East Bristol.

He was succeeded at East Bristol by Rev. Seif of Cross Plains, and Jacob Stehle their period of labor running to Oct. 1857 during which time the original log structure was enlarged.

Then from Oct. 1857 to May 1859 Rev. Conrad administered he being followed by Rev. Pfaller who remained until the end of 1860.

Next came Father Comenzind for a couple of years and was succeeded by Rev. Obermueller, then by Rev. Bernard and he by Rev. Fabian Bermadinger until Oct. 1864. It was during his administration that plans were made to build a new church.

The church, 40 ft. by 105 ft. was completed at a cost of \$6,000, during the administration of Father De Becke. He was followed by Rev. Anton Foeckler, Feb. 1867 to May 1871 and it was in this period that a large school building was built at a cost of \$4,000.



During the next 15 years several different pastors served, and in 1886 came Rev. S. G. Woelfe to remain until he died in 1895. The construction of the stone Gothic church was begun shortly before Rev. Woelfe died, and was finished under the Rev. Klein who succeeded him.

As of about the time of his death, the congregation consisted of about 150 families, all German but three, and the parish school had an enrollment of 140 children.

We will not attempt to bring the story of St. Joseph's up to the present time.

St. Columbkills, Elba

In installment No. 58, a year or more ago in the story of the Roche family, reference was made to Rev. James Roche, third son of Robert Roche, who was an early Missionary in Wisconsin and is credited with having organized several churches at different locations.

One of these was St. Columbkills in Elba a few miles southeast of Danville, which was organized by Father James D. Roche, about 1850. He was not resident there but attended the parish from Fox Lake or Portage.

From the book previously mentioned we find on page 384 these words "Previous to this time (1856) the Catholics living in and about Columbus, attended services in St. Columbkills church, which was situated in the town of Elba, Dodge county, at which place a church was erected

about the year of 1850, by Father James D. Roche"; This is a qualified statement, so we cannot positively state that the church was built in 1850, but that is the approximate date.

The first "resident" pastor was Father Martin Kundig, mentioned in the account of St. Joseph's church at East Bristol, who came to Elba in 1856 and in the winter of 1856 he also formed the congregation of St. Jerome's in Columbus.

Father Kundig, a great organizer, was succeeded at Elba, by Revs. Downey and Purcell, and they in 1858 by Father Edward McGurk, who also took charge of and attended to the surrounding missions, including the St. Jerome's church at Columbus.

This arrangement continued until 1868 when Father James O'Keefe took up residence in Columbus as its first resident pastor.

Father McGurk remained in Elba until the winter of 1869 when he was succeeded by Rev. H. S. O'Brien who remained for ten years.

In 1879 Father Thomas Dempsey came and two years later was succeeded by Rev. J. B. McFarland who remained until the summer of 1893,

when Elba became a mission of Columbus, with Rev. Father H. R. Murphy in charge, which arrangement lasted until 1906.

In that year St. Columbkille became a mission of Reeseville which continues to this day.

Rev. E. A. Hemming was in charge until 1911 the subsequent priests and their terms of service being Rev. Edward Kersting 1911-1922; Rev. George Radandt, 1922-1924; Rev. P. Hildebrand, 1924-1930; Rev. I. C. Wiltzius, 1930-1937; Rev. A. Simeoni, 1937-1951 when Rev. Joseph C. Beres the present incumbent was put in charge.

St. Jeromes

The Congregation of St. Jerome's church was organized by the very Rev. Martin Kundig, who was destined to later become Vicar General of Milwaukee.

Father Kundig had been sent to Elba in 1856 and also to East Bristol that same year, in both of which, churches had been established for a few years. In the winter of 1856 he completed the formation of St. Jeromes and early in the spring of 1857 work was begun on the foundations of a church on lot 10 block 9 of Birdsey's Addition, which lot was a gift of Almon P. Birdsey, a pioneer settler and business man, but not a member of the Catholic church. This was several years before the Portage extension of the railroad was made.

The corner stone was laid in June, the intention being to build a stone church, but it was found impossible to finance the project, so a small frame church was built for temporary use.

From the book previously mentioned, we quote, "Matters went somewhat slowly in Columbus at first, and after laying the corner stone it was discovered that the people, though willing to do their best, were deficient in means, and unable to complete the undertaking."

From Butterfield's history of Columbia county published in 1880, pages 683-4 we quote excerpts from a brief article about St. Jerome's church "There is no record or remembrance of earlier Christian effort in Columbus, according to Roman tenets, than that embracing the ministrations of that pioneer apostle, the Rev. Martin Kundig, whose footprints we encounter in the early church history of almost every city or village of note in central and southeastern Wisconsin.

He bore the cross into Columbus in the winter of 1856, and planted it in the midst of a small flock of the faithful, who hailed it with all the reverence begotten of earnest belief. The rude homes in which the members of the primitive parish lived were dedicated to the cause of the church, and their doors thrown open to receive the reverend father. Masses were said in the log cabins of the parishioners with all the profound impressiveness that now characterizes the more attractive services from gilt and draped altars, which echo back the notes of the solemn-toned organs.

A common tin pan then served as a baptismal font, and a gourd of water from the Crawfish River, properly blessed, removed the stain of sin from the finger-tips of devout believers.

Early in the spring, work was commenced upon the foundation of a church edifice, and in June the corner stone was laid. For want of sufficient means, no further progress was made until 1864."

In the meantime a temporary wooden structure had been built and occupied. Father Kundig's successors, were the Revs. Downey and Purcell, both here and at Elba, and in 1858 came Father Edward McGurk, stationed at St. Columbkille at Elba, who took care of several missions, including Columbus.

In 1864 work was resumed on what is now the central portion of the present church.

"The first resident pastor was Rev. James O'Keefe who came to St. Jeromes in 1868, and in that year the red brick parsonage was purchased for \$1400.00".

(To be continued next week)

The red brick house purchased for a parsonage was in use until the new parsonage, the present one, was built in 1894.

The brick house, shows on an artist's sketch of Columbus, made in 1893 as a two story house which stood facing Church St. with a frame structure housing the kitchen at the rear, at a spot not far from the present garage, or west of the hitch barns that also show in the same sketch. There were no railroad tracks in that part of town until several years after this house was built.

The house was located on lot 3 which was 60 ft. facing Church st. and a depth of 150 feet.

The hitch barns show as running the entire length of lot 5—150 ft. on Birdsey st., the end of the barns being on Church street.

It is quite likely that the house was among the very early brick homes built here of local brick, perhaps made on the site by James Webster, the only known brickmaker here before the Hayden Brothers brick yard was established on the Elba road a short distance east of the river.

Some time after the present parsonage was built and occupied the red brick house was sold to Frank Wilskey, who tore it down and used the material to build some small houses near the river on the east side of Ludington st.

By permission of the railroad company, Mr. Wilske moved the frame portion, down the tracks one Sunday, to Ludington st., where it was made into a small home, one of several built by Wilske.

Father O'Keefe remained here until May, 1870 when the church was again placed under Father McGurk of Elba who was transferred to Columbus. He found the affairs of the church and the spiritual condition of the parishioner much improved in the time since he had been the missionary here; the fruits of his earlier labors were fast ripening.

His stay here was brief, however, being succeeded by the Rev. E. Gray who remained until Dec. 1872, when he retired in favor of Rev. Henry Roche (see installment No. 59).

Father Roche remained in charge of St. Jerome's until 1892, and it was during his administration that the church was enlarged and bell tower added, the work being started in 1888 according to the date on the corner stone, and finished in 1889 according to Butterfield who states that this improvement made the total cost of the building about \$5,000. He also gives the size of the parish as eighty families.

According to information supplied by a former secretary of the congregation, the extensions constructed in 1888-9 and the improvements made at that time, totaled \$4672, including the bell which cost \$465.

The records show individual subscription to the building fund were \$2180.70 and amounts raised by the several societies of the church, by means of suppers, plays, festivals, raffles, etc. etc. totaled \$860.00 and Pew rentals \$778 which was not sufficient to cover all bills, so therefore \$1350.00 "was hired" at 6%.

The annual church expenses of operation in the late eighties appears to have been in the neighborhood of one thousand dollars, the income mostly being from pew rentals which for six years averaged about \$850.00 per year — Special collections were taken for specific repairs, improvements etc. As for example in 1891 \$325.00 for kitchen, 1892 re-shingling church \$185.00; 1902 re-decorating interior of church \$340.00.

In 1894 the new residence or parsonage, was built by contract with M. Loomis, for \$2300.00.

In 1899 the railroad company lowered their tracks, and built the overhead viaduct, where there had previously been a grade crossing.

This improvement, cut off Church st. and raised the grade of Lewis st. in front of the parsonage

considerably. The church effected a settlement of damages claimed against the railroad, in the amount of nearly a thousand dollars. 167

In 1892 Rev. Joerger became pastor when Father Roche was sent to Kenosha, but in July 1893 Father Henry R. Murphy, a nephew of Father Henry Roche, was sent to St. Jerome's, where he remained until his death in Jan 1924. Father Murphy was ordained as a priest June 4, 1877 and after celebrating his first Mass in Columbus, was placed in charge of the congregation at Doylestown, the first resident minister. He served at Clyman from 1880 to 1888 and was then sent to Racine, from where he came here.

Father Murphys death in Jan. 1924 brought Father Thomas Myles to St. Jerome's where he has labored for going on to thirty years.

The congregation is now made up of about 100 families, and is now giving consideration to the building of a school and a new church, some time in the future.

In 1919 the area of the cemetery was increased by purchase of a strip of land 12 rods wide and 53 rods long or about 4 acres.

Gerry W. Hazelton

G. W. Hazelton's introduction to Columbus was a small item in the Journal-Republican of Oct. 16th, 1856 calling attention to him as follows: "In the columns of our Business Directory will be found the card of Mr. G. W. Hazelton, attorney at law."

Mr. H. is a young man yet but he comes to us very highly recommended as a man of honor of more than ordinary talents and business habits, and in fact, a gentleman in every respect.

Mr. H. intends to locate among us permanently and we hope he will receive the patronage due to his merit."

This was right in the middle of a political campaign in which the Republican party, which was organized at Ripon only two years earlier, was for the first time trying its metal on a nation wide scale with Gen. John C. Fremont as their candidate for President of the United States.

A Mass meeting had been called which was to be addressed by the Hon. Charles L. Billingshurst, candidate for congress, and other less prominent speakers; travel conditions being bad, Mr. Billingshurst was late in arriving and the local committee called upon the new young attorney Mr. Hazelton to address the meeting.

The comments in the local paper were brief, "Mr. Hazelton is not well known here, being yet a comparative stranger, but he only needs to be heard to be admired".

From a sketch found in the local library in a book of biographies published in 1877 we find "From that time on he has been an active participant in every important political campaign, visiting all parts of the state".

Gerry W. Hazelton was born in Chester, New Hampshire in 1829, a son of William and Mercy J. Hazelton, his father being of English and his mother of Scotch origin.

After finishing common school in Chester he attended Pinkerton Academy in Derry, N. H.; he then entered a more advanced school in Nashua supporting himself by part time teaching, in preparation for entrance to college.

However at the suggestion of a kinsman a lawyer in Amsterdam, N. Y. he went there to read law, and continued his other studies under a tutor, instead of entering college.

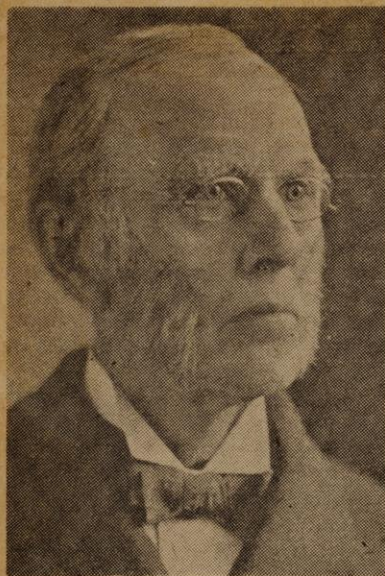
In 1852 he was admitted to the bar and formed a partnership with the Hon. S. P. Heath, which continued until 1856, at which time, with a view of selecting a location and establishing a home in the west, he traveled through southern Wisconsin and was so charmed with the appearance of the country around Columbus that he promptly decided to locate here.

(To be continued next week)

(Continued from last week)

Mr. Hazelton was married May 24th, 1855 to Miss Martha L. Squire, a native of Berkshire county, Mass. but a resident of Amsterdam.

In all probability he came here alone, his wife following later; the records of the Congregational-



G. W. Hazelton

Presbyterian church show that Mr. and Mrs. Hazelton united with this church July 31, 1857, and also that from Sept. 6, 1850 to Oct. 22, 1861 Mr. Hazelton was secretary of the society.

On Sept. 2, 1860 Mr. Wm. Hazelton (a brother) and wife also united with the church; Mr. Wm. Hazelton became a partner of Wm. Johnson, an uncle of Walter Johnson, in a clothing and general merchandise store in Columbus. The mother of Gerry and William Hazelton, and their sister must have come to Columbus to make their home, some years later, for we find that on Sept. 7, 1866, Mrs. Mercy J. Hazelton and Miss Harriet P. Hazelton presented a joint letter from the Congregational church of Chester, N. H. and joined the local church.

Jim Quickenden remembers the sister but not the mother, and of course knew both of the brothers.

Mr. Hazelton was a delegate to the Republican convention held at the Wigwam, a temporary structure of undressed lumber, with a saw dust covered dirt floor, erected in Chicago expressly built for this one event in 1860.

Abraham Lincoln, was second on the first ballot, but gained enough on the second, to insure the nomination, which was made unanimous upon motion of Mr. Everts of the New York delegation which had supported Mr. Seward who was ahead on the first ballot but fell behind on the second.

On July 15, 1915 Mr. Hazelton made an address at the meeting of the State Bar Association, on the subject of Abraham Lincoln, during which he vividly described the convention in the course of which he said "You will pardon me if I direct your attention for a few minutes to the convention, and may I be pardoned for reminding you that this the only opportunity you will ever have of hearing about that convention from the lips of a living witness."

Mr. Hazelton was 31 at the time of the convention and 86 when he addressed the Bar Association; He died Sept. 29, 1920 aged 91.

The picture we are reproducing was re-photographed from a book "Proceedings of the State Bar Association Vol. II 1915 page 113.

In 1860, in the political campaign in which the new Republican party first won Nationally, electing Abraham Lincoln as President, we find that G. W. Hazelton was elected to the State Senate, and during his term served as chairman of the senate affairs committee, chairman of Federal Relations committee, and a member of the Judiciary committee.

Upon the death of Governor Harvey and the

elevation of Lieutenant Gov. Soloman to be chief executive, Mr. Hazelton was elected to president of the senate, an achievement almost unheard of for a first term.

He was elected to the senate for a second term and was again re-elected as president of the senate, as well as serving on several important committees.

He declined nomination for a third term and returned to private practice here; In 1864 he was elected District Attorney of Columbia County, serving in 1865-6, being the third man from Columbus to become District Attorney, the others being James T. Lewis 1847-8 and Amasa G. Cook 1851-2.

Before the end of his term, Mr. Hazelton was tendered and accepted the position of Internal Revenue Collector for the second district.

In April 1869 he was appointed United States Attorney for the Wisconsin district in which capacity he served until Jan. 1st retiring to become Congressman from the 2nd Wisconsin district to which post he was elected in Nov. 1869. He served with distinction in the 42nd Congress and in the election of 1871 he was nominated by acclamation and without opposition. Concerning this the State Journal said "No convention of its size ever presented a larger number of experienced and able men. A unanimous nomination from such a body of men is a compliment that but few men receive in a lifetime". He served March 4, 1871 to March 3, 1875.

His activities during the 43rd Congress, though important and varied are too numerous to mention in a sketch of this kind.

Near the close of his term, he was unexpectedly tendered the office of United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, which he accepted.

He was still a resident of Columbus as late as May 1876 which we find from Church records, in the minutes of meeting, but it is believed that it was about August 1876 that he moved to Milwaukee where the practice of law, for a man of his achievements would be more remunerative. The church letters of removal to Milwaukee are dated Jan. 25, 1877 issued to Mr. and Mrs. G. W., Miss Anna, Mrs. Mercy, Miss Hattie, and Mrs. Squires, his mother in law.

The Hazeltons had only one daughter Miss Anna, who died only a few years ago.

In 1892 Mr. Hazelton made a two months tour of Europe during which he kept a special diary of 90 pages 4" x 7" running from June 1st to August 1st which his daughter Anna gave to the State Historical Society along with many other papers, speeches, etc.

An examination of this Journal shows June 1-20 crossing to Liverpool and visiting London, Chester, Stratford and Oxford.

June 21-July 3 — Paris and environs.

July 4-6 — Brussels and Antwerp.

July 7-11 — Holland, The Hague, Amsterdam, Ratterdam.

July 12-17 — London

July 17-23 — Tour of English Lakes Region

July 25-31 — Scotland, Edinburg, Stirling, Glasgow, and Scottish Lakes.

Aug. 1 — Sailed from Liverpool for the United States. In 1912 Mr. Hazelton was appointed special Master in Chancery and served for several years as A. S. Court Commissioner and Commissioner for Milwaukee County.

Our thanks to Dr. Benton H. Wilcox, Librarian of State Historical Society, Madison for his assistance in supplying information from Society records, not available locally.

(To be continued next week)

In installments No's 94 and 95 concerning Col. Harvey M. Brown, brief mention was made of his new building built in 1876.

Some detailed information concerning the building, the present B & E Gift shop, recently purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Evans, from the last previous owners Mrs. Mayme Eichberg and Miss Eda Briese has been found, in the Democrat of Dec. 16th, 1876.

The mason work was done by Henry Boelte, father of Miss Martha Boelte, 337 W. James st. who was a stone mason contractor, with a good crew of old country masons, who built most of the foundations, basements, and stone buildings in Columbus. Working with him was Hiram Seffins a master brick mason and plasterer.

The front of the Brown building was made of Milwaukee pressed brick, while the stone portions of the front were Joliet stone cut and carved by W. R. Turner & Co. of Columbus.

The Iron Columns sillplate and lintels were cast by the Union Foundry Co. of Chicago, and "is the smoothest job of the kind we have ever seen."

The glass is all Polished French Plate glass: the first story windows are 5 feet wide by 11 feet high, in one piece; the side lights and door are also one piece windows; all of it perfectly clear and 1/2 inch thick.

The second story windows each have two lights 44 x 56 inches.

The zinc cornish and top front trim on which appears the name and date, H. M. Brown, 1876 was made and put up by Demsey & Burghoffer, "making a desirable fire proof finish" (the paper did not say whether this firm was local or where from).

The carpenter work was done by R. D. Vana-ken and his able assistants, who executed the plan of the building designed by W. W. Boyington of Chiago "as only workmen of his ability can."

The plastering was done by Edward Downey of Columbus; the painting was by J. L. Hastings of Oconomowoc.

The second story is arranged and furnished for a photography gallery to be occupied by W. K. Hoskins (who moved there from his previous location in the Fuller building, Harry Eichberg's store).

"The total cost of the building was \$4,500.00 and is truly a credit to Columbus."

"No one appreciates such a luxury and such a home more than the boy who about 25 years ago (1851) walked from Madison to Columbus one rainy day, without money enough to pay his stage fare or to buy a dinner, and who has the varied experience all have who earn what they get and save what they earn."

The second story has practically always been occupied as a photograph gallery, several different photographers having occupied it at different times.

The Ocheeg River

This writer was recently asked if, in his research, he had ever seen any reference to the Crawfish River having been called by some Indian name.

The inquiry was prompted by the fact that the cemetery near Danville, bearing the name O'Keag for as far back as most people can remember, has a name unlike any family that ever lived in the area, that any one can recall.

The burning of a brick building, detached from the Court house at Juneau in Sept., 1877, in which was the office of the treasurer, the County Clerk and the Register of Deeds, destroyed all the records therein, making it difficult to search the records.

But through the courtesy of Mr. Frank O'Rourke and the Abstract company at Juneau,

the Cemetery Association have a record of the previous owners of the land and we understand the name O'Keag does not appear. 169

A few people still living can recall hearing their parents saying that the name with the Irish spelling is not correct, and that it was an Indian name originally, the meaning of which, translated, was "calm or peaceful", while others thought the translation came out "Crawfish".

Later in the present year, the O'Keag Cemetery Association will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the beginning, and are desirous of clearing up and finding if possible, any or all references to a name of the river preceeding the present name of Crawfish.

The writer therefore directed his research to this end and has found the following published information.

In a map of the southern part of the territory of Wisconsin, entered according to an Act of Congress in the year 1844 by Sidney E. Morse and Samuel Breese, in the clerks office of the southern district of New York, published in 1845, we find that what we know as the Crawfish River is shown as the Ocheeg River down as far as its juncture with the Beaver Dam River in the lower port of town of shields, Dodge county.

From that point on in a southerly direction through Portland and Aztlan to where it enters the Rock River at Jefferson, it is shown on the map as "Westbranch". Incidentally what is shown on later maps as Beaver Dam river is shown on this old map as the "Waushara" river.

The map referred to was issued before Columbia County had been formed and is shown as Portage county and before the name Portage City was given to what was then the little settlement called Ft. Winnebago, at the point where the Portage from the Fox River approached the Wisconsin River. Incidentally the present Fox is shown as the "Neenah" or Fox River, so presumably the Indian name "Neenah" preceeds that of Fox. Also what we know as Waterloo creek which rises in town of Bristol, flows down through Marshall and Waterloo and joins the Crawfish near Portland, is shown as the Mauneshah River.

In a small book of 200 pages, entitled "Wisconsin, its Geography and Topography" written by Increase A. Lapham and published (second edition) in 1846 by I. A. Hopkins, Milwaukee, the name "Ocheeg" does not occur, in fact none of the Indian names above are mentioned expect "Neenah" which is used in preference to Fox, because there is another Fox in southeastern Wisconsin which is referred to as the Fox river of Illinois.

In order to learn, if possible, the meaning of the Indian word Ocheeg, the matter was taken up with the Wisconsin Historical Society, to which inquiry we have the following reply from Dr. Benton H. Wilcox, librarian.

"This matter of the meaning of Indian names is a very difficult one. I regret that we have not been able to find any definition of the meaning of "Ocheeg, the name of a part of the Crawfish river on Laphams map. The "West Branch" definitely means the West Branch of the Rock River, as explained in Lapham's text, but he makes no mention of Ocheeg.

This word would probably have been from either the Winnebago or the Menominees.

There is a fairly satisfactory word list for the latter, and I can say that definitely Ocheeg is not the Menominee for Crawfish, nor can we find it in the Menominee lists. (of words).

However in the case of the Winnebago there are no satisfactory word lists or dictionary.

This term seems definitely not to fit into the Chippewa of which there are fairly good dictionaries.

(To be continued next week)

(Continued from last week)

One is inclined to wonder if the cemetery may not have been named after some early settler. There were people by this name in the county (Dodge), though the census does not locate them in that town. At least it is a fairly common Irish name."

Not being able to discover the meaning of the word "Ocheeg" the writer, having set forth what he has found, will leave it to each reader to figure it out for himself.

Since the waters of the Crawfish flow into the Rock River, we will set forth a few facts taken from Increase Lapham's book, and elsewhere.

One branch originating somewhere above Wau-pun and west of Fond du Lac, meanders through Horicon marsh, shown as Great Marsh, on the 1845 map previously mentioned, and is augmented by flows from other streams from the east, as well as from the Crawfish at Jefferson, has a total length of 316 miles of which 165 miles are in Illinois to near Rock Island where it discharges into the Mississippi. It is for the rocks near its mouth, as seen from the Mississippi that the river was named "Rock" river and not from its being any more rocky than other rivers.

From its source where the elevation is 316 ft. above sea level, there is a fall of 188 ft. at the Illinois line, and considerably less from there to the Mississippi.

The river had obstructions within Wisconsin territory consisting of four rapids and ten sand bars or shallow places according to a government survey made by Capt. Cramm, prior to 1846—his report saying "This river, at very moderate

expense, can be rendered navigable for small steamers by building four locks and dams at the rapids, and some dredging in the shallows.

The whole estimated cost of improving the lower division of this river, from the state line to its mouth, is only \$150,000.00."

Jefferson was considered the head of navigation on the Rock, small steamers having ascended that far — (but there was considerable navigation of flat boats pushed by poles.)

Indeed in 1841, a small steam boat was built at Aztalan, for navigation down stream to Jefferson.

But the principal navigation was confined to floating lumber, grain etc. down stream, on rafts or on flat bottomed barges or boats, the logs forming the rafts, and the barges or boats being sold with the contents.

More About Capt. Calvin Baker

In installments 90 and 91 appeared the story of Capt. Calvin Baker and his ancestors, at which time we had not found a picture of him.

Since then, through an item appearing in Wisconsin Magazine of History, a quarterly published by the State Historical Society, we have been in correspondence with Mr. Harry D. Baker of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, from whom we have received more information and the loan of a group picture showing Captain Calvin Baker, one brother and three sisters.

In the installments 90 and 91 the writer drew an erroneous conclusion as to the relationship, when he, because of incomplete information, referred to Maj. Joseph Stannard Baker as a younger brother of Capt. Calvin Baker.

Major Joseph S. Baker was a double cousin, not a brother, because of two Baker brothers having married two Stannard sisters; aside from which the story previously published is correct.

This picture of the then surviving Baker brothers and three sisters, all double cousins of Major Baker, was taken upon their visit to the Baker and Ingorsoll homes in St. Croix in the summer of 1886 or 7. The five shown were the surviving children of Remember Baker and Cynthia Stannard Baker, who were the parents of several other children, then dead, including Brig. General La Fayette C. Baker who was chief of detectives under Pres. Abraham Lincoln, during the Civil War 1861-65.

The names were, left to right, sitting Mrs. Lodusky Baker Collins, then of Texas, Mrs. Emeline Baker Ingorsoll, St. Croix Falls, Wis., Mrs. Lucy Baker Wilder, New York. Standing, Milo S. Baker, Los Angeles, Calif., Capt. Calvin S. Baker, Columbus, Wis.

In the installments previously mentioned, references was made to Capt. Calvin Baker having at one time, before the Civil war, been engaged with a brother in the detective business.

From what we now know, it is a fair assumption that it was the brother La Fayette, who was probably a professional detective, good enough to be chosen

(To be continued next week)



Installment No. 114

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

chief detective, for Pres. Lincoln, who also no doubt secured the commission in the Quartermasters Dept., for his brother Calvin, perhaps for duties in which he had been trained.

At the time of publishing the previous story of Capt. Baker, we had not learned the location of his land, but we recently learned from E. E. Brossard that it was 240 acres in section 34 of Fountain Prairie later known as the Kelly farm and now one of the farms owned by Wisconsin Academy.

Mr. Brossard as a boy attended the Capt. Baker, auction sale when he sold the stock and equipment prior to moving to town, and thinks it was in the late 1870's or early 80's.

Harry D. Baker a younger son of Major Joseph S. Baker, and a brother of Ray Stannard Baker, author and writer, sometimes under the name of David Grayson, is President of the Baker Land & Title Co.; president of Dairyland Credit Co. of St. Croix Falls, Wis.

A son John G. Baker, lives in Wauwatosa, Wis., is a member of the Editorial staff of the Milwaukee Journal.

Mr. Harry D. Baker, probably well along in years, is a very busy man as he says "I am usually suffering from "Americanitis", too little time for all the things I am trying to do."

The Nineteeners

Among the early settlers there were quite a number who had been born in the year 1819, and perhaps it was this common factor that drew together a little more closely these men coming here at different times, from several different states, and all unknown to each other previously, and even though they were of different vocations, different faiths, different politically, yet seemed to gravitate towards each other.

While there was no club or organization they began, as they grew older to have an annual dinner together, in turn, at the home of one of them, the last such meeting or dinner of which the writer has record, being on the 80th birthday of John Swarthout, one of the nineteeners, at his home, on June 17th, 1899.

The original group of those known to have been born in 1819. So far as known consisted of R. W. Chadbourn, H. A. Whitney, James T. Lewis, J. S. Manning, John B. Cleveland, W. W. Drake, Elija Federly, Wm. Hurd, Emil Rupnow, Wm. T. Turner, Ed. Fairbanks, Mathew Lowth, Mart Porter, Henry Clark, Wm. Butler, John Walsh, with some others probable.

Matthew Lowth, who was known locally as a "versifyer" wrote a poem of eleven verses, concerning the nineteeners, which was published in the local paper in 1889; and ten years later, several more verses were added and republished, in 1899 at the request of Mrs. John Swarthout. This revised poem reads as follows:

Sept. 27 A. D. 1889)

THE OLD NINETEENERS

[This little poem, if it may be called such is respectfully dedicated to Mrs. John Swarthout, one of the many kind and christian ladies residing in the city of Columbus, Wis. Dated These lines are re-published at the requests of a dame, Who thinks they have merit; may all think the same. It would be ungallant for me to refuse A request from a lady whom I wish to amuse.

Dear Madam, I value your kind approbation,
We mortals are fond of just commendation.
Kind words are pure jewels, if honestly meant,
When they come from the heart with no doubt on intent.

Those threads of affection that twine round the heart—
Mysterious sffrings—of our being a part,
Have caused you to ask for this list, I ween
Of the boys who were born in the year of '19.

One lady is included — Britannia's old Queen;
For she just had the luck to be born in '19.
I can't say "God save her" — the de'il would be cheated,
And the great end of justice be surely defeated.

She sanctions a system — the great primal curse—
That robs her poor subjects and fills her big purse.
She may feel compeimented, although she's a Queen,
To be placed in the list with our boys of '19.

It's more difficult now, at three score and ten,
For thoughts to flow freely from an unpracticed pen:
So I'll cut short this rhyming and give you the list,
Though some of its members have ceased to exist:

(Following are the lines referred to:)

Let Whit., Chad. and Lewis head this grand list,
For by some hocuspocus or marvelous twist
They've made off the people a good lion's share,
But its hard work to keep it and have nothing to spare.

I don't want to hurt you or cause you to sigh,
But remember that "camel and the needle's small eye."
Prepare for the future, your work's nearly done,
Look up to the Father and appeal to the Son.

Next Manning the miller, with Cleveland and Drake,
Right jolly good fellows with not much at stake;

Yet, they live just as well on the fat of the land,
As if they owned all the money that is minted by Bland.

There are Federly, Hurd, Queen Vic. and Rupnow,
If placed in a line wouldn't make a bad show.
They were born the same year and each had a mother,
And each mother thought one as good as the other.

But toadies and courtiers will growl and look sick,
When the name of Poor Hurd stands next to Queen Vic.
Now pry keep your tempers — I've oft heard it said,
That all are born equal and equal when dead.

There is big-hearted Swarthout, They say lives quite snug;
He has never got rich from post office or drug;
Too honest to steal, to manly to rob,
Yet he rails at the preachers and praises old Bob.

Now comes Turner the mason, a good honest man,
Who has battled with life and worked with a plan.
His efforts are crowned nice competence,
And he still has a conscience and good common sense.

Fairbanks and Clark have their herds to look over,
And have them well fed with good corn and clover;
To fat them for market is their great delight,
Having counted their gains, they can sleep well at night.

There are two more to mention, that is Porter and Lowth;
If they wish to survive long had better go South.
These cold, freezing winters an angel would vex,
They must either seize gripsacks or pass in their checks.

Viewing our history a thought struck my brain,
And set me to rhyming, I could not retain:
These lines are here written, without any spleen,
For our earthly existence began in '19.

And now dear old boys you know life is short,
Say we join all together and sing "Hold the Fort,"
If you don't like this rhyming I hope you won't curse—
Give some other topic and I'll give the verse.

Butler the carpenter, 'tis said was offended,
His name was omitted, but no harm was intended.
Friend Butler I'll allow you just another decade,
To prepare for the future and lay off in the shade.

Now my good friend, I have finished my task,
I think you'll permit me one favor to ask:
You'll notice the thoughts are kindly and brotherly,
So lay this away carefully, tenderly and motherly.

Paste it securely in your scrap book,
And when you feel it please just take a look.
That our ranks are being broken is a stern, cold fact,
So let each be prepared to perform his last act.
I remain, dear Madam, yours with respect,

MATTHEW LOWTH.

In the Columbus Republican of June 17, 1899 appeared a three column account of the 80th birthday dinner of John Swarthout from which the following is an excerpt:

"To this feast were added the hale old survivors of the band of Nineteeners" and two or three other old settlers who were immediate contemporaries of Uncle John in the earlier days of Columbus Settlement."

"At the dinner party were gathered the host, John Swarthout, born in Starkey, New York, June 12, 1819; J. S. Manning, born April 25, 1819, in Plainfield, N. J.; W. E. Butler, born in Wiltshire, England in 1819; Matthew Lowth, born in Ireland May 6, 1819; Wm. Drake, born in Herkimer county, N. Y., June 20, 1819."

"These, with the exception of Ex. Gov. Lewis, and Wm. T. Turner, whom indisposition prevented being present at the reunion, are the survivors of the grand old band of Nineteeners."

"Ex-Gov. Lewis, understood to be the last of the war governors living, is the "kid" of the band as his birthday does not occur until October."

"All the others have passed his 80th birthday, three of them Uncle John designates as June Bugs, himself, Drake and Butler.

"Two other honored old settlers, Dr. Earll and Harvey McCafferty, brought their genial presence and industrious appetites along to do duty for the two Nineteeners who illness kept at home."

"In addition to the hearty old boys who came to Aunt Mollie's feast were Mr. Swarthout's business partner James Quickenden; his nephews, John Swarthout of Fountain Prairie and Charles N. Black, of Chicago; and his grand nephews, Frank L. Birdsey of this city, and Master Richard Black of Chicago, all proud to be of the same blood as their honorable host."

"After the dinner, photographer Ralph came down and took a remarkably successful picture of the dinner group assembled on the porch, to which was added Baby Goodspeed, in order to show four generations of the Swarthout class."

The reference to baby Goodspeed was probably a newspaper error, for the only son of Owen Goodspeed was Frank, who married Miss Mollie Birdsey and they had no children. It is quite likely the baby was Blain Coles, whose mother was Mrs. Vesta Birdsey Coles, and Blain was therefore 4th generation of Swarthout clan.

(To be continued next week)



Picture of those present at the 80th birthday party in honor of John Swarthout. Picture taken in front of his home by photographer Ralph. Front row, left to right — Frank Birdsey, a grand nephew of Mr. Swarthout "Baby Goodspeed", Harvey McCafferty, Matthew Lowth, W. E. Butler, Master Richard Black, a grand nephew from Chicago.

Second row, left to right — Dr. Robert W. Earll, Wm. W. Drake, John Swarthout, J. S. Manning. Back row — John Swarthout of Fountain Prairie, a nephew; Charles N. Black of Chicago, a nephew. Present at the dinner but unable to stay for the picture, was Mr. Swarthout's business partner James Quickenden. Picture taken June 12th, 1899.

Installment No. 115

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Edward C. Evans — David Jones Evans

The subjects of this sketch are Ed Evans and his father David Jones Evans.

We are not positive of the exact date that David Jones Evans and his wife Eliza Evans came from Wales, to the United States and to Wisconsin, but it was sometime in the forties for we find that David became a member of the first church society to build a church in Columbus, the official name of which was First Congregation church of Columbus, in Sept. 1853 and Eliza his wife in March 1854, and two children, William and David Jones jr. were baptized on the same date.

The church was made up of a few who had been members of Congregational churches, some who were members of Presbyterian churches, and a few of other Protestant Denominations, in the places in which they formerly lived before coming here; and after the first few years, in order to get some financial help in paying for their building, they adopted the Presbyterian form.

For a short time after coming here David farmed in the town of Columbus, perhaps not more than a few years, on the farm now owned by Art Biederman and then he purchased the farm now owned and occupied by Clarence Hamann in town of Elba.

The church records show that Mrs. Eliza Evans died, the date on the grave stone is Oct. 12, 1855, at age 28 years. In Oct. 1858 Mrs. Elizabeth Evans, the second wife was admitted to membership, in what was then called the Presbyterian Church (the name Congregational having been dropped), and presumably it may have been in that year that David had re-married.

An examination of the abstract of Clarence Hamann's farm shows that David Evans bought 140 acres from Mathew Stone Aug. 21st, 1853 and a still earlier purchase of a forty Sept. 21st, 1850 which may have been the year he moved from town of Columbus. There were other purchases at later dates.

Ed. Evans, the only one living out of a family of 12 children was born in a log house which the family lived in for several years, before the present house was built; Ed was born June 22, 1866, about the middle of the group of children as there were five or six older and four or five younger.

The present fine brick house was finished in 1869 according to the date carved in a stone set high up in the wall, which was a custom at that period.

David Jones Evans was a deeply religious man, served as clerk of the sessions of the church from Sept. 1859 up to 1863-4, after which he was an Elder for many years.

David Jones Evans died in Dec. 1889 and Elizabeth his wife in March 1876 at the age of 44 years.

He worked on his father's farm and was al-
handy with tools and did considerable car-
penter work at
home and for
neighbors.

He attended
school at the
Van Buren
school on the
Beaver Dam
school, a dist-
ance of 3 or 4
miles by road
but somewhat
less across the
fields and
woods; In the
winter the
snow was fre-
quently "belly
deep" even in
the woods and
more that that
in the drifts in
open fields and
roads. There



David Jones Evans

were no snow plows and hand shoveling the
only method of cutting through the drifts.

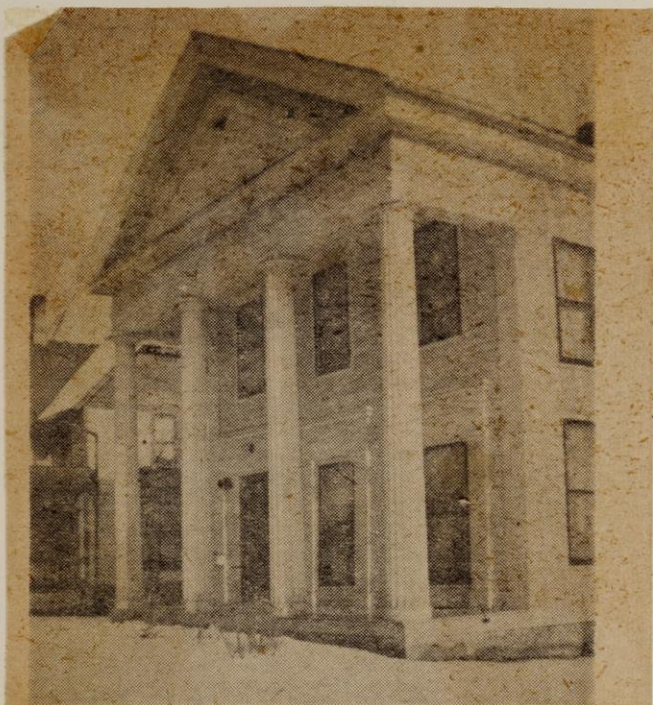
At 21 years of age he began working for Mil-
ford Loomis, a contractor, and about a year later
he became an independent carpenter and builder.
In 1889 he bought a lot at the corner of Hibbard
and Maple ave. from Mary Davis and began the
construction of a house for himself, the comple-
tion of which was in the spring of 1890, as he
working on it only when he was not working for
others.

In the fall of 1889 he was married to Miss
Annie Roberts and are now in their 64th year
of married life; They have one child a daughter

Margaret, who is Mrs. Richard H. Darling of
1604 E. Chateau Place, Milwaukee.

For four or five years, many years ago Ed
was manager of the Lumber Yard of the West-
field-Fall River Lumber Co. at Fall River, but
always kept his home in his own house, which
now belongs to Olin Selje, 432 Maple Ave.

He continued to work independently as a
builder until about 1920 when he joined with
Larry and John Callahan, with whom he work-
ed for a least 25 years, until he could no longer
work.



The Kelsey House

In 1918 he bought the beautiful colonial house, long known as the Kelsey house, after its builder an early Columbus blacksmith, at 206 N. Ludington one of only three of that type houses built in Columbus, one other being the John Swarthout house still standing on James st. next to the Library. The Kelsey house which has been the home of Mr. and Mrs. Evans for the last 35 years and will doubtedly continue to be their home as long as they live is probably a hundred years old. In Aug. 1930 Mr. Evans sold 58 feet off the back end of the lot to Fred Hiney leaving a lot 92 ft. by 60 ft. upon which the house stands.

An examination of the abstract of the title discloses the following information.

The house exterior as it was, is in very good condition for its age and is a building that should some day be acquired by the city, in which to house the relics of the pioneer days, of which no doubt many could be had if a movement in that direction could be started.

David D. Kelsey bought lot 6 of block 14 of Ludington's second extension of the original plat Oct. 1st, 1851; there was no other entry of any kind until after his death Aug. 14th, 1900, which would indicate that he bought the lot for a site on which to build and not for speculation.

Mr. Kelsey's blacksmith shop was on Water st., perhaps in the brick building now occupied by the Wohlfeil Brothers Implement shop at 126 N. Water st.

Mr. Kelsey also owned a platform scale near his shop, for the use of the public, to weigh wagon loads of hay, grain, produce, livestock, etc. When Jim Quickenden was a school boy he used to work on Saturdays as the weigher, and has weighed hundreds of loads of sheep and hogs, hay and produce.

It is a good assumption that the house was probably built within a year or two after he purchased the lot, which if correct would mean the house was built in 1852-3. Indeed Ed Evans says that in doing some repair work some years ago, one of the boards removed bore the figure 1850 written on it.

The Kelsey family consisted of David, a blacksmith, his wife Mary A., two sons D. J. and Ervin D. and one daughter Naomi, Mrs. Barber of Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Mrs. Kelsey died Jan. 19th, 1902 and the court appointed Mic Adams to administer the estate, he having been the attorney who was assisting her to administer her husband's estate, there being very little besides the homestead.

W. C. Leitsch bought the 1/3 interest of each of the three adult children, D. J. Kelsey and wife Cora I.; Erwin Kelsey and wife Marian, and Mrs. Naomi Barber, in Jan. 1903 and in Feb. of 1903. Mr. Leitsch sold the property to Mrs. Ellen J. Jones who was a sister of the late John O. Thomas and the late Thomas Thomas.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 116

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)



Pictured are Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Evans, this city, who were subjects of last week's Story of Columbus.

Mrs. Evans was the former Annie Roberts. The couple has been married 64 years.

An Old Building

Only a few of the older buildings of a hundred or more years ago are still standing, and the exact year they were built is almost impossible to determine, because they do not bear dates, and there was no newspaper.

The earliest newspaper published here, was the Columbus reporter, or Columbia County reporter as it was later called, when the editor Carr Huntington left Columbus to re-establish it at Portage. No copies of the Reporter are known to exist, which is most unfortunate. It is supposed to have started publication some time in 1853 and suspended here in 1857.

What a help it would be in writing the story of Columbus, if a complete file, or even an occasional copy of the Reporter was available.

As it is, we are indeed fortunate to have a fairly complete file of the second newspaper, the Journal-Republican, which began publication in Feb. 1855 and ran until 1864 when it suspended because of the death of Mr. Mallo, the editor and publisher.

His first issue Vol. 1 No. 1 dated Feb. 27, 1855 notes that his office is in the rear of Elliotts store on Ludington st. In the almost nine years of its existence, there were many ups and downs, changes of location, changes of partnerships, scarcity of money and therefore scarcity of paper on which to print; deaths in the family, times when Daniel Mallo was also in the shop and set his own type, and other trials and tribulations almost without number.

An effort to locate the building in which the Journal-Republican started, in the rear of Elliott's store on Ludington st., has recently been made, primarily for another purpose, as we ran across the opening advertisement of the Bank of Columbus in the issue of Dec. 18th, 1856, which gave the location as "over J. A. Elliott's store."

Many of the buildings have new fronts, on the ground floor, the upper part being the original brick front, but painted. One such is the Bouquet shoppe, 125 South Ludington.



Through the courtesy of Mr. H. C. Beck, the owner of the building, we were permitted to make a brief examination of the abstract of title, and find that John Elliott's store was located in that building.

An abstract of title, is a certified record of each and every change of ownership of a given piece of real estate, recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, at the county seat.

Therefore the names of the various persons who have owned a piece of property, together with the date of purchase, and the previous owner who sells it, can be ascertained, and sometimes even the amount of money paid for it, but more often the consideration is not given.

However an abstract does not show the date on which a building is erected so therefore one cannot be sure, but can usually make a guess of the approximate date and by whom built, after a careful examination of the abstract of title.

In this case lot 8 block 6 of Ludington's original plat of the village of Columbus, was sold by Lewis Ludington to Elisha Lamphear July 3, 1849, who in turn sold it on Jan. 5th, 1850 to Almon P. Birdsey.

Birdsey was the owner until Feb. 9th, 1852, and during his ownership of a little more than two years, could have been the builder.

He sold it to Adolphus W. Ingalsbee, Feb. 9th,

1852, and on July 24, 1853 Ingalsbee sold to Edwin W. Maynard; so since Ingalsbee owned it for 18 months, therefore he too, could have been the builder.

Installment No. 52 tells of a merchant named Fulton W. Maynard and a blacksmith A. Z. Maynard whose names and business advertisements were found in papers issued in 1855, and indicating that the Maynards could have been here as early as 1847; but apparently another Maynard, Edwin W. was also here.

E. W. Maynard owned this property from July 24, 1853 to Dec. 29th, 1853 and the building could have been built by him; He sold the property on Dec. 29th, 1853 to Almon P. Birdsey, who had owned it once before, and the following May 22, 1854 Birdsey sold it to Henry A. Whitney, (father of Alonza H. Whitney).

Now comes a division of the property, for Oct. 9, 1854 Henry A. Whitney sold 20 ft. of lot 8, block 6 to Harvey McCafferty.

A glance at the building, today, indicates that it consists of two portions, one about 30 ft. wide, the other about 20 ft. wide with a stairway separating the two fronts of the ground level story, but an almost unbroken front of the second story.

The next item of consequence on the abstract shows that June 11th, 1856, Henry A. Whitney sold the 30 ft. portion to Isaiah Robinson. (first lender of money in Columbus, whose office was on James sr.)

Robinson died Aug. 31, 1856 and R. W. Chadbourn was appointed administrator of the estate, and sold the property to John A. Elliott, who had a store in it as early as Feb. 1855, and without doubt for some time, at least the year before, and perhaps two or three years before, as a renter.

We now begin to "speculate" as to who the builder was and what year he built the building.

Since Elliott was operating a store in it when Daniel Mallo started the Journal-Republican in Feb. 1855, the building must have been there the previous year, which almost eliminates Mr. Whitney, but not positively for it could have been built between May 22nd and the winter of 1855.

The next previous owner A. P. Birdsey could hardly have built the building between Dec. 29th, 1853 and May 22nd, 1854: the last owner before Dec. 29, 1853 was Edwin W. Maynard who had bought it the previous July, and while he could have built between July and Dec. the chances are that he did not, and we place him in third place, leaving A. W. Ingalsbee and A. P. Birdsey to consider.

Birdsey owner at least of the lot for 25 months from Jan. 1850 to Feb. 1852 which included two full building years; Ingalsbee owned it 18 months Feb. 1852 to July 1853 or one and a half building years. Take your choice, and if either one was in fact the builder, the building is at least 100 years old. Our own guess is in favor of Birdsey as he was more active in real estate transfers, than was Ingalsbee, although they were partners in one sub-division across the river.

Birdsey is known to have built not only the "Mountain" House, an hotel over the James st. hill where Maple ave, Highway 60, leaves "Otsego Road", highway 16, but also rebuilt the old Whitney tavern, and "a business block" nearby.

To resume the story of the building for a little longer, Elliott still ran his store, when the first advertisement of the bank of Columbus opened for business in Dec. 1856 which was also about the time Elliott bought the property from R. W. Chadbourn, administrator of the Isaiah Robinson estate.

However, in the paper of Dec. 18th, 1856, the same issue that carried the bank of Columbus, advertisement, there is an announcement that Mr. Elliott had sold his business to Joseph Manning and Benj. Campbell (who later also acquired the building) and Mr. Elliott desired payment of his book accounts as he was temporarily retiring from business.

It is known from other items in various issues of the paper that Mr. Elliott had become financially interested and was selling stock in the Milwaukee and Watertown Railroad, which was building toward and actually entered Columbus early in 1857.

(To be continued next week)

(Continued from last week)

Mr. Manning, the miller, and his brother-in-law, Geo. Campbell, sold the property to Harvey McCaffery April 6, 1858.

Skipping along to 1864 we find that McCafferty sold the 30 ft. to Jacob Smith, the tailor and clothing merchant (see installments No. 19), who had bought the 20 ft. in 1854 from McCafferty, and that in 1869 Smith sold to John Hughes.

Skipping several pages of entries indicating frequent change of ownership, we find that Jacob Smith, who had again become the owner sold both the 30 ft. and 20 ft. lots to F. A. and Catharine Chadbourn, and they sold the property in Aug. 1901 to Owen H. Williams (grandfather of Ted Williams) who occupied both stores, with a large archway connecting through the party wall, as a furniture and undertaking establishment when this writer first came to Columbus in 1902.

At one time, in the late 80's and or early 90's the building housed the Fire Department equipment, then consisting of steampumper, hose reels, and hook and ladder, all hand drawn.

One entry in the abstract mentions the stairway and half the width of the party wall, the stairway in particular providing right of way to Jacob Smith, his heirs or assigns forever.

The 20 ft. building is now the Borck Appliance Store, 131 S. Ludington; a map of the city dated 1876—shows the 20 ft. building as a clothing store, with tailor shop in the rear and the second floor as residential.

The 30 ft. building is shown as a meat market on ground floor, city hall upstairs, and a small detached building of stone in the rear, is marked "sausage made here", while another larger building constructed of wood is marked "Ice House".

This map is an Insurance Underwriters map with symbols indicating, material used in construction, as well as exposures, as for example. Topps store shows solid steel shutters on the alley side, just as they are today.

Other information given on the map, is population 2000; Water supply not good; no steamers; no hand engine; no independent hose carts; lighting oil and prevailing wind W.

The map was hand drawn to scale and published by Sanborn & Co., New York, who even now specialize in Insurance maps.

Thus far we have accounted for only 50 ft. of a lot 60 ft. wide; Way back in the 50's a ten foot strip was sold to Nelson Bissell, who must also have acquired another strip from the adjoining lot No. 7, for this same map shows a building approximately 25 ft. x 56 ft., occupied by a Job Printing shop on the second floor and tailor shop on ground floor.

(See installment No. 67 for Bissell).

This is a good illustration of how valuable, old papers and records, are and how much guess work is necessary in their absence, in writing the story of Columbus.

Early Banks

The year 1856 events of which we are still currently being published, marks the time when the first bank in Columbus, and so far as now known, the second in Columbia County was organized. The Columbia County Bank having been organized in Portage in 1853.

The Columbia County Bank was organized by Samuel Marshall and Charles F. Ilsley, owners of the Marshall & Ilsley Bank of Milwaukee, with Harrison S. Haskell, formerly of Columbus, in charge. The bank was incorporated May 1st, 1854, with S. Marshall Pres. and Harrison S. Haskell cashier, with a capital stock of \$25,000.00.

In 1855 Mr. Haskell sold his interest and F. S. Ilsley became a stockholder and cashier; In

1858 F. S. Ilsley sold out and in 1860 both Mr. Marshall and Chas F. Ilsley sold their entire interest: from that time on there were frequent changes of ownership and management, until the panic of 1873 forced the bank to close and go into the hands of receivers, who were unable to re-open it.

Getting back to our first bank, first information regarding the possibility of a bank here, appeared in the Journal-Republican issue of Oct. 2nd, 1856 reading as follows "Mr. C. C. Barnes, the gentleman who established the bank at Waukesha, and also at Fox Lake, is now in this village making preparation for the establishment of a bank here.

Such an institution is needed in this place, and Mr. Barnes knows his business and will do it right. His references are of the best kind in Milwaukee, Madison and elsewhere, and implicit confidence may be placed in his honesty and ability."

Apparently Mr. Barnes was a promoter of banks, a man of experience, and of good reputation, and possessed of good letters of recommendation from other banks which he had organized, and after some time, enough to teach and train a cashier, he would sell his interest and move on to organize another bank in some place that needed one.

He kept in contact with the local editor as several more items, in subsequent issues would indicate, and in the issue of Dec. 18th, 1856 the following news item appeared "Bank of Columbus". This institution is now in full operation, and we learn, is doing well. The Messrs. Barnes are gentlemanly in their intercourse with those who deal with them and their character for uprightness is unimpeachable, and we can say without hesitation that they can be implicitly relied on as honest bankers.

The rest of the officers and directors are all known to our citizens as well as to us:

In the same issue appeared the following advertisement

"Bank of Columbus"

Columbus, Wisconsin
Over J. E. Elliott's Store

This bank recently organized under the banking laws of Wisconsin, is now prepared to do a General Banking Business..

Special attention given to Notes, Drafts, & C, and remittances promptly made at the lowest rates of exchange. Drafts and Bills of Exchange Cashd at all times. Exchange, Land Warrants, Gold and Silver bought and sold.

Interest paid on Definite Deposits.

References

M. S. Scott, Esq., Cashier, Milwaukee.
Alex Mitchell, Milwaukee
E. Kraemer, Milwaukee.
Messrs H. A. Tucker & Co., Chicago.
F. Granger Adams, Chicago.
Bank of Naperville, Naperville, Illinois.
Messrs. Van Vlied, Read & Dreaad, New York City.
E. J. Oakley, Cashier, Merchants Exchange Bank, N. Y. City.
J. A. Ellis, Cashier, State Bank of Madison.

Board of Directors

William L. Lewis	A. G. Cook
G. W. Sheppard	Peter Wertz
A. P. Birdsey	Benj. Campbell
C. C. Barnes	

Officers

William L. Lewis, president.
C. C. Barnes, vice president.
Jas. C. Barnes, cashier.
Office hours from 9 to 12 and from 1 to 4.

(To be continued next week)

(Continued from last week)

The bank conducted its business on the second floor of a building still standing, at 125 South Ludington, now belonging to H. C. Beck and housing the Bouquet Shoppe.

A year or so later, after Lucius Fuller had built the Fuller building, now the Harry Eichberg Shoe store, the bank moved its location into the second story over Fullers store, and while operating there in 1860 built a bank building on James St., occupying about half the width of the present First National Bank, into which they moved when their building was finished.

The exact dates of these changes are not known as yet, although subsequent news items in the old newspapers will doubtless disclose this information.

We understand that Mr. C. C. Barnes never made his home in Columbus, but Jas. Barnes, the cashier surely must have; However after two or three years, the Messrs. Barnes sold out to Willard Scott jr. and Vosburg Sprague, both of Naperville, Ill., who conducted banking operations until some time in 1861 when they were forced to close the doors and this particular bank ceased to exist. Wm. L. Lewis president, Willard Scott jr. vice president, Vosburg Sprague cashier and Martin J. Lewis, asst. cashier were the officers when bank closed. (See page 562 Jones history of Columbia County).

Prior to the opening of the Bank of Columbus, the only money that could be borrowed was from private individuals; according to Butterfields history of Columbia County, Isiah Robinson carried on a private exchange, where he loaned some money, in connection with his profession as a lawyer, but only in a small way in keeping with the times.

The second private loaner of which we have record was R. W. Chadbourn, who came here in 1849, (see installment No. 40) and engaged in the real estate and insurance business and dealt in land warrants. Later he became justice of the peace, and continued in the business of private loans.

When Scott & Sprague built the bank building Mr. R. W. Chadbourn engaged office rooms above the bank; and some time after the failure of the bank, Mr. Chadbourn in Sept. 1861 rented the banking quarters and opened a private banking institution, and in 1863 his private bank was organized under the National Banking Law as the First National Bank of Columbus being the 178th bank in the U. S. to become a National Bank.

Also in the fall of 1861 Mr. John R. Wheeler opened another bank in Columbus; The name given to this bank at that time was "The Union Bank" for Mr. Wheeler was an ardent admirer of Abraham Lincoln and the Union and it was in expression of his support that he named his bank the "Union" bank and not because of a union of banks, as many people imagine.

No pictures of Messrs. Barnes are available but we herewith reproduce pictures of Mrs. James C. Barnes and Mrs. Vosburg Sprague, the latter showing the costume of that period; also a picture of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Scott, he being an uncle of Dorothy Brown Webster, Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Harvey-M. Brown being sisters, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Horace C. Cooper. (see installment No. 40-41).



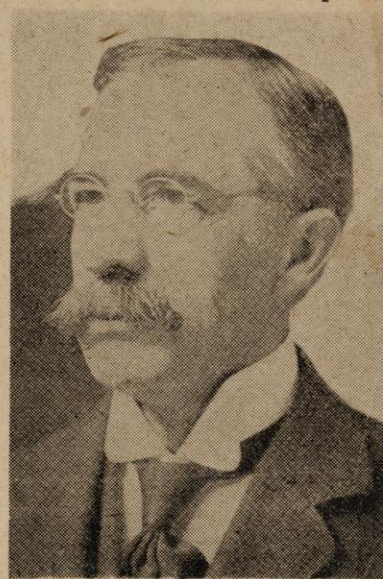
Julia Barnes The pictures of Mrs. Barnes and Mrs. Sprague were both found in an old

photograph album, now in possession of Mrs. A. H. Proctor, that once belonged to Miss Mary E. Pomeroy, a school teacher who became Mrs. John Polly, a local carpenter.

A brass plate on the front of this beautiful leather bound album reads "Mary E. Pomeroy from her scholars".

Rufus S. Dodge

In installments 74 and 75, we covered the story of G. T. Dodge and his brothers Harvey K. and Rufus S. and had photographs of G. T.



Rufus S. Dodge

vis, after which the name of the store became the Dodge-Davis Department store.

Rufus S. Dodge was born at Parma, N. Y. Oct. 2, 1840, a son of a Baptist Minister Harvey B. Dodge, and his mother was a direct descendant of Roger Williams, once of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and the founder of Rhode Island and it's first settlement which he named Providence, and the practical founder of the Baptist church.

While his parents moved several times in his youth, as ministers often do, Mr. Dodge's boyhood during his school days was at Plattsburg, N. Y.

In 1861 he enlisted in the 16th N. Y. Volunteer Infantry and took part in the sixteen battles in which his regiment participated and was promoted to sergeant for gallant conduct at Crampton's Gap in Sept. 1862.

He received an honorable discharge in 1863, and after the war he came to Columbus where his two older brothers, Gilbert T. and Harvey K. Dodge were in the merchantile business. His brother Harvey had also been in the Union Army in a Wisconsin regiment.

In 1872 Dodge Bros. opened a branch store at Sparta, Wis., with Harvey in charge, but in 1877 Rufus Dodge took charge of the Sparta store.

After the death of Harvey, the firm of Dodge Bros. was dissolved, with Gilbert keeping the Columbus store and Rufus the Sparta store.

While here in Columbus learning the merchantile business with his older brother, Gilbert, Rufus became a member of the Masonic Lodge, of which he became master in 1875.

In 1872 while a resident of Columbus Rufus was married to Miss Fannie Cotton, of Beaver Dam, and two daughters were born to the couple.

The first Mrs. Dodge died in 1894, at their home in Sparta, and in 1898 Mr. Dodge was married to Mrs. Emma Palmer Woy.

One of his daughters became Mrs. E. M. Johnson of Sparta, and at the time of his death in 1908 the other daughter was still single.

(To be continued next week)

Dodge and also Mrs. Julia, widow of Harvey K. Dodge.

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Elizabeth Kemp, a grand-niece, we are now able to show a picture of Rufus S. Dodge who went to Sparta in 1877 where he owned and operated a merchantile establishment under his own name until 1898 when he took in a partner named Da-



Mrs. Vosburg Sprague



Willard Scott jr.



Mrs. Willard Scott

Installment No. 119

"The Story Of COLUMBUS..."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Also a sister, Miss Lottie Dodge, made her home with her brother in Sparta.

Rufus Dodge affiliated with the Masonic Lodge in Sparta, and was a member of Sparta Commandery Knights Templar; the John W. Linnpost of G.A.R. and the Knights of Pythias.

The picture from which his likeness was rephotographed was provided by his grand-niece, Elizabeth Kemp of Sparta.

Lucius Fuller

1857 saw the arrival of the Fuller family when Lucius Fuller brought his family to Columbus March 31th, 1857.

He was a New Yorker, born in July 1810 in Oneida County a son of Daniel and Cynthia Fuller both of whom were natives of Connecticut and had set up their home in the then far away lake region of west central N. Y., where Mr. Fuller followed farming, combined with saw-milling.

He was forty seven years old and had four children when he decided to go to the new state of Wisconsin, the land of opportunity. The church records show that Mrs. Lucius Fuller united with the Presbyterian church July 31, 1857 by letter from the church of Vernon Center, N. Y.

It is not known to this writer where he lived when he first came here, but he must have established a home, perhaps on a farm, as reference is made in Butterfields history to a 170 acre farm in the town of Columbus.

This farm, across the highway 73 from the schoolhouse just off 151 was bought by W. L. Fritz from Daniel Fuller, in 1901. The S. W. quarter of sec. 27 and ten acres in the N. W. quarter of sec. 34. It now belongs to Charles Derr and his son.

Mr. Fuller and his oldest son spent about a year operating a saw mill at Berlin, Wis.; Upon his return to Columbus he must have had some money for in the winter of 1858-59 he began a merchandising business, L. Fuller and son, which was carried on for several years.

Jan. 20, 1859 Lucius Fuller bought from Joseph W. Hurlbut a portion of lots 1 and 2 of block 5 consisting of 20 ft. fronting on Ludington with a depth of 75 ft., which is the present location of what it still known to old timers as the Fuller building, although since 1918 it has been the Eichberg Shoe store.

Whether Mr. Fuller built the building or whether it was built by Mr. Hurlbut, who bought the property from the Griswolds in Nov. 1857 or by some previous owner is not known, but Jim Quickenden is quite sure, but not positive that it was built by Mr. Fuller.

Lot 1 on the corner had been acquired in July 1847 by John Swarthout who in January 1849 sold it to Thomas Swarthout. He owned it only 21 days and sold it to James T. Lewis who in turn sold it to George Griswold July 30, 1951. This lot had 60 ft. frontage on Ludington street.

The adjoining lot 2 was acquired by Jerome B. Fargo Aug. 9, 1847 who sold it to R. W. Chadbourn Feb. 15, 1850: In May 1852 Mr. Chadbourn sold lot 2 to Mary A. Topliff and in Dec. 1853. Mrs. Topliff sold it to George, William and Addison Griswold.

In Aug. 1855, George Griswold sold 1 lot and his undivided 1/3 of lot 2 and "other land" to Wm. and Addison Griswold.

Addison Griswold returned to Herkimer Co., N. Y. where he died, intestate, April 18, 1859, being unmarried, leaving his father Amos Griswold, his sole heir, but in 1857 before going back east Addison, and Wm. Griswold, who remained here, had sold portions of lots 1 and 2 to Mr. Hurlbut as shown previously, so Amos Griswold was interested only in a mortgage of \$600.00 Mr. Hurlbut had given.

Since Mr. Hurlbut owned the property 14 months he could have built the building in 1858; or since Mr. Fargo owned it from Aug. 1847 to

Feb. 1850 he could have built a building, but consensus of opinion is that Lucius Fuller was the builder.

Whoever built it, it is one of the older business blocks in Columbus, built before either the Griswold or Swarthout buildings.

Lucius Fuller held the property until Jan. 30, 1875 when it was deeded to Daniel S. Fuller and Mark R. Fuller, sons.

In July 1901, Mark R. Fuller and his wife Olive deeded their $\frac{1}{2}$ interest to Daniel S. Fuller, who died in July 1918.

In settling the estate the property was sold to Wm. Eichberg whose son Harry now owns and operates the shoe store.

In 1866 Mr. Fuller turned the active operation of his store over to his sons, the firm becoming Fuller Brothers; Mr. Fuller spent his time supervising his farm, and very likely some buying and selling besides.

There were three sons, Daniel, Mark and Alfred E., and one daughter Margaret A. who died in September 1877.

Mr. Fuller's wife was Miss Rachel Sanford a native of England, who died here in 1873.

The younger son Alfred enlisted in Co. G 23rd Wis. Vol. Intry. in August 1863 and was with his regiment in all of its principal engagements until March 1864 when he died at Milliken's Bend, La.

In Jan. 1859 while he was still engaged in saw-milling at Berlin Mr. Fuller bought from Joseph W. Hurlbut, lots 4 and 5 in block 4 Lewis' Village of West Columbus, and in March 1859 Mr. Fuller bought the lots at the corner of Broadway (now Dickson Blvd.) and almost immediately began the construction of the large red brick house still known, and marked, Fuller house, which since 1919 has been owned and occupied by the Fred Raethers; and except for the front porch built by the present owners. The house is almost exactly as it was when built in 1859, and is in a remarkably good state of preservation.

Mr. Fuller continued to own the lots on Railroad St. (now W. Richmand st. for six years) when he sold the lots to Christopher (Axe Handle) St. John.

In 1875 Mr. Fuller was married to Mrs. Mary D. Grover, the widow of E. Grover of Madison. The second Mrs. Fuller was a native of Monroe County, N. Y. but came with her parents, C. H. and Mary A. Williams to Dane Co. in 1846.

Lucius Fuller and his wife were members of the Olivet Church, he having served as a trustee. His first wife Rachel Sanford and her parents are buried at Hillside, the grave stones show her death in 1873, her mother also Rachel, in 1859 and Robert Sanford her father in 1869.

The second wife, Mary D. Grover died in 1893 and Lucius Fuller's own stone has only his name but no dates.

Up to time of publication no photographs of Lucius Fuller or either of his wives have been reported; If any one knows of photographs, we would like to publish them.

Daniel S. Fuller

Daniel Sanford Fuller, oldest son of Lucius Fuller was born in Oneida County, N. Y. in 1834 and was therefore twenty three years of age when he came to Columbus with his father's family in 1857, and spent about a year with his father in the saw milling business at Berlin, Wis.

In 1859 he entered the merchantile field in Columbus with his father in the firm of L. Fuller & Son, and upon the retirement of his father, in July 1866 the firm became Fuller Bros., his younger brother Mark being the other member of the firm.

The store was located on Ludington St. where the Shoe store of Wm. Eichberg, did business for a great many years, and his son Harry Eichberg carries on the business.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 120

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

In the fall of 1866, Daniel Fuller was married to Miss Francis Ingersoll of Attica, New York; the Daniel Fuller home was at 215 So. Ludington St., which for a great many years was the home and studio of C. R. Ziegler, and is still the home of Mrs. Ziegler and Oscar.

The Daniel Fullers had three children, Agnes V.; Alfred H. who died young and a daughter M. Roosevelt Fuller, usually called Rosie, who became Mrs. Lewis.

Mrs. Fuller was a member of the Congregational church. She was a relative of the famous

agnostic Robert G. Ingersoll, a lecturer.

A picture of Miss Agnes V. Fuller who became a well known doctor with a successful practice in Chicago is shown herewith.

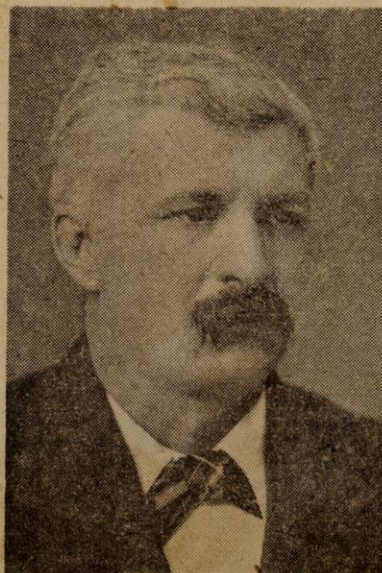


Dr. Agnes Fuller

Daniel S. Fuller died in 1918 and is buried at Hillside; His wife Francis died in 1925 and the daughter Dr. Agnes Fuller in 1935; on the same lot are the graves of son Alfred, and Agness

Ingersoll, mother of Mrs. Daniel Fuller, who died in 1927.

No picture of Daniel Fuller has been located, but Mrs. Fred Proctor has found a picture of Mark Fuller, Daniel's younger brother which we reproduce herewith.



Mark Fuller

Some years later he went to Augusta, Wis., where Fuller Bros. opened a branch store, but after some years trial the store was discontinued.

While at Augusta, Mark Fuller was married to a striking looking widow, Olive (last name not known) who when the store was sold out, came

Columbus, driving a very fine turn out drawn a quick stepping team of horses. Mark is said have been a tall well built man weighing around 225 and he and his wife made a fine looking couple.

Being married late in life they had no children.

Mark never had a home of his own, for being unmarried he continued to live in the home of his parents; When he came back from Augusta, the couple lived in the Fuller house.

There is no marker on his grave which is understood to be upon the lot of his father.

More About Lucius Fuller

In installment 119 in the story of Lucius Fuller we expressed some possible doubt as to whether Mr. Fuller was the builder of the Fuller building and the Fuller home.

Extensive reading of the Republican-Journal c. 1857 and early 58 makes us more doubtful than before, in fact, we now believe that he was not, and that the buildings known as the

Fuller block and the Fuller house were in fact built by Joseph W. Hulburt (the paper spelled, it at different times, Hurlbut and Hulbert).

There was a merchantile firm known as Loomis & Slaid doing business "two doors below Griswold's" which firm on May 11th, 1857 dissolved by mutual consent, and on the same date a new firm called Hulburt & Loomis, was formed and signed J. W. Hulburt and H. Loomis, which took over the business at "two doors south of Griswold's" which firm on May 11th, 1857 dissolved son St." (Ludington).

Mr. Hulburt had once been a partner of G. T. Dodge, (see installment 74) and had previously been a farmer in York, selling his farm and moving to town in 1854 or 55.

The issue of the paper of July 21st, 1857 contained the following item. "Mr. J. W. Hulburt has now in process of erection, on Broadway, a brick dwelling, which when finished, will be one of the handsomest buildings in this village.

The brick are from the yard of Mr. John Hayden, about half a mile from this village on the Lowell and Danville road, and are of a beautiful cherry red and said to be equal in quality to any in the state."

In the issue of Nov. 2nd, 1857 we find "We were shown some work in the dwelling house of Mr. Hulburt, on Broadway, done by Messrs Hays and Borden, which we do not believe can be beat in this section of the country. We allude to the stoco work in the parlor and hall.

This is the best finished building, both inside and outside, in these parts, and is an ornament to the place and a credit to both owner and builders."

The paper of April 14, 1858 has this to say "A very unsightly little building, adjoining Griswold's store, has now been removed and to fill up this vacancy, Mr. Hulbert, of the firm of Hulburt & Loomis, is now making arrangements to put up a large building of Watertown brick, for a store. Thus one old building after another gives way to new and better ones."

The June 2nd, 1858 issue says, relative to Mr. Hulburt's building "Messrs Hulburt & Loomis" new brick store on Ludington St. is now completed, and their goods moved into it. Go and see what a fine place they have, and how nice everything looks.

We cannot see how any one can refuse to buy of them where they see to what expense the gentlemen have been to accomodate the public with the needful."

In the paper of Jan. 26, 1859 we find that L. Fuller and son have become successors to Hulbert & Loomis. Their advertisement calls attention to the fact that they are to be in the wholesale and retail grocery and provision business, at the old stand two doors south of Griswold's store. They also state that they had secured the services of Mr. Harvey Loomis of the prior firm, who will be glad to see his old friends as usual.

As stated in installment 119 "Jan. 20th, 1859 Lucius Fuller bought from Joseph W. Hulburt, a portion of lots 1 and 2 of block 5 consisting of 20 ft. fronting on Ludington with a depth of 75 ft." This description and location correctly fits what has since been known as the Fuller block.

Also in the same installment we find "In Jan. 1859 while he was still engaged in saw-milling at Berlin, Mr. Fuller bought from Joseph W. Hulburt, lots 4 and 5 in block 4 of Lewis' village of West Columbus, and in March 1859 Mr. Fuller bought the lots at the corner of Broadway (now Dickason Blvd.) and almost immediately began the construction of the large red brick house still known as the Fuller house."

The last sentence was of course an assumption which we now know was not a correct guess.

Unfortunately no issues of the paper from March 9th to June 22nd are in the files, so no specific knowledge or documentary evidence is available, but from the quotations from the paper of July 21st, 1857 and Jan. 26th, 1859, we can now safely assume that both the buildings mentioned were constructed by or for Mr. Hulburt, and that they are known as the Fuller block and Fuller house, because of the long ownership by Lucius Fuller and his son Daniel.

(To be continued next week)

William C. Nashold

William C. Nashold, the patriarch of many families resulting from his marriage in 1846 to Miss Eva Christler, in Albany, N. Y. came to this area in 1857.

A son of William and Gertrude Nashold, William C. was born in Schoharie Co., N. Y. in 1818, was trained as a farmer and a teacher, a combination often found in rural areas a hundred years or more ago.

When they decided to come to Wisconsin in 1857 Wm. and Eva Nashold were the parents of nine children, Mary, who died in 1860; Demosthenes D.; Jerome R.; Egbert D.; Martha E.; William Mason; Orpha G.; Orsiville H.; and Emma J.

They acquired forty acres in section 9, Fountain Prairie on which they lived and raised four more children George W.; Charles D.; Ida J.; and Homer C.

Egbert served as a soldier in the Union Army in the Civil War, a corporal in Company D. 53rd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and later went west locating in Soloman City, Idaho after marrying Miss Malvina Linderman, where he became a contract mail carrier with a route of 200 miles; presumably the mails were light in that sparsely settled country and were probably handled in connection with a stage coach route.

He later became sheriff, and was influential in securing the establishment of a Military Post

All of the above information from page 1067 of Butterfield's history of Columbia County, published in 1880 at which time several of the children the youngest of whom Homer, 17 years old, presumably were still living at home.

William C. Nashold, the father was a Lutheran and a Republican and the entire family were likely members of that faith and political party.

Mr. Nashold, taught a total of thirty-two terms of school in New York and Wisconsin. He met an untimely death by the accidental discharge of a shot gun, Sept. 4th, 1864, at the age of 46.

He and his son Jerome were on a trip to Cambria, and he took the gun along hoping to shoot some ducks enroute; he was driving along, when the dog jumped into the wagon, landing in such a way as to discharge the gun, the charge entering his throat and lodged in his brain.

There are many descendants living in the community, but to trace and enumerate them would be too formidable a task to undertake with the time and space limitations at the disposal of the writer, but several are mentioned in installments number 73 and 78.

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Corinne Fisher of Fall River, a daughter of William Nashold, who was a son of Jerome Nashold we are reproducing a family group of 5 sons and 5 daughters, (not all being in it as some had moved elsewhere) and the mother, Mrs. Eva Nashold, widow of Wm. C. Nashold.



of two companies, called Fort Lemki.

Orpha, became the wife of John J. Keeley, a school teacher in Columbus.

Four of the younger sons and several of the girls, headed by George W., constituted a family brass band, and frequently played in different parts of the state.

Demosthenes D. married Miss Sarah Waterworth, (see installment 78); Jerome R. became the husband of one of the four Tyng sisters, Clara (see installment 73); Martha E. became Mrs. Asbury Kellogg and moved to Moore County, Iowa.

Orsiville H. was married to John F. Rockwell and went to Minnesota; Emma J. became the wife of William J. Doherty of Rio.

The picture bears no date and the border has been cut off to fit into a frame, so the photographers name does not show.

Seated, from left to right are Emma J., Demosthenes D., Orpha G., the mother Mrs. Wm. C., Jerome R., Martha E., and Orsiville H.

Standing, left to right, Charles D., Homer C., Ida J., and either George W. or William Mason.

Also shown, are pictures of Jerome R. and his wife Clara Tyng Nashold, and their son William together with his two daughters, Corinne, Mrs. John Fisher of Fall River, at the left, and Marguerite, Mrs. Frank Kietzke of Rio at the right.

It is believed that the family picture was taken about 65 or 70 years ago.

(To be continued next week)



Clara Tyng



Jerome Nashold



William Nashold and Daughters



Samuel W. Jones family. Picture taken in the home of John A. Jones Nov. 10, 1904 by C. P. Zeigler. Seated left to right are Harry, Margurite, Mrs. Catharine Jones, Samuel W. Jones, Mary Leah. Standing left to right: Moses, Griffith, David, Samuel, Will S. and John A.

Installment No. 122

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Samuel W. Jones

Samuel W. Jones, father of seven sons and two daughters that lived to adult age, was born in Caernarvonshire, North Wales in 1830.

He grew up as a farm boy on his fathers farm, and as a young boy sometimes worked for neighboring farmers.

In a Columbia County history published by J. E. Jones of Portage in 1914, in find this statement concerning Samuel W. Jones "he is one of the most interesting men in Columbia County and has a range of experience covering nearly seventy years and as a result of activities which took him to many parts of the world."

When about 14 years of age he shipped as a cabin boy or general helper on board a whaling ship operating along the continental coast of Europe.

Some years later he was in ships service which took him forth and back across the Atlantic Ocean several times, the first of which trips being on the "England", a sailing ship that required three months to make the round trip voyage.

On one occasion he was a sailor on a pleasure boat belonging to Lord Newborough, on a Mediterranean cruise that took them into the Adriatic Sea, where he saw the massed fleet of the Allied European Powers, who had combined against and were at war with Russia, and also from a distance saw the bombardment at Sebastopol.

By the time he was 21 years of age he was a sailor on board a side which steamer plying between Liverpool and Halifax, Nova Scotia and Boston. On arrival at Boston he left the ship having decided that he wanted to see the interior of the United States, to which so many of his countrymen had migrated.

He worked his way west to Milwaukee where he found employment as a sailor on the Great Lakes, and at times worked as a farm hand.

His last work afloat was on a Mississippi river steamboat.

In 1857, when he was 27 years of age he came to the town of Calamus, in Dodge county where he worked as a farm hand, perhaps on different farms, for three years.

By that time his total savings amounted to enough to buy 80 acres in the town of Calamus, in the Moriah church neighborhood, and about this time he was married in 1860 to Miss Catherine Williams, who was born in Wales in 1841 and came to America in 1847 when her parents William G. and Mary Jones Williams joined the Welsh Colony in Dodge county.

There were also two Williams sons, David Williams, Penybrywh, who later lived in the Luther Davis house, which stood on the little park off Ludington St. near the depot, where the Boulder marker now is, and later in the house on corner of Main and James sts. where John Powers now lives; and John Williams who became a druggist in Minneapolis, and father of three daughters, one of whom was the nationally famous singer Miss Clara Williams who once sang a command performance before Queen Victoria after an elimination contest. The David Williams had no children but adopted or raised a foster daughter.

In time Samuel Jones was later able to add 160 acres, giving him a sizable farm of 240 acres; some years later he sold this farm and bought

200 acres on the Beaver Dam road; a part of this farm was later known as the Bishoff farm.

About 1896 Samuel Jones moved to Columbus where he spent the remainder of his life in retirement his home being in the Jones Block he built for his son John A. for his drug store; The other half, where Kruegers Food Mart. now is was built at the same time by D. D. Jones, Garaguen, whose heirs still own it. Samuel Jones lived temporarily in Randolph for about a year while his Jones Block was being built.

The Samuel Jones business block is now the property of James Maloney, in which for many years, John A. Jones, one of the sons and his brother in law Joshua H. Roberts conducted the Jones & Roberts Drug and Jewelry store.

Samuel Jones Family

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Jones became the parents of eleven children, nine of which lived to become adults with families of their own. The oldest was Will S. Jones, who married Miss Jennie Foulks of Randolph, for many years Will S. was in the farm machinery business. They had no children. Will S. died in 1936, his wife in 1942.

Next was John A., about whom a separate story will follow.

Then came Mary Leah, who married William F. Jones and moved to Mankato, Minn.

David followed Mary Leah, David was in the agricultural machinery business for years: His first wife was Margaret Jones of Lake Emily who died in 1937. His second wife was Mrs. Elizabeth Grant, widow of a Presbyterian Minister. There were no children from either marriage. Dave died 1948; his wife moved to Lodi and lives with her daughter Mrs. McFarland.

The next was a son Samuel who became an engineer on the railroad, living in St. Paul; He was married to Elizabeth Sales and had 3 children two sons and one daughter.

Griffith Jones of this city was next, and a story of him, will follow.

Moses E., for a while clerked in Edelsteins store and then became an employee of Wisconsin Telephone Co, working up to became manager of the local exchange. He was married to Miss Martha Jones, a daughter of the late Tom L. Jones. Moses died in 1941 and Martha in 1942: They had one son Robert of this city who is married to Jean Mulligan; they have one child a son Craig. Their home is in Columbus.

Then came daughter Margurite, who be came the wife of Dr. Hiram J. Lloyd of Mankato, Minn. There were no children in this family.

The youngest was Harry R. who is a dentist in the Chicago area; Harry was married to Miss Ida M. Behnke, and has one daughter Lorna Mae.

Samuel Jones died March 31, 1917, aged 86 and his wife Catharine in 1931. Both are buried at Bethel.

There are only two of their sons living as this is written, Griffith of this city and Dr. Harry of Chicago and one daughter Margurite, Mrs. Dr. Lloyd of Mankato, Minn.

The Jones family were members of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist (Welsh Presbyterian) church, and a member of them were excellent singers.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 123

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

CORRECTION

We are informed that an error was made in our story last week. The information given us when preparing the story having been incorrect.

We now learn that it was not D. D. Jones Garaguen who built the "other half" of the Jones Block, but was John J. Jones, Lledwegan, whose wife was a sister of J. O. and Tommie Thomas. Tom L. Jones was a nephew.

The will of John J. Jones left his half of the building to seven heirs, among whom were Mrs. Ellis Jones; Tom L. Jones; John W. and Mae Williams and Mary Ann Thomas, the names of the others being unknown at this time.

John A. Jones

John A. Jones was born on the farm in Calamus Aug. 15th, 1863, he attended district school, and later had the advantage of attending Wayland Academy at Beaver Dam.

John and some of his brothers were mechanically inclined, and worked with threshing crews, and were, according to some reports, the owners of a steam engine tractor and separator.

He left the farm in 1888 to become a clerk in the drug store of John Williams, the corner druggist with whom he remained for five years.

In Jan., 1893 he passed the examination of the State Pharmacy Board, receiving his certificate, and the following April, in partnership with his brother in law, Joshua H. Roberts, a watchmaker and jeweler, started in the drug and jewelry store, which partnership continued for 12 years.

The partnership was dissolved in 1905 Mr. Roberts retiring, and starting a watch repairing shop in the Ziegler Studio on Ludington St.

Some years later John A. bought the Corner Drug store, which had been operated by the Waltersdorf Brothers, and continued to operate both stores, with Miss Eda Briese in charge of the Corner Store, for ten years or more, assisted by Roy Hart, pharmacist for about seven years, and by Ernest Schultz for three or more.

Mr. Jones then sold his drug business, the Corner Store and the stock of drugs, fixtures and good will from his Jones Block store to Wm. A. Kalk, of the Kalk Drug Co., thus leaving Kalks as owners of the two remaining drug stores in town, Mr. Jones thereafter confining his activities to jewelry, watches, fine china and glass, and optometry.

In 1889 John A. Jones was married to Miss Maggie May Roberts, a daughter of Rev. J. J. Roberts, (see installments 29, 30 and 31).

They had one son, Edward E. Jones, who with his wife, the former Laura Berndt of Columbus are now residents of Chicago, where he is engaged in managing private investments. They have no children.

John A. and his wife were members of the Nazareth Welsh Presbyterian church of Columbus.

John like all the children of Samuel W. Jones was born in this area, but in language, customs and habits was typically Welsh, having learned the mother tongue before he learned to speak English; He loved to travel, but his wife did not, so twice in his life he alone, made trips to Wales and other European Countries, the last time, early in 1931 on the occasion of the International Convention of Rotary, at Vienna, Austria, after which he toured several other continental countries before going to the British Isles spending most of his time in Wales.

His first home after marriage was an old house that stood at the corner of Ludington and Church streets, a low rambling frame house with a full length porch on the Church street side, formerly the home of a local baker named Doering.

When he decided to build the large house he moved the old house to the back of the lot, living in it meanwhile until the new house on the corner was finished. He then completely rebuilt the old house, which has very little resemblance to the original.

This was in 1893, the year Edward was born and Miss Eda Briese was engaged as a nurse maid to care for the baby: It was then that she learned to speak Welsh and the Jones' to speak German.

John continued in business until June, 1945 when he sold out to James Maloney who had been associated with him.

Mrs. Jones died in March of 1946 after a gradual decline through several years.

John lived until 1948 and after his death the big house was sold to Arthur J. Pare the present owner and occupant.

The original house after its rebuilding was rented to others, but later became the property of Mr. Ludwig Briese, and for many years has belonged to Miss Eda. After Edward was old enough to no longer require a nurse maid, Eda became a clerk in the Jones & Roberts store, remaining with the firm for many years. Later she and Mrs. Mayme Eichberg bought the Otto Boelte store in the Harvey M. Brown block (see installments 112) and started the B. & E. Gift Shop which they conducted for several years, selling the business to Joe Murray.

Still later the business was sold to Mildred and Carroll Evans, and only recently they also purchased the building.

Griffith Jones

Griff Jones was the sixth living child born to Samuel and Catharine Jones, born in 1872.

He grew up and as do most farm boys, attended district school, learned to do every kind of work on a farm and soon developed ability to work with tools, on his fathers farm and did work for others as he got older.

In 1904 he was married to Miss Mattie Richards, daughter of E. W. and Eva Richards (see installments No. 69) prominent farmer in Calamus and Columbus.

In 1905-6 he owned and operated a general store in Stoughton, but the great northwest country was becoming: He sold out and had in mind going to Portland, Oregon, but he only got as far as Aberdeen, S. Dakota, where he polished up his carpenter tools and kept them busy for over ten years.

When world war one involved us in 1917 building almost ceased because of restricted credits and scarcity of materials for civilian use, Griff decided to go to Chicago.

He joined with his wife's uncle Frank L. Birdsey in an Ice Cream Manufacturing business which proved to be very profitable for a few years, but competition from Greeks began to hurt, so he left the ice cream business to take up essential war work in Chicago, there being great demand for men skilled in the trades.

Chicago was the home of Griff Jones and his wife until the prolonged illness of E. W. Richards required Mattie's presence here to assist her mother to care for Mr. Richards, that they moved to Columbus, where they reside in the former Richards home, since the death of Mr. Richards followed shortly thereafter by his wife.

The Griff Jones have one living child, a daughter Eva, Mrs. Andrew Schmidt, a retired Chicagoan, formerly an executive in the Real Estate Department of Armour & Co. who lives permanently at Eagle River.

Mrs. Jones, formerly Mattie Richards, is a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Owen Goodspeed (see installment 69) and can recall her grandmother tell of the long, long trip in a covered wagon all the way from Vermont to Wisconsin. In the wagon were several beloved pieces of furniture and such household goods as were absolutely necessary. On the last day before they were to arrive here, the oxen became frightened and ran away two miles this side of Waterloo, tipping over the wagon and breaking some of the furniture. People living in a log cabin, at the last turn before Waterloo, near the nursery farm, took them in for the night.

After entering his land and building a cabin, Mr. Goodspeed often hauled grain or other produce from Columbus to Milwaukee, and brought back needed supplies for merchants here.

This necessitated frequent absences of a week or more for the round trip, with Mrs. Goodspeed and the children left alone, and there were still many Indians hereabouts, but they were friendly beggars and did not harm.

The farm now belongs to Elmer Heisig.
(To be continued next week)



John A. Jones and Wife



Mr. and Mrs. Griffith Jones and their daughter Eva,
Mrs. Andrew Schmidt

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

John Schultz

Our fellow townsman John Schultz who has already passed his 96th birthday did not come to America until 1872, but his story is so full of interest we have decided to print it now instead of waiting until we reach the year above mentioned in our series of stories.

His parents were John Schultz and Sophia Reitknecht of the town of Marlow in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, near the river separating this Grand Duchy from Pomerania.

There were two sisters older than John when John Schultz, jr. was born June 17th, 1857.

His father died when John was five years old, leaving the widow with three children to care for.

A brother of John's mother, his uncle Christian Reitknecht, had come to America some years before and located on a farm near District School No. 4, in the northwestern part of the town of Columbus, and furnished the money to pay for John's transportation, when the time came for decision as to young John going to America.

He grew up as a farm boy, attending school and advancing to what may have been something like the lower high school grades here.

When he was about 15 and saw many boys only a few years older forced into the army, and observed the brutal treatment they got from their officers, he decided he wanted none of that; It was this, perhaps more than the better living in America, that caused him to decide to leave Germany, accepting his uncles offer.

He took passage on a small steamer from Hamburg, Germany to Liverpool, and then found he had to cross England to Hull from which port he embarked, landing in New York some twelve days later, Sept. 18th, 1872. The boat food was mostly herring and potatoes almost without variation and to vary the monotony he bought some peanuts, a food he had never seen before, and not knowing any better he tried to eat them shells and all until some kind hearted soul showed him how to shell them.

He arrived in Columbus on a train at about 4 a. m. and went into the depot where the night operator, a man named John Hunter, unable to speak to or understand the young German boy, motioned to a bench where he sat and wondered what was going to become of him.

When Hunters time was up he took John to Topp's store, where Mr. John Topp talked to him and took him upstairs where he then lived and he had a good breakfast of bacon and eggs, bread, butter and coffee.

His uncle knew he was coming but did not know when. So Mr. Topp asked his friend, Mr. E. Pfenninger,, who happened to be in the store, to take him out to his uncle Christians.

John says there were two ways to go, and Mr. Pfenninger took the south road and when they got there, there was nobody at home and the house was locked.

It seems that the Agricultural Fair was under way, just north of Mexico, between the river and the Beaver Dam road, and Mr. and Mrs. Reitknecht had gone to the fair, taking the northern road; but friends informed them that the nephew John was here from Germany and had been taken out to their place, so they returned home to welcome him.

John remained with his uncle two years, working on the farm and going to school in the winter.

When he was 17 years old, having saved enough money, he decided to go back to Germany to see his mother, and sisters to stay with them over winter; He did not have enough money left to pay his passage back but through a family friend he obtained passage by signing on as one of the sailors on a sailing ship, with permission to leave the ship upon arrival at Baltimore; the passage took five weeks, but within 30 minutes after going ashore he was on a train bound for Chicago.

He lived with his uncle Christ for one more year, then worked for Charles Hoton during the next winter for \$3.00 per month and board, and in the spring began working for Fred Neimeyer. and later for Christian Bolte who owned the store quarry, working as a teamster hauling quarry stone to various buildings including the enlargement of the Catholic church, the Griswold Block, the Harvey Brown building, the Lutheran church addition and many residence foundations.

Jess Hoton says that he can remember his mother often saying that John Schultz was the best and most thoughtful hired boy or man that ever worked for them, and that he never came into the house but what he always looked into the wood box and the water pail, and if either or both needed replenishing, he always took care of it without being told.

About 1878 or 80, when he was in his early twenties he decided to try city work, going to Milwaukee where he got a job driving a bob-tailed street car drawn by one horse on the west side of town; but later the small cars were discarded and larger cars drawn by two horses took their place.

Cars on the east side, owned by another company were drawn by two mules.

His pay was \$10.00 per week and room and board cost \$2.50.

All this time his ambition had been to become a railway engineer, so he made application to start as fireman, and things looked good as he was able to answer all questions satisfactorily, but he failed in the physical examination as he was found to be near sighted.

He came back to Columbus and resumed farm work after first working one winter as a lumber-jack in the woods out of Marinette, where the food was mostly pork and beans, molasses, bread and coffee, some salt pork and some venison, a very monotonous bill of fare.

His next change was to work in the Danville mill for Reddimann and Jaeger (installment 36-37).

About 1883 or 4 he went to Longmont, Colo. to work in a lumber yard for Tom Butler a son of Wm. Butler, a Columbus carpenter (installment 72), and lived with his cousin Fred Lange who had moved to Colorado upon his doctors advice.

After a few years he came back to Columbus, where he married Miss Mary Steinbach, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Steinbach, (installment 79) in 1887: They started housekeeping in Beaver Dam where he operated a flour and feed store for the Danville mill for a year, but he wanted to go back to Colorado. So back to Longmont he went, where he had a job that paid \$75.00 per month working in a flour mill, staying there several years.

While there they had two children, the first a girl who lived only a few days and later a boy



who lived only one day; their doctor told them if they went back to a lower altitude country, any more children they had might live, so they came back to Columbus and ran his father-in-law's farm for a year while the old folks took it easy a vacation from work. He then bought a farm in York near the Richmond place on 73 which he worked two years, selling then to his brother-in-law Fred Sie-de.



Mr. and Mrs. Schultz

In the meantime they had one son Ernest born in 1892 and later, the twin girls Hilda and Freda.

The girls had a severe case of whooping-cough and their doctor suggested California, so they went to Santa Monica for the winter with beneficial results; coming back here in the spring, the girls had another long siege, and this time they went to Monrovia, Calif.

(To be continued next week)



Ernest Schultz



Ernest Jr.



Lt. John Schultz

Installment No. 125

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

All told, they went to California four times, the last time to Temple City where they bought 10 acres from the Luckey Baldwin Ranch, built a home and planted a family orchard and bought a thousand hens.

However the well would not furnish enough water for proper irrigation of trees and the other crops, so feed for the chickens had to be bought; they sold five acres, keeping only the home, the orchard, and the chicken buildings.

In 1909 they had a chance to sell out at a small profit and came back to Columbus.

The Girls Become Teachers

The girls after graduating from high school, went to the county Normal school while M. S. Thomas was in charge; taught district school a year or two; They then went to LaCrosse State Normal and after graduating taught in graded schools in Minnesota, and for many years have been teaching in Madison, where they maintain a homed uring the winter, living at their Columbus home each summer.

John's present home 429 N. Ludington was purchased in 1922, and here his wife died in 1931. Since which time he has lived with his twin daughters in Madison each winter and they came home to Columbus each summer.

John was janitor for the Farmers & Merchants Union Bank for 12 or 14 years, retiring several years ago.

He is in remarkable condition both physically and mentally, his memory being unusually good, for his age.

When this writer interviewed him for this story, he had just spent several hours cracking black walnuts, and only a year or two ago he proved his ability by cutting down a large crippled maple tree in his backyard.

The girls can recall often hearing their mother tell how when she was a baby with two older children in the family, none of which had been baptized, as this was before there was a Lutheran church in the community, it was a source of worry to the parents Christian and Christena Steinbach.

A similar situation existed in the family of Jacob Steinbach an older brother, both of the families at that time living on farms in Hampden. The two families decided that their children should be christened without further delay. So they set out for Madison in one wagon drawn by a team of oxen, a sizable journey requiring one day each way as an ox team traveled only about two miles per hour. The brothers took turns walking to guide the oxen, and the unchristened children were duly baptized by a German Lutheran minister in Madison.

An attempt has been made to find the church records in order to get the date and the name of the minister, but without success.

A separate story of his son Ernest follows.

Ernest Schultz

Ernest was born on the farm in York in 1892, attended school in Columbus through the grades; He had two years in high school in Monrovia, California and two more in Columbus, graduating in 1911.

Right after graduation he started working for Wm. A. Kalk as an apprentice in Kalks Drug store, obtaining an assistants certificate at the end of that time.

He then went to Chicago to attend the school of Pharmacy of the University of Illinois, doing part time work in a drug store near the college on the west side, as a Pharmacists assistant. He graduated in 1916 and worked for a year in the Drug store of Bellack Brothers, Bert and Jule, at 57th and Lake Park Ave., Chicago.

In 1917 he came back to Columbus and on Feb. 1st began working as Pharmacist in the Corner Drug store then belonging to John A. Jones, and managed by Miss Eda Briese.

He remained in the store after it had been purchased by Kalks, working for Kalk until 1923 when both he and Lloyd Sharrow each bought an interest in the business.

This arrangement continued until 1930 when the two stores separated, Ernest acquiring the Corner store, starting in business for himself, which continues up to the present time.

On March 2nd, 1918 Ernest was married to Miss Inez Wright of Columbus, and in 1920 their first son Ernest jr. was born. Ernest jr. graduated from the University of Chicago in 1942, and for the past couple of years has been working in his father's store.

The second son, John, was born Aug. 1st 1922, graduated from Columbus H. S. in class of 1940.

He entered the Army Air Corps, serving as a bombardier until the close of the war his unit being the 615th A.A.F. Bomb Squadron of which he was a first lieutenant. This interrupted his course in Pharmacy at the U. of W. after two years. Returning from service he resumed his work at U. of W. graduating in 1948. John was married to Anna May Guetschaw of Hustisford Feb. 28th, 1950.

John died April 29th, 1950 at the early age of 27 years 4 months after an illness of only a few hours.

The Ernest Schultz home is at 1014 S. Park Ave., Columbus; Both Ernest and his wife, as well as his father and sister are members of Olivet Congregational church.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 126

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Canals Preceded Railroads

Not only in Wisconsin but in many other parts of the United States the people were canal minded, for in portions of Europe, canals were in operation for a great many years, particularly in Holland, Belgium, France, Germany and England.

Even today it is recognized that transportation by water is the cheapest way where the time element is not important. True then as now, winter freezing puts an end to navigation.

We, in this immediate section perhaps have no direct interest in canals, although at one time Columbia County was extremely interested in seeing a canal built to connect the Fox River with the Wisconsin at Portage.

We have spent many hours on research to assemble the following, from various public records, the newspapers, Butterfield's history of Columbia County, the Milwaukee office of the U. S. Army Engineers, and others through correspondence.

As early as 1837, eleven years before our statehood, a company was chartered under the name of Portage Canal Company for the purpose of building a canal parallel with the portage used by the Indians and the French voyageurs, for at least two or three hundred years, over which they carried their canoes from one river to the other, this being the route used by Louis Joliet and Father James Marquette in 1673.

It was the desire of the founders of our Republic to preserve and maintain and preserve this great natural water route as a permanent means of communication and transportation between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi river.

To this end, in 1787 the government of the territory of the United States, northwest of the Ohio river, on July 14th of that year adopted an ordinance that provided that "the waters leading into the Mississippi and the St. Lawrence rivers and the "carrying places" in between, shall be common highways and forever free."

The same provisions, in substance, were embodied in an act of Congress relating to said northwest territory on August 7, 1789, soon after the adoption of the constitution of the United States.

This was re-affirmed April 20, 1836 in the act of Congress establishing the Territorial Government of Wisconsin and again approved in the act of Aug. 6th, 1846 relating to the admission of Wisconsin as a state and it is also in the constitution of the state.

A New Survey

In 1839 under the direction of the War Dept. of the Federal Government, a preliminary survey of the rivers in Wisconsin and an estimate of the costs of improving the same, was made by Capt. Cram, an officer of the Topographical Engineers, portions of which report, this writer has found in a book published in 1846 by Increase A. Latham, from which we quote, relative to the Fox-Wisconsin portage.

"The Portage Canal Company have dug a ditch across the portage, about two feet wide and two feet deep. Capt. Cram reports that the length of a canal necessary to cross this portage is seven thousand seven hundred and thirty nine feet and that the fall from the Wisconsin to the "Neenah" in Oct. 1839, was one foot and fifty-five hundredths, but that the difference constantly varies, according to the stage of the water in the two streams.

The Portage Canal Company consisted of Sheldon Thompson of Buffalo, N. Y.; De Garmo Jones, Detroit, Mich.; Robert McPherson, Daniel Whitney, S. P. Griffith, and others, some of whom may have been residents of the territory. The same group were owners of all of the plat of the village of Fort Winnebago, and also of the Shot Tower Company at Helena, Iowa county, on the Wisconsin river about fifteen miles from Dodgeville.

This company spent about \$10,000 on the canal project, which included digging the two ft. wide by two ft. deep ditch, previously mentioned, which may have been a primitive way of estab-

lishing a water level in lieu of a survey; and then abandoned the project.

A Long Delay

Nothing more was done for several years until it was brought to the attention of Congress by Secy. of War Joel R. Poinsett, (whose name was given to the flowering plant known as poinsettia) who urged an appropriation for the construction of a canal and locks around several rapids, because of its value as a route for military communication and transportation of supplies to Fort Winnebago and Fort Crawford at Prairie du Chien.

To make this possible Congress passed an act in August of 1846, granting the state of Wisconsin alternate sections of land for three miles back from each side of the Fox River, the land to be sold to finance the project.

In 1848, the state accepted the grant of land and appointed a Board of Public Works, who were charged with the execution of the plan.

A new survey was made, and a slightly different route for the canal was chosen, and on June 1st, 1849 soil was broken.

Thomas Reynolds of Madison was awarded the contract to build the canal and Nelson McNeil, of Eau Claire, the locks.

Because of a lack of clarity in the wording of the contract, as to payments as the work progressed, and the contractor being without adequate capital, work proceeded very slowly, the workmen going without pay for weeks, then months, until work ceased, the contractor abandoning the job, leaving it unfinished.

A resident of Portage at the time is reported as having written "The banks of the canal at this place are crumbling before the thaw, in many places and falling into the stream, and the planking (with which the sides is in great part afloat.

"By prompt action, the work done on the canal may be saved to the state; As it is now it presents a melancholy spectacle of premature decay.

The unpaid laborers, lately employed on the work, whose destitution and wrongs have aroused the indignation and sympathies of our citizens, will hardly assist in its repair, unless they are secured in their pay, as recommended by Mr. Crosswell, nor will they permit strangers to be duped and wronged as they themselves have been."

A Boat Almost Got Through

However repairs were made and the water let in and on May 24th, 1851 a boat attempted to pass through the canal.

"From a Portage newspaper we learn that" the steamer, John Mitchell, nearly accomplished the feat of passing through the canal from the Fox to the Wisconsin: She came as far as Main St. and as the John Mitchell came up the canal, the Enterprise came up the Wisconsin to the head of the canal."

"The two boats whistled alternately which called out a large concourse of citizens, to gaze upon the scene presented: After a short time both boats and the citizen withdrew and the noise and confusion was over."

The water was let out for further strengthening of sides and bottom to prevent quicksand from filling the canal and on Aug. 31st the canal was flooded and the very next morning the planking was floating on the surface, so once more the water was let out to make another attempt at repairing.

Ruined Again

Sept. 28th, 1851 the Wisconsin river in which the water was high broke through the levee and into the canal where it cut a channel through its southern bank, about 150 feet long and some 8 to 10 feet deep.

The warehouse of Mr. C. W. Mappa was undermined and some houses fell into the canal and floated off. The planking from the canal, as well as much lumber stacked on the banks of the Wisconsin floated through the canal and into the Fox River.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 127

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Little if any work was done on the canal until 1853 for the funds from what land had been sold, was exhausted, and the constitution of the state forbade going into debt, so the Board of Public Works could not go any further.

Private Corporation Formed

Then the fore a private corporation proposed to Then a private corporation proposed to were given all rights to the unsold land and the benefits that might come with the completion with the canal, and water power rights on both the upper Fox (to Lake Winnebago) and the lower Fox (Winnebago to Green Bay).

In July, 1853, an act was passed by the State Legislature, incorporating the "Fox and Wisconsin River Improvement Company" composed of Mason C. Darling, Otto Frank, Morgan L. Martin, Edgar Conklin, Benjamin F. Moore, Joseph G. Lawton, W. H. Peak and Theodore Conkey.

The state passed to the Improvement Company all the rights and interests that had been vested in the state, under certain conditions, which included a requirement that work begin within 90 days and the improvements completed within three years, but the act authorizing the transfer was not signed by Gov. Coles Bashford until over two years later, Oct. 3, 1856. The Improvement Company were unable to complete the job within the time set, and finally the United States took the work off their hands.

In Feb. 1866, the trustees, pursuant to a judgment of the Circuit Court of Fond du Lac county sold at public sale at Appleton, Wisconsin, the works of improvement, and the balance or unsold portion of the land granted by Congress, and applied the proceeds to the purposes expressed in the deed of trust. The proceeds proved to be sufficient to pay in full, the expenses of the trust, the then outstanding state indebtedness, and to provide a fund sufficient to complete the work according to the plans specified in the Act of Oct., 1856.

Green Bay And Mississippi

Under the act of the Legislature of Wisconsin approved April 13, 1861, and acts amendatory thereof, the purchasers of the sale, then filed their certificate in the office of the secy. of state, and became incorporated as the Green Bay and Mississippi Canal Company, holding as such company, all the works of improvement existing then.

From the time the United States took the job away from the prior Improvement Company which had failed to fulfill its obligations, the Army Engineers had been in charge, and while the property was now (as of 1866) owned by the Green Bay and Mississippi Canal Company, the Army Engineers had the say so and supervision of completing the canal and locks or other improvements.

Major Gen. G. K. Warren was placed in charge in July 1866, and a few years later was succeeded by Col. D. C. Houston who remained in charge until the work was finally completed and perfected in June of 1876.

In the final settlement between the United States and the Green Bay and Mississippi Canal Company it developed that the company had spent considerably more than two million dollars, and for which the Arbitrator would allow—only the depreciated value which was set at slightly over a million dollars, from which would be deducted nearly three quarters of a million for land sold, which with other deductions left a net of only \$145,000 paid to the Canal Co. by the government as applicable to the improvement account.

But the Canal Company owned the undisputed rights to all the water power and a little unsold land. Incidentally the average price per acre received for the land sold, the total value of which was \$723,070, was about equal to \$1.25 acre.

At Last A Canal

When finally finished the canal at Portage was 75 ft. wide, and 7 ft. deep from the top of the revetment, to the bottom of the canal; the length is approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

There were, and still are 22 locks, each of which are 160 ft. long and 35 ft. wide; 17 of the locks are between Lake Winnebago and Green Bay and are still in operation under U. S. Government Engineers; 5 locks between Portage and Oshkosh are no longer operated but still exist.

There many have been, and probably was great need for the canal and other improvements when first proposed, for there were no railroads in the area until about 100 years ago, and also no roads of consequence comparable to even our poorest back roads; But in the nearly 40 years it took to build the canal, from the pick and shovel work in the first attempt, to the steam shovels put on the job by the army in the seventies, there had been built a network of railroads, and good dirt roads almost anywhere in the area of the Fox, so the need for the improvements, at least in the upper Fox had greatly diminished.

The distance by the Fox River from Green Bay to Portage is about 160 miles, and has a combined fall of about 200 ft.

When this writer came to Wisconsin in 1900 he was located at Winneconne for two years before coming to Columbus, at that time there was considerable activity on the Wolf and Fox rivers, with daily steamboats both ways from Oshkosh up as far as Tustin on Lake Paygan, and on the Fox from Oshkosh to Berlin and possibly to Princeton.

There were several steamers that ran excursion trips, usually over the week ends, the runs being from or to points on Lake Winnebago, and Lake Poygan or up the Wolf to Freemont or the Fox to Princeton.

There was still a heavy traffic in logs from Bay Boom on Lake Winneconne to Oshkosh, but he has no personal knowledge about the use to which the Fox from Princeton to Portage may have been.

The Green Bay and Mississippi Canal Co. still exists, with headquarters at Appleton, but they have nothing to do with navigation which is under control of the U. S. Engineers.

Their interests consist, solely, of the water power rights and the necessary land to make use of said water power, which are leased by the Canal Co. to the various pulp and paper mills on the Fox, and three electric light and power plants which the Canal Co. own themselves, two in the city of Kaukauna and one at Rapid Croche, all of which are operated and maintained by the city of Kaukauna aunder lease.

We have personal knowledge that one paper company pays an annual rental of \$54,000 to the Canal Company.

The Fox River is a navigable stream and while we have no records of tounage of other commodities, we have been informed that about 200,000 tons of coal was shipped by boat or barge to points on the Fox River in 1952.

The writer was recently told by the president of the Payne Lumber Company of Oshkosh, that he can recall hearing his grandfather Dr. George M. Payne, founder of the Company, and who once practiced dentistry in Columbus, (1856-60) frequently talk about the advantage that came to the Lumber Companies in Oshkosh as a result of the completion of the Portage Canal.

Prior to that, and before a railroad reached Oshkosh, the market for lumber was limited to local use and points to which lumber could be hauled by team.

Other mills, on streams flowing into Lake Michigan or Green Bay, had cheap water transportation to Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosh, and Chicago.

The canal between the Fox and the Wisconsin, and the several locks in the upper Fox, permitted the shipment of lumber in shallow draft barges, towed by side wheeler steamers, to points on the Wisconsin and Mississippi, the principle market being St. Louis.

For a decade or two after the canal, shipping of lumber from Oshkosh to St. Louis, was brick, and developed the entire west side industrial area of Oshkosh where numerous mills were located, several of which still operate, with almost nation wide distribution of sash and doors and other millwork.

At one time there were 47 sawmills and 15 shingle mills in Oshkosh.

(To be continued next week)

(Continued from last week)

Of course for the last 60 years or so, the Railroads, and more recently trucks on the highways have had the hauls.

Mr. George P. Nevitt, president of Payne Lumber Co. can recall hearing that on the return trips from St. Louis. The barges would come back loaded with miscellaneous merchandise, and in season with Watermelons, bananas, and other produce from the south.

Even now, he says, large shipments of coal come by barge from the Great Lakes through the 17 locks in the Lower Fox to as far as the docks of Cook and Brown farther up river than Payne Lumber Co.

We trust that our digression from the "story of Columbus" to cover the canal at our county seat, is nevertheless of interest to our readers.

Milwaukee & Rock River Co.

In the Territorial Legislature of 1838, among the Acts passed was one to authorize incorporation of the Milwaukee and Rock River Canal Co., a project promoted by Byron Kilbourn to canalize the Rock River by means of dams and locks from its mouth at Rock Island, Ills. to some point in Wisconsin (probably between Fort Atkinson and Janesville), and to connect with Lake Michigan at Milwaukee.

The panic of 1837, and arguments pro and con, and the relative value of plank toll roads vs canals vs railroads had retarded the building of railroads in the mid west for several years.

The southwest portion of the territory was the most heavily populated area, because of the lead mines, and the people of the area led by Henry Dodge, Territorial Governor, had been talking about a railroad across the territory to connect the Mississippi River with Lake Michigan.

As Yankee settlers began to come into the territory they were prone to pick land on or near a river for there were very few roads and no bridges. Thus they settled along the small rivers in the southeastern part of the territory such as the Root, DesPlaines, Bark, and the Fox of Wisconsin and Illinois, and the larger Rock River, and a little later on the Crawfish flowing into the Rock near Jefferson.

The Rock was and is still called, a navigable river, and the Crawfish was so classified as there were supplies brought by water as far up the Crawfish as Aztalan, and later up to Portland.

This, then, was the background behind the popular demand for some means of transportation other than the slow and painful task of marketing the products of mines and farms, by ox drawn wagons.

A Grant of Land

The act authorized Kilbourn's canal project, provided financial assistance by means of Federally owned land granted to the Canal Co., which stimulated settlement along the probable route on which it might be built, but disappointment was in store, for only a few miles, a short piece was ever built, parallel with one of the rivers converging at Milwaukee, perhaps the Menominee, or possibly the Kinnickinnic.

Kilbourn had become convinced that he was backing the wrong horse, and began promoting the Milwaukee and Waukesha Railroad Co. chartered in 1847 began construction in 1850 and completed in 1851 as far as Waukesha; Madison was reached in 1854 and Prairie du Chien in 1857 the same year the Watertown R. R. reached Columbus.

The Illinois & Michigan Canal

Another effort to connect Lake Michigan with the Mississippi that proved to be successful was the Illinois and Michigan Canal, connecting Lake Michigan with the Illinois River, via the Chicago River, a six mile canal to the DesPlaines, and on down the DesPlaines to its junction with

the Kankakee, which forms the beginning of the Illinois.

The north branch of the Chicago River runs parallel with the shore of Lake Michigan only a few miles separating them; About six miles west is the DesPlaines running in a southerly direction, almost parallel with the Chicago.

Early explorers noted that during the spring freshets, there was a constant flow westward from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi via the DesPlaines and the Illinois.

In the dry portions of the year the explorers and traders (with the Indians) and the trappers had to carry their canoes over the low ridge of higher ground between the Chicago and the DesPlaines Rivers.

These men, in their demands for a connecting water link probably had much to do in making Fort Dearborn into a settlement destined to become the nation's second largest city, and please remember that at that time the natural line to mark our southern border was too countries lower than the line was fixed when the territory of Wisconsin was formed. In other words were it not for political maneuvering in 1818 when Illinois became a state, Chicago would be in Wisconsin.

Joliet Suggests A Canal

Joliet, one of the early explorers, who saw the Wisconsin River at the end of the Portage from the Fox, long before he saw the future site of Chicago, was the first to suggest this canal in 1673.

Albert Gallatin, who was Secy. of the Treasury from 1801 to 1814, urged the building of the Chicago Canal. Gov. Bond the first Gov. of Illinois after it became a state in 1818 in his first message to the first legislature, urged the construction of such a canal, and John C. Cahoun Secy. of War recommended the canal as necessary to national defense, in 1819.

In 1830 Chicago was still a military post Fort Dearborn, with a straggling collection of a dozen or so cabins, and an Indian agency when the preliminaries to the building of the canal did develop, the first village plat of Chicago was made by the canal commissioners and Chicago became a village.

The first lots sold in Chicago were sold by the canal commissioners.

Construction began in 1836 and was completed in 1848 and was an immediate success, but it did not last long, for railroads were as inevitable as time and tide, and proved much more efficient than the shallow, narrow barges drawn by a mule on the tow path on the bank.

Canal Becomes Active

It was not until the completion of the Chicago Sanitary and ship canal, and the deepened Illinois waterway in 1933 that water transportation began to make a come back, slowly at first, but it has already reached almost unblieable volumn.

Twenty years ago it was officially estimated that by 1953 the volumn might reach 10,000,000 tons: As a matter of fact in 1951 the tonnage passing through the Illinois waterway was 17,617,941 tons.

Except for that portion consisting of the south branch of the Chicago River and the sanitary and ship canal which is 160 ft. wide, the remainder is 300 ft. wide and the minimum depth is 9 feet. In 1900 the much narrower and shallower Illinois and Michigan canal, from Chicago to Lockport, Ill. was abandoned and widened and deepened to become the sanitary and ship canal. The rest of the old canal, on the north bank of the Illinois from Lockport south and west, which can be seen at many points is being considered as the right of way for a sunken super-highway.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 129

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

The length of the present Illinois waterway from Chicago to the junction of the Illinois river with the Mississippi river at Grafton, Ill. is 327 miles and is the fourth largest waterway, in volume of tonnage in the U. S. being surpassed only by the Mississippi, the Ohio and the Monongahela rivers, all of which are heavy with traffic, which contrary to general opinion, is infinitely greater than in the days of the steamer Robert E. Lee and many less famous stern wheel steamers. The tonnage now is moved in steel barges, in two rows of three or four each, pushed by Diesel powered tugboats. These barges are mostly 195 ft. long and 35 ft. wide, and have a capacity of 1,500 tons each.

There is a fall of 160 ft. between Lockport and Grafton. The fall from Chicago to Lockport is unknown to this writer.

Value Proven

The value of this great waterway, on which the tugs and barges of 37 operating lines are at work, was shown during the World War II when a total of 1200 war vessels, including 28 yarge submarines, and 72 ocean going cargo boats of 5,000 tons burden all constructed in ship yards on the shores of the Great Lakes, many of them at Sturgeon Bay and Manitowoc, were moved from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico.

The tonnage hauled consisted of coal 28%; petroleum 27%; grain 11%; sand and gravel 20%; steel 3%; sulphur 4%, and mixed cargo 7%. Sixty four percent is intra state (within Illinois) the remainder originating in various states, from Louisiana to Penn., and states bordering the Great Lakes.

A portion of the old Illinois and Michigan Canal, somewhat modernized, is still in use. This stretch being from a point west of La Salle to the Mississippi near Moline. The barges and tugs on this portion of the waterway, are of necessity, much smaller than those described, but even so, there is enough transportation to justify its continuance.

We sometimes wonder what the results would have been had the canal of either the Michigan and Rock River, or the Fox and Wisconsin river Improvement Company had been built and put into operation in the decade in which they were begun.

We have wandered quite a ways from Columbus in this report on the canals that might have been, and the one that was, but hope our readers have enjoyed it.

Richard Laskey

A story that would have been written among those of pioneers of 1845 had sufficient information been available, is that of Richard Laskey. He was born in Leicestershire, England, in 1784 and lived on the farm with his parents until he was 21 years of age, when he joined the British army as a soldier. During the War of 1812-14 he was sent across the Atlantic, serving most of the time in Canada.

After the close of the war, he deserted from the British Army, crossing the Niagara river on the ice into New York state, and located in Chenango county in the town of Greene.

In 1826 when he was 42 years of age, he was married to Miss Dorothy Johnson, a native of New Hampshire, born in 1800, and moving with her parents to western New York in 1812.

They lived until 1844 in Chenango county but in that year Richard and Dorothy Laskey and their twelve children emigrated to Walworth county, Wisconsin to live on a farm in the town of Lina, but a year later 1845, hearing of the excellent land farther on they came to what later became Columbia county, and located on land in the town of Hampden, being among the earlier settlers in Hampden where they continued to live and farm for 22 years which would have been about 1867.

It was in that year that they moved to a farm on section 20, town of Columbus, long known

as the Charles Lange farm where he died in 1870 at the age of 86; his wife died in 1875 at the age of 75; The family continued to reside on the farm until after the widow died.

Their children were Rhoda born in 1826, who became the first wife of Thomas Smith; John in 1827 who later became a farmer in Dane county; Albert in 1828 who with his brother John owned 390 acres in town of Columbus, as of 1880. A separate story about Albert Laskey will follow. Lois born in 1830, to become wife of Perry J. Kidder, town of Columbus; Thomas in 1831 who enlisted in Company 1, 18th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and was killed in the battle near Shilo church, Miss.; Stephen born in 1833 and died in 1852 at the age of 19 in town of Hampden but is buried in North York cemetery. Asenath born in 1835 who became second wife of Thomas Smith of Columbus; Chloe born in 1837 and became wife of Samuel Smith and mother of Horatio S. Smith; Uri born in 1839 enlisted in Company A, 7th W.V.I. was wounded in battle at Gainesville, Va. and died at Alexandria; and David born in 1841, who married Miss Susan Mc Namara, and became father of Albert J., William H., Uri D. and Guy; a separate story about the David Laskey family will follow.

It will be noted that the children mentioned were all born before the parents came to Wisconsin, and that only ten of the twelve are mentioned.

The assumption is that two were inadvertently omitted from the record from which the above was taken, or that they may have died young.

The Richard Laskey were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

No picture of Richard Laskey or his wife are known to exist, as the present generation of descendants all say the album and heir looms were all destroyed in the fire that burned the house of their son Albert, to the ground, a few years after his death.

The location in Hampden upon which the Richard Laskey family located and where they continued to reside for 22 years has been determined as the west half of the southeast quarter of section 25, which now belongs to Norbert Weiseman, and several of Richard's children settled on nearby farms. The oldest daughter Rhoda married Thomas Smith who owned the adjoining west half of the S. E. quarter as well as two connecting forties west and south.

After Rhoda's death Mr. Smith married Miss Asenath Laskey, youngest sister of Rhoda.

John Laskey, the oldest son was never married and when he left his fathers home, he farmed in Dane county for a while and later lived with his brother Albert with whom he had sort of partnership, in which John was the farmer and Albert a cattle feeder; John died in 1889, aged 62.

The fourth child of Richard Laskey was Lois who was married to Perry J. Kidder a farmer in section 30, town of Columbus; a map of 1890 shows P. J. Kidder as owning 49.7 acres, and W. B. Kidder, a son, 75.1 acres.

The Kidders had seven children, a daughter Almira who married Henry Buell, a local carpenter, they later moved to Denver; a son Richard who married Jenny Buell, a sister of Henry,

a farmer who later was crippled by rheumatism, and lived on Maple ave., Columbus; another son Edwin who married, name of wife not known to writer, and with their two children, moved to California; Warren B. another son married Miss Cora Russell who was a daughter of Franklin Russell jr. of Fall River. Warren was the owner of the 75 acre farm in section 30 mentioned above. The Warren Kidders later went to Man-kato, Minn. where he farmed, and still later, to Yahima, Washington where he bought an apple orchard.

A daughter Rose Kidder married a local painter Ross Giles who came here from Iowa; after his death here Rose went to California where she died in 1950.

(To be continued next week)

Installment No. 130

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare



(Continued from last week)

Clara Kidder, the youngest daughter was married, name of husband not known; After his death here she went to California.

Fifth of Richard Laskey's children was his son Thomas, who was married in 1852 to Miss Elizabeth Cleveland, who may have been a sister of John B. Cleveland a prominent farmer of York, and Columbus who later moved to Columbus, Cleveland's home is now that of August Feldhusen on Fuller St. Elizabeth died in 1858 and is buried in N. York cemetery.

The Thomas Laskeys had two daughters, Mary and Ella. Mary was eight years old when her father enlisted in Company I of the 18th Infantry of which Ira H. Ford of Hampden was captain. Thomas was killed in the battle called Shilo because it took place near a country church called Shilo church in northeastern Mississippi. His two daughters made their home with the Richard Laskeys in Hampden, and also after the family had moved to the farm in section 20 town of Columbus.

Thomas' daughter, Mary Laskey was married to Charles Garlick of York, and almost at once they moved to a farm near Winnebago, Minn.

The Charles Garlicks had seven children of whom the oldest, a daughter Nina, was married to George Cramer of Windsor, Wis., in 1894; he died in Dec. of the same year. His widow later married Arthur W. Ranger of Columbus, and they lived on a farm near Fall River, and later moved to a farm near Waushara, Wis.

There were two sons, Harold and Roger. Roger died in 1946 and Harold and his mother live in Columbus at the corner of Charles and Seldon streets.

The other Garlick children were Ernest, Daisy E., Harry, Verna (dead), Leslie U., and Roscoe E. none of whom lived in this area, but since they are great grandchildren of Richard Laskey, they should be mentioned.

The other daughter of Thomas Laskey, Ella, became the wife of Charles Wilcox to whom she was married in 1877 and moved to Iowa and later to Kansas; their children Bertha, Lawrence and Viola, were likewise great grandchildren of Richard Laskey.

Stephen Laskey, son of Richard, born in 1833 died in Hampden, presumably before the Civil War, but this might not be the case.

Asenath Laskey, became Mrs. Thomas Smith, and a separate story covers this family.

Chloe Laskey, became the wife of Samuel Smith and mother of Horatio S. Smith. (See installments 76-77). Her husband died before her son was born, and the child Horatio was raised in the family of his grandparents, the Richard Laskeys, and when he grew up and married, the grandfather gave him the life use of 127 acres in section 28, town of Columbus.

The young widow, Chloe, later was married to Loyal B. Huntington, town of Fountain Prairie, a Civil War veteran, who as such, was entitled to a homestead which he selected in Minnesota. He later sold the land and came back to Columbia county and later located in Brown county, west of Green Bay; From her second husband, Chloe Laskey became the mother of seven children, Clark, Charlie, Abby, Ida, Frank, Myrtle and Hettie. Hetty, Mrs. Henry Olson, is the only living member of this group; she and her husband live a retired life on their farm, near Cambridge, Wis., the farm being operated by their sons.

Mrs. Emil Miller of 604 S. Main St. is a granddaughter of Chloe Laskey Huntington, being a daughter of Clark Huntington, and is therefore a great granddaughter of the Richard Laskeys.

Their youngest son was David Laskey, whose family sketch will follow shortly.

Albert Laskey

Albert Laskey was the third child and second son born to Richard and Dorothy Laskey, and was born in the town of Greene, Chenarigo county, N. Y. Nov. 30, 1828, coming to Wisconsin with his parents in 1844.

The family stopped for several months in the town of Lina, Walworth county, territory of Wisconsin, and apparently the two older sons, John and Albert, aged 18 and 17 respectively did a little scouting in this direction in 1845 for in the obituary of Albert, who died in 1916 we learn that he and his brother John came to the town of Hampden, Columbia county and took up some land on which they built a pre-emption shanty, which implies that it was a temporary place in which they lived.

Presumably they, or one of them reported back to their father, who brought his family, they youngest being David then 4 years old, here that same year 1845; they must have built a more permanent home for the family lived on this first pre-empted land for 22 years.

Albert Laskey, probably left his fathers home about the time of the Civil War, and may have owned land near by; however in 1867 he bought the "Lyons Place" in section 28, town of Columbus consisting of over 300 acres.

This is the first place on Highway 151 beyond the County Inn, and now belongs to Cyril Derr. At that time Albert was 39 and unmarried; He and his brother John, also single, lived together and did general farming and cattle feeding. Albert later married Mary Sanderson, of Hampden, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Sanderson who died in 1869 and 1906 respectively, but she died not long afterward and left no child. We have no information as to date of marriage. Relatives refer to her as "Jennie", but the record on the monument in Hampden cemetery reads "Mary, wife of Albert Laskey died Sept. 4th, 1877 aged 28 years." Albert never re-married, and lived to be past 88 years.

John died in 1889 and is buried on his father's lot in Hampden cemetery.

After John's death, Albert's nephew, Wm. Laskey, now living in Columbus, worked for his uncle for a great many years, doing much of the farm work.

Albert was a very successful cattle feeder, and also bought and sold live stock and horses, and was reported to have accumulated a lot of money, which he preferred to keep in hiding or to carry on his person.

One of his living relations thinks that he often had several thousand dollars in greenbacks in his pockets.

A story was current years ago, and we have heard it recently from a number of different people, that one one occasion Albert was plowing or some kind of team work on a field and becoming too hot he hung his vest on a fence post. Later in the day a man he knew stopped to see if he could borrow some money, knowing that Albert frequently made loans to people he knew. He asked the man how much he needed and the reply was that he had to have \$2,000.00, and wondered how long before he would be able to get it for him.

Albert asked him to hold his team and he would bring it to him in a few minutes. He walked to the other end or side of the field to where his vest was hanging, and from an inside pocket, removed a wad of bills from which he peeled off the the desired \$2,000.00 putting the rest back into his vest pocket.

Another current story was that some one took a team of horses and a set of harness out of Laskey's barn, and that same night a buggy or carriage was stolen from the Holstein farm, about a mile away. A team answering the description was located in Chicago, and John Blanchard, the city marshall at the time, went with Albert to Chicago to see if this was the missing team; when they went into the stable where the team was being held and the two men approaching the stall, both horses began to whinney, having immediately recognized their owner. which was sufficient proof and the authorities turned the team over the their rightful owner.

(To be continued next week)

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)



Uri Laskey

Uri Laskey, ninth child of Richard and Dorothy Laskey, was wounded in battle at Gainsville, Georgia and died at Alexander, Va.

It is also reported that on one occasion Albert was in town about dusk and a hard rain set in; Not liking the idea of walking home in the rain, he went to the Tremont Hotel to seek lodging.

He was not well dressed, and the clerk turned him away with the remark that they did not rent rooms to tramps, so he went out into the storm and walked four miles in the rain.

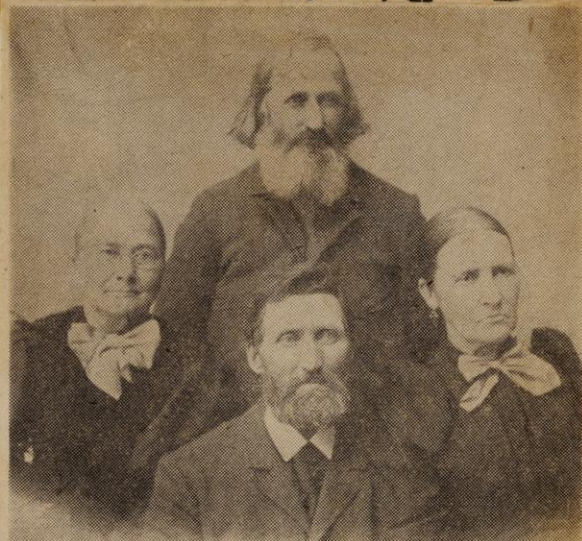
In telling about it afterwards he said that he had \$7,000.00 in his pockets at the time.

In the earlier days many people had but little confidence in banks and preferred to keep what money they had either hidden or on their person; However this prejudice wore away and, like many others. Albert began to deposit money in one of the local banks, although he always kept money on his person, and hidden away, as will be seen when we come to an account of his estate.

The writer has no knowledge of what his housekeeping arrangements may have been after his wife died in 1877, but it is possible that as long as his brother John lived, they may have kept bachelors hall.

However in later years, Albert's grand niece, who is Mrs. Nina Ranger, was housekeeper for four years; then Cora Huntington, who later became Mrs. Emil Miller of this city, was housekeeper for some time, and still later Mrs. Bert Hancock of Fall River.

This was after Albert's sister Asenath, Mrs. Thomas Smith came to make her home there, some years after, the death of her husband.



Through the courtesy of Mrs. Nina Ranger we are able to show a picture of Albert Laskey, his brother David, and his sisters, Asenath Smith and Chloe Smith Huntington.

It is not known just when this picture was taken, and the name of the photographer is not shown. However, Mrs. Ranger is of the opinion that it was at least several years before Albert died.

Mrs. Ranger, when asked if Albert always wore his hair long, as shown in the picture, replied that he had it cut only once a year.

We understand that while Albert was never seriously ill, that the last few years of his life were years of inactivity, most of his wakeful hours being spent in his favorite chair.

At his side stood a small table, piled with newspapers and mail. This is where some of the uncashed checks, and notes receivable mentioned below, were found.

The much talked of trunk stood against the bedroom wall under the window.

His death came March 5th, 1916, and was the end of a gradual decline usually called the infirmities of old age.

Since he was known for years, as a man who usually carried money and was also in the habit of loaning money to men that he knew, there was considerable speculation as to whether or not there would be hidden money.

Application or petition was made on March 16th 1916, the day after his death by Attorney George W. Stephens, for the appointment of Albert's brother David Laskey as the Administrator of the Estate, and the following were listed as next of kin and heirs at law.

Asenath Smith, a sister of Columbus, Wis.
Chloe Smith Huntington, a sister of Columbus, Wis.

David Laskey, a brother, of Columbus, Wis.
Edwin Kidder, a nephew, of California.
Warren Kidder, a nephew, of Mankato, Minn.
Almira Buel, a niece, of Denver, Colorado.
Clara Kidder, a niece, of Columbus, Wis.
Rosa Giles, a niece, of Columbus, Wis.
Mary Moore, a niece, of Mitchell, Iowa.
Mary Garlick, a niece, of Winnebago, Minn.
Richard Laskey, a nephew, of Atcheson, Kansas
Ella Wilcox, a niece, of Bridgewater, South Dakota.

On March 14th County Judge A. F. Kellogg appointed James Quickenden and A. H. Proctor as appraisers of the Estate, with F. G. Holtz, a third member to represent the State of Wisconsin.

Also he appointed J. R. Wheeler and W. C. Leitsch as Special Administrators, on the same date.

One week later, March 21st the appraisers rendered an inventory of all real estate and personal property, to the Court, which represented value as follows.

Land, consisting of 307 acres, and the farm buildings	\$ 36,900.00
Certificates of deposit in First National bank of Columbus	5,400.00
Certificates of Deposit in Farmers and Merchants Union bank of Columbus	27,413.00
Ten notes receiveable of which seven were long past due on which no extension of value was listed and three of more recent date totaling	350.00
Twenty nine items of farm machinery and equipment, 4 horses, 5 cows, 2 brood sows, 6 shoats, 53 tons (estimated) hay	922.00
Seven uncashed milk checks from year previous to his death	29.55
But the big news was the amount of money found in an old trunk which consisted of	
Gold coin	10,225.00
Currency (much of it in bad order)	8,829.00
Specie (coin other than gold)	105.00
Summerized, the value of deposits, checks, votes receiveable, currency, coin, machinery, animals and feed totaled	\$53,273.55
While the real estate was	36,900.00

Or an estate conservately appraised of \$90,173.55

With an estate of this value, and the possibility that some of the 7 notes were collectable and that sale of machinery etc. would run higher than the appraisers estimate, the court required a bond of \$50,000 of each of the Special Administrators.

The bondsmen show on the records as F. A. Chadbourn for R. C. Leitsch and A. H. Whitney for J. R. Wheeler.

Since Albert Laskey died intestate (left no will) presumably a final report would show the amount received by each of the heirs mentioned previously, but no attempt will be made by this writer to follow the matter further.

(To be continued next week)

"The Story Of COLUMBUS . . ."

By F. A. Stare

(Continued from last week)

It is known that David Laskey acquired the farms, having paid into the estate, the difference in value in excess of his share.

An interesting side light about Albert Laskey is in a letter from J. R. Wheeler, which says "Back in 1907 when the currency panic was on, and big city banks were issuing clearing house certificates (in lieu of currency) and we were anticipating difficulty in getting currency to pay checks to farmers who had sold livestock, and trying to get them to take less cash and leave the balance. One day I walks Albert Laskey, and lays down certificates of deposit for \$7,000, informing as that he had made a loan for that amount, and the man he was loaning it to wanted the currency.

I counted out the money after first suggesting that he take a bank draft, but he said the man wanted it in cash.

We wrapped it in a newspaper and I watched him toss it into his buggy.

The next day Laskey was back and threw the money on the counter and wanted his certificates back, saying the loan did not go through.

I figured Laskey was merely assuring himself that we were good and could meet our obligations, and when he tried us out and found he could get his money, he decided to put it back in the bank."

David Laskey

David Laskey was the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Laskey and was born in the town of Greene in Chenango, County, N. Y. in 1841 and was therefore only three years old when his parents came to the territory of Wisconsin to Walworth County and the following year, to Hampden, Columbia County.

He lived with his parents until he was twenty four years old, in 1865. He then bought a farm in section 30 town of Columbus, which would be about two miles west of where his brother Albert located a few years later when he bought the Lyons place in section 28.

David was unmarried at the time, and the exact farm in section 30 is not known at this time. He sold this farm in 1868 and bought 120 acres, 87 of which was in section 33 and 34 town of Columbus, and 33 in town of York adjoining.

Two years later Nov. 1st, 1870 he was married in Columbus, Wis. by the Rev. Edward McGurk, to Miss Susan, a daughter of Henry and Mary McNamara a native of New York City, born in 1850, shortly before they came to Wisconsin, settling in Dane County, when Susan was quite young.

There were four sons born into this family. Albert James (Bert), Aug. 6th, 1871; William Henry, Oct. 22nd 1875; Uri Franklin, Sept. 5th, 1878; and Guy David, Nov. 16th, 1890.

The first three were born in the old house that was on the place when he bought it, Guy alone having been born in the present large square brick house which was built by R. D. Vanaken in the late 70's or early 80's. The old house was then used as a grainery. This place was later known as the Schallert farm, until purchased by Columbus Canning Co. when it was known as farm No. 4 until sold to Mr. Garth Premo, and is on highway 73.

In 1899 the family left the farm and moved to Columbus in the house at 854 S. Farnham st., when is now the home of the Wm. Roth family,

Mrs. Roth being a granddaughter of the David Laskey's.

From the obituary of David Laskey who died in 1927 we take these few lines "Those early days were rugged days. It was Mr. Laskey's brother John (14 years older) who carried the first steel plow into the town of Hampden, carrying it on his back all the way from Waterloo. There were no horses in the country those days. All of the work was done by oxen. The older boys of the Laskey family hauled wheat to Milwaukee with oxen, returning with supplies."

The pioneer family of Richard and Dorothy Laskey were all brought up in the Methodist church. However Mrs. David Laskey was a devout and faithful member of the Catholic church, but only one son, her youngest, Guy, was brought up in his mother's faith. Mrs. Laskey died in 1928 and both she and her husband are buried in the Catholic cemetery at Columbus.



Mr. and Mrs. David Laskey

David Laskey is said to have been worth at least \$90,000 at the time he owned the farm referred to and had considerable money out at interest. He also owned an 80 acre piece of land above Fall River; also some land back of the houses at 854 and 846 Farnham st. now included in the Park, but his worth at the time of his death was substantially less. His son William lived in the house his father owned at 846 Farnham adjoining his own property.

Albert, or Bert the oldest of their sons, was married Aug. 27, 1896 to Miss Louise Gehrka of Columbus. Three children came into their family, Irena, Mrs. Wm. Roth, of Columbus; Ruth Laskey of Minneapolis, and Florence, Mrs. Ralph Laird of Fall River, Bert's oldest daughter was married to Wm. Roth of this city in 1915, their first born was Vera Mae born in 1917 and died while a small child.

Next came Melvin, who is employed at Stokelys and lives with the parents. Melvin had 5½ years in the U. S. Army, mostly in the Pacific Theater.

Norma, unmarried, lives at home and is employed at Bordens.

Albert, their younger son after graduating from C.H.S. attended Whitewater Teachers College but spent two years in the Navy; upon his return he finished at Whitewater and has been teaching five or six years. He is now principal at Arlington.

Doris, the youngest, is now Mrs. Alvin Morrell, of Rochester, N. Y. and is with the Eastman Kodak Co.

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