

## **Waukesha, the center of the Wisconsin lake region, popularly known as "the Saratoga of the West".**

Haight, J.W.

Waukesha, Wisconsin: The Journal Print, 1888

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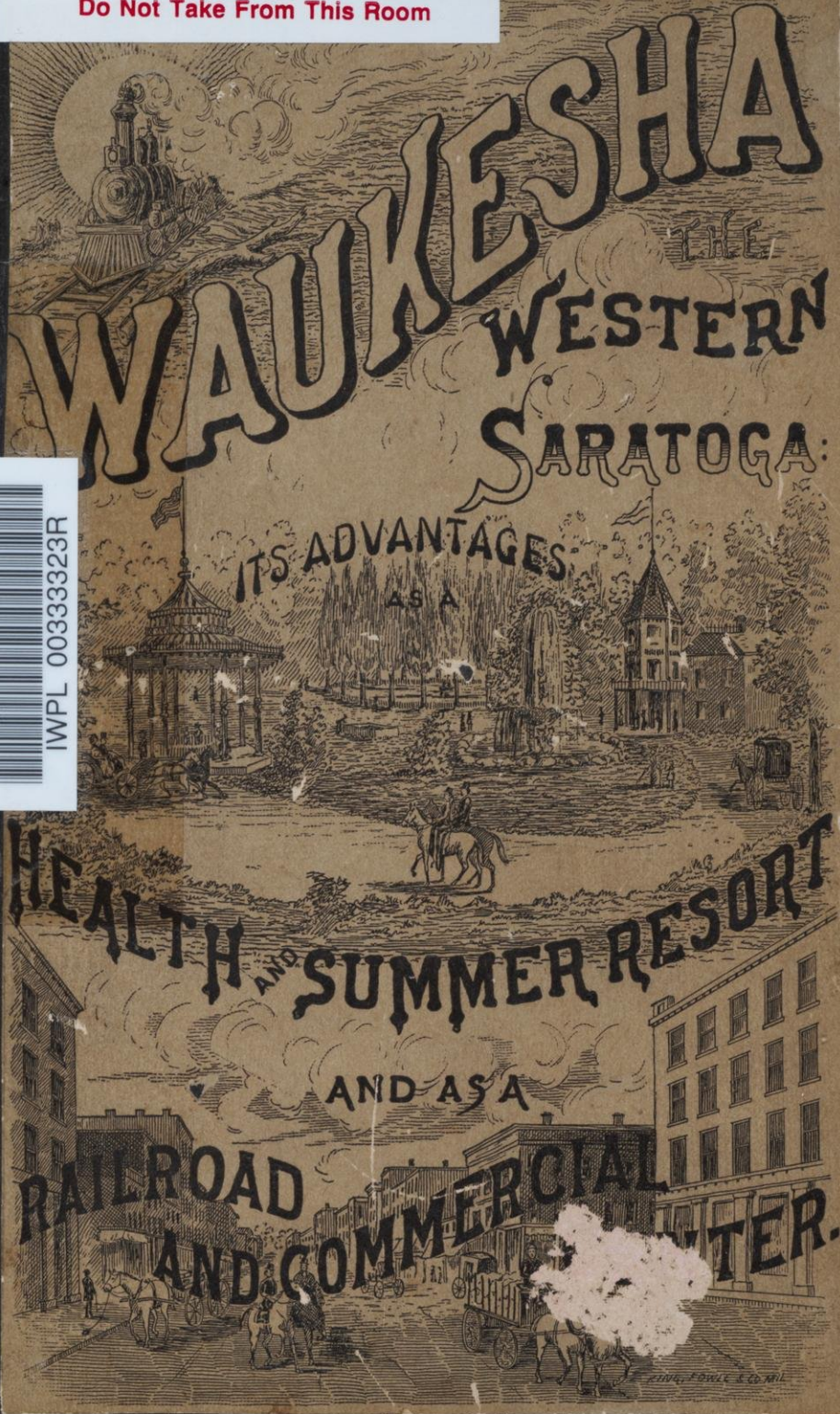
# WAUKESHA

THE WESTERN SARATOGA

ITS ADVANTAGES  
AS A

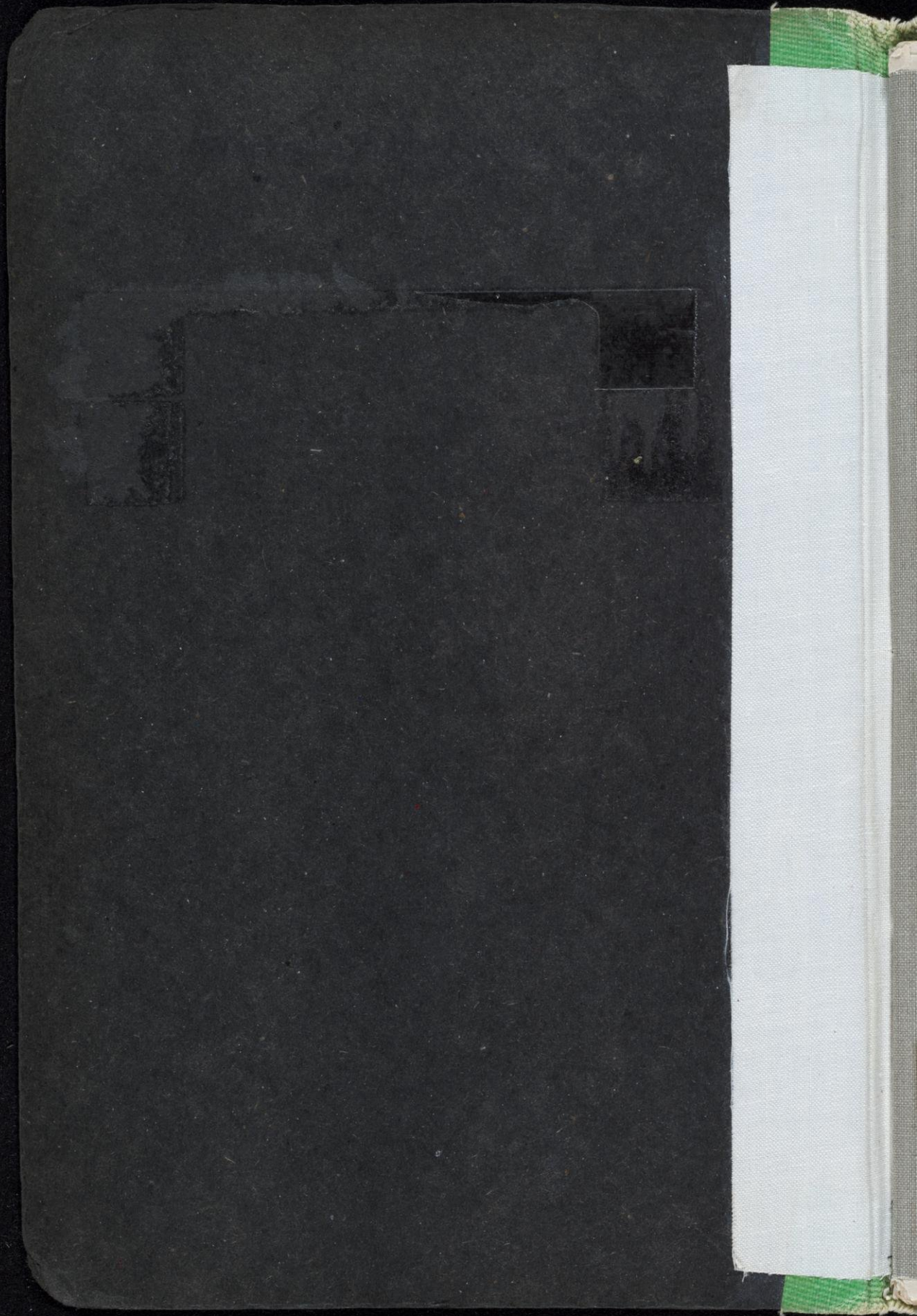
HEALTH AND SUMMER RESORT  
AND AS A

RAILROAD AND COMMERCIAL CENTER.



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WAUKESHA.

# WAUKESHA,

THE CENTER OF THE

## WISCONSIN LAKE REGION,

POPULARLY KNOWN AS

"The Saratoga of the West."

WISREF 977.593 W357Wa

Waukesha, the center of the  
Wisconsin lake region

*For the Information of Capitalists, Manufacturers and  
other Business Men seeking Investments, as well  
as Pleasure Seekers and those in  
Pursuit of Health.*

*Written by J. W. Haight*

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WAUKESHA, WIS.

1888.



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THE JOURNAL PRINT,

WAUKESHA, WIS.

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# WAUKESHA.

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**T**HROUGHOUT Wisconsin, and in thousands of localities outside of the State, Waukesha is the synonym of health. It is reached by railway from seven different directions, and every summer sees an influx of health-seekers upon each of the seven routes, which is marvelous to those previously unacquainted with the facts. From the South and East the trains of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Chicago & Northwestern and the Wisconsin Central are crowded with passengers seeking refuge from the heat and malaria of less favored localities, or looking for summer pleasures, while the same roads bring from the North and West many hundreds of others who find acquaintances from all parts of the country at the Western Saratoga. Two lines of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway converge here from the West—the La Crosse division, which extends to St. Paul and beyond, and the Prairie du Chien division, which traverses the prairies of Iowa and Dakota. The growth of Waukesha is as healthy as are its climate and its world-renowned waters. In 1880 a village of less than three thousand inhabitants, the State census of five years later showed an increase to four thousand one hundred and twenty-five, while the augmentation of population in the three succeeding years has been over two thousand more, as shown by the requirement of additional school accommodations for the children of new arrivals. During the time named the seating capacity of the public schools has been made about fifty per cent. greater than before, and the attendance still presses closely upon the room furnished.

## ADVANTAGES FOR MANUFACTURERS.

Waukesha is a town which, in many respects, offers inducements to manufacturers superior to those of any other point in the Northwest. While it cannot boast of a great natural water power in its river there



are advantages amply compensating its deficiency in this particular. As a place of residence it is hardly rivaled in the country, in relation to its facility of communication with the largest Western cities, its healthfulness and its position in the center of that "Wisconsin Lake Region," which is famous over the whole continent as the annual resort of pleasure-seekers from all points of the compass. Employes as well as employers will find this locality ideally well calculated for permanent homes. The necessities of life, and its comforts also, are cheaply and easily obtainable at Waukesha, and real estate and building material are reasonably low, so that the prudent and frugal workman finds no difficulty in soon securing the ownership of his residence. "Strikes" are unknown there for that reason, and for the additional reason of facility of railway communication, which places the sources of Western labor—the best in the world—within easy reach of employers and of projectors of new enterprises.

Waukesha is 20 miles west of Milwaukee by railroad and 100 miles north of Chicago, being several miles nearer those cities respectively by carriage roads of the best character. Under the ratings of the Northwestern railway pool freight rates to and from Waukesha are relatively the same as those of the two cities above named. The three railroad systems, which have their Wisconsin focus at Waukesha, have more than 12,000 miles of road, and by each of them the heavily timbered sections of the Northwest are reached at easy distances from this point. They also touch hundreds of enterprising towns and cities, thus giving a very extensive market for goods without transfer to other lines. Within the last two years Waukesha has nearly doubled in population, and in the same time has had gas, electric light and water-works established.

What is particularly striking, however, is that in this progress there has been no "artificial boom," and that, although the place has attained a population of nearly 7,000, it still remains a village, and has no municipal debt whatever. Taxes are lower than in any other town of the same importance in the country, being only about one per cent. for all purposes, including school and general as well as local taxation. It is the county seat of the third county of the State in agriculture, and the first county in point of healthfulness. It is also larger and more populous than any other village or city in the county, and contains the most



VIEW AT WAUKESHA.

NORTHWESTERN DEPOT.

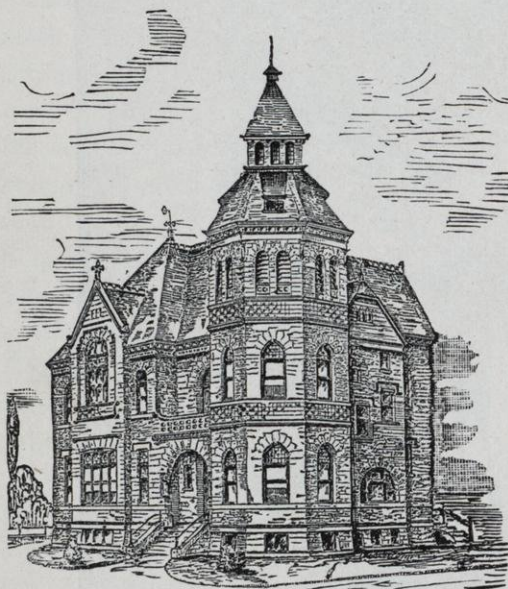
FOUNTAIN HOUSE FROM THE NORTHWEST.



useful and important of the State benevolent institutions, the Wisconsin Industrial School for Boys, with constant attendance of about 300. It is noted as the greatest and most popular of Western summer resorts, and the waters of its numerous springs are renowned over the world for their health-giving properties. These springs and the great summer hotels of the place are situated mostly in the western portion of the town, while the shops of the Wisconsin Central and the great Hadfield stone quarries, as well as other enterprises important in the interests of labor, are up the river and toward the east. Labor is easily obtained here for reasons stated before, and the educational, religious and social privileges are unsurpassed in any town of similar size.

### EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

The central building of the public school system of the village is situated on Grand Avenue, in the pleasantest part of the original village



CARROLL ACADEMY.

site, as the street upon which it stands leads directly from the business center out to the magnificent summer hotel, "The Fountain Spring House." This school building is one of the finest public school edifices in the State, and is supplied with the best modern appliances for heating, ventilation and other sanitary requirements, as well as those for facilitating school work proper. In its highest department, youths are prepared for

matriculation at the State University. There are now three public schools besides the one just mentioned, and subsidiary to it, all of which are finely situated at convenient points in the village, and are carefully managed with reference to the needs and welfare of the

younger classes of scholars. Carroll Academy is situated on a commanding elevation about two blocks northeast of the Fountain Spring House and overlooks the entire village as well as the far-away hills of Delafield, Mukwonago and the northern part of the county. This institution is under Presbyterian management and is a school of preparation for such pupils as desire a thorough training in classics, mathematics and natural science for admission to advanced classes in the best colleges or universities of the United States. Its present principal, Prof. W. L. Rankin, has been at its head for more than fifteen years past, and has brought it up from an apparent condition of chronic decline to a recognized independent position, commanding the respect of all scholars. A few years ago it was burned to the ground, but has since been rebuilt in a more modern and picturesque style of architecture, and it is now an ornament to the town from the point of view of an artist as well as from that of lovers of solid learning.

### THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

The Fox river, which ultimately unites with other streams to form the Illinois, is not of great volume at Waukesha, and is now used only for the running of one flouring mill, and the machinery of an establishment of iron works. Besides the products of these establishments the exports of the village are principally the waters of its medicinal healing springs (for the bottling of which there are various large works), the products of its breweries, and most extensive of all, its building stone, a fine grained dolomite, almost white, with which the whole surrounding country is underlaid at greater or less depth from the surface, but which is most easily attainable at Waukesha itself and in its immediate vicinity.

### THE HADFIELD COMPANY

is the proprietor of the bulk of the Waukesha quarries, and is the largest dealer in stone in Eastern Wisconsin. By this company stone is furnished in all forms, either cut, sawed, or in the rough. Its facilities for furnishing cut and sawed stone are unsurpassed, the best artisans that can be found for that branch of their business being employed here. Very thick stone can be obtained of the company and in any required blocks for railroad work and when very heavy stone are required in large and heavy buildings. They also deal very largely in white quick-



lime. Their trade extends through the Northwest. They have lately remodeled their kilns and are now using gas instead of wood and coal. They make a much nicer article by this process and in less time. The Hadfield Co. are building up quite a little village in the vicinity of their quarries and lime-kilns, one and a half miles north of Waukesha. They employ one hundred and seventy-five men, and seventy-five horses, run two steam engines, two or three steam drills, and ship from twenty to forty car-loads of stone and lime daily. Besides all this, they have very extensive coal and wood yards in Milwaukee. Their trade in this line reaches all the stations on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Wisconsin Central and the Chicago & Northwestern Railroads, besides other roads that run in connection with these. And this is not all of their business. They deal largely in real estate, having platted and sold the most of six additions to the village of Waukesha. The Hadfield Co. have capital, enterprise and push in all of their business, and build houses on the installment plan, that is, in monthly payments. If a mechanic earns fifty to seventy-five dollars per month, instead of his paying out of this ten to fifteen dollars for rent he may thus pay it towards a home, and in a few years, if he is industrious and saving, he will have a home of his own. Mr. A. H. Hadfield, the youngest of this firm (who is scarcely forty), is the manager of this vast business. He was born in Waukesha and has grown up with the numerous cares that such a business would naturally entail upon him. Holding such a responsible position, Mr. Hadfield is capable of managing almost any kind of business successfully, and some day we shall see him a railroad manager or in some responsible position equally as well adapted to his capabilities.

### THE BETHESDA BREWERY.

There are two breweries of lager beer at Waukesha, of which the largest and most celebrated is that above named.

This brewery was established by Stephen Weber, about twenty-five years ago, under the name of the West Hill Brewery. It was successfully conducted by Mr. Weber until about three years ago, when he disposed of the business to his son, W. A. Weber, and son-in-law, J. C. Land, who changed the name to Bethesda Brewery, and conducted the business under the firm name of Weber & Land, until last winter, when the younger Mr. Weber purchased the interest of his brother-in-law, and

is now the sole proprietor of the most popular brewing establishment in this part of Wisconsin. The products of this establishment have come into competition with beer manufactured at Milwaukee and other points. Notwithstanding this fact there has been no difficulty in establishing a trade. The beer is second to none, and recommends itself. It is kept on sale in most of the saloons in this section of the country, and has proved its value as a tonic in numberless cases of convalescence of invalids, where it has been recommended by competent physicians. In fact, after proving its good quality and purity, judges of beer ask for it and will have no other. The proprietor has reason to congratulate himself upon the fact that he can recommend it to his patrons for its pure and healthy qualities. Its reputation is growing and extending into every quarter where our products are known, and takes precedence in every place where introduced. The qualities for which it is distinguished are purity, brilliancy of color, richness of flavor and non-liability to deterioration in warmer climates, qualities the result of excellent water, intelligent care and experience of the men who make the beer, conjoined to the use of apparatus possessing all the best modern improvements made in this country and elsewhere, and to the superior standard of both quantity and quality of the ingredients used. The brewery lays claims to all points of excellence. The buildings occupied are large and commodious, and are supplied with the most perfect and complete machinery, appurtenances and appliances known at the present day for the satisfactory production of this health-giving beverage. The cellars, vaults, ice houses, refrigerators and bottling house are admirably constructed and arranged, and all the appointments are first-class in every department. The capacity of the brewery is about 6,000 barrels per annum.

Mr. Weber is well known to our citizens, and has been a member of the village government. He is a good business man, unassuming, and attends strictly to his own affairs. His large experience, courteous and gentlemanly manners, together with an honest and strictly straightforward manner of doing business has won for him the respect of the general public, and placed his establishment in the front rank of the solid institutions of this part of the State of Wisconsin.



## LUMBER AND BUILDING MATERIAL.

As might be expected from the vast reaches of railway extending from Waukesha northward into the almost limitless pine forests, it is easy to obtain lumber and prepared building material at Waukesha at rates as favorable as at Milwaukee and Chicago. The longest established of the lumber yards here is that of B. STOCKWELL, near the passenger depot of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. This yard has been in operation for more than thirty years and has been under the control of Mr. Stockwell for nearly a whole decade. During the past year he has enlarged his facilities for business by grading up the low land near the river, and building sheds, etc., for the storing of much greater quantities of lumber than he was previously able to handle. The whole is now surrounded with excellent fence protection, with secure gates, and the business office has been renovated so as to make it a model of its kind. In variety and extent of stock, Mr. Stockwell may easily challenge comparison with any similar enterprise in any of the inland towns of Wisconsin, and he claims to sell as low as can be done at any of the great business centers. Sash, doors, blinds, screen doors, shingles and lath, are comprised in his list, as well as all kinds of lumber and timber.

With the building of the Wisconsin Central depot came the PORTER LUMBER Co., whose officers are Henry Sherry president, and S. A. Cook vice-president, Neenah, and R. L. Porter secretary, treasurer and manager, Waukesha. This company owns its pine lands and operates six saw-mills and four planing-mills on the Central line, and has yards at Mukwonago, Wis., and Lake Villa, Ill. It is thus in a position to furnish the best at lowest rates. Its Waukesha yard is near the Wisconsin Central depot.

## REAL ESTATE AGENCIES.

With the increase in population of Waukesha it is natural that the business of dealing in real estate here, which was a mere side issue a few years ago, should become what it now is, an important feature of business in the place. Besides the Hadfield Co., which manages its own real estate sales, as stated before, there are a number of agencies, among which we may mention the following :

J. J. CONSTANTINE, in Carroll's new Broadway building, has a large business, including the loaning of money on approved real estate security, the collection of rents and settlement of taxes for non-residents, insurance in fire, life and accident companies, and general conveyancing, besides his main line of Waukesha and other real estate, including pine and other wild lands, prairie and timber in Wisconsin and elsewhere. Mr. Constantine, though a comparatively young man, is an old resident of Waukesha, and represented the village in the County Board of Supervisors last year. Vigorous and energetic in his methods, he is rapidly building up a business of enviable proportions, and is making his mark as a man of sagacity and enterprise.

RICHARD E. LABAR began his work in Waukesha as a newspaper writer, and afterwards became the editor and one of the proprietors of the *Waukesha World*, a bright and deservedly esteemed newspaper. The acquaintance which Mr. Labar thus obtained of the business and values of the place was such as to make him desirous of more active participation, and accordingly the *World* was sold and consolidated with the *Waukesha Journal*, and its late editor engaged in the business of real estate exclusively, disregarding all the other attachments and appurtenances which are liable to be found in country real estate offices. A very short time was sufficient to demonstrate the wisdom of this course, as Mr. Labar's office, over the National Exchange Bank, soon became the center of as much business as ought to be attended to by a single management. Mr. Labar deals in lands outside of Waukesha as well as within the town, being the local agent for the sale of lands of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Company.

IRA KIMBALL, whose office is in Kimball's block on Clinton street, opposite the post-office, is a justice of the peace, conveyancer, collection and fire and life insurance agent, as well as a dealer in real estate and money loans. Mr. Kimball is a resident of the place for thirty-five years, and intimately acquainted with its lands and people, and gives his personal and prompt attention to all business placed in his hands. He has constantly the sale of a large line of desirable real estate in all parts of the village, and refers to both the Waukesha national banks as to his reliability.

M. E. HEALY is located in Allen's block, also on Clinton street, where he gives general satisfaction in the same business. Mr. Healy



negotiates loans, rents and sells houses and lands, collects rents and pays taxes for non-residents, and also does business in the way of insurance and collections. He is long and favorably known among us.

### MERCANTILE HOUSES.

There are no wholesale mercantile establishments in Waukesha, and from among the many retail houses it is impossible here to do more than select a few to serve as representatives of what is best in the village in the especial lines mentioned.

The JAMES BROS. are easily first among dealers in dry goods, clothing and carpets. They occupy, on Main street, the largest store in the county, and one which has been in continuous use for the same business and by the same family for upwards of twenty years. Volumes could not say more for them. The young gentlemen composing the present firm, Messrs. A. W. and D. C. James, were bred in the business which they now control and know thoroughly.

In groceries, provisions, crockery and glassware, THOS. RYALL, occupies as prominent a place as any. His store at the corner of Main and Clinton streets is the place to which the seeker after what is really excellent in the above lines, naturally turns with full assurance of not being disappointed either in quality or in prices. Mr. Ryall has been in this business at Waukesha so many years that he is looked upon as the standard grocer.

On Main street is also to be found the hardware establishment of GASPAR & LE CLEAR, next to the Putney Block. Mr. Gaspar relieved himself last year from his business duties to the extent of accepting the honorable office of President of the village for one term, but is now wholly engaged again in assisting his busy partner to dispose of their fine assortment of stoves, cutlery, tin and ironware, and in short, everything which naturally falls within the province of the hardware trade.

BLAIR BROS., still on Main street, are first-class representatives of the trade in drugs, medicines, paints, oils, toilet articles, soaps, perfumes, cigars and books. No visitor to Waukesha should fail to call on them and procure their Waukesha view album, containing 35 views of Waukesha and map of the county, at the merely nominal price of 25 cents.



FOUNTAIN SPRING. FOUNTAIN SPRING HOUSE.

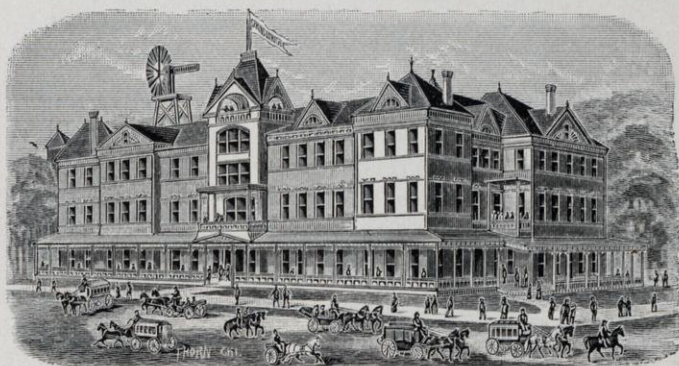


## HOTELS.

In the way of hotels and houses of entertainment for summer guests, Waukesha ranks higher in proportion to its population than any other town west of the Alleghanies, if not the highest of any on the continent of America. There are about a dozen summer hotels, with accommodations for upwards of one hundred guests each, and nearly a score which provide for less than one hundred and more than twenty persons respectively. The entire hotel accommodation of Waukesha in the summer season is equal to more than half of its permanent population, and all-the-year-round hotels are ample to every requirement of the traveling public. The finest examples of the summer resort hotel and of the general hotel at Waukesha are mentioned below, to the exclusion of the remainder, on account of lack of space to go into details in relation to all the establishments of each class.

The FOUNTAIN SPRING HOUSE, to which allusion has been made on previous pages of this book, is the most conspicuous feature in any view of Waukesha, as it is situated on high land just south of the middle portion of the village, and surrounded with scores of acres of open grounds with adornments of landscape to captivate the eye and please the artistic sense of the beholder. The spring from which the hotel takes its name is situated close to the south end of the main building, and its waters flow into an artificial lake, stocked with brook trout, at the rear of the hotel. A little farther to the south are the ample buildings and grounds, including a fine track for races, of the County Agricultural Society. This hotel has provision of rooms and tables for 800 guests, and is not only one of the largest, best equipped as to modern improvements, and liberally conducted hotels in the United States, but, also, being built of stone and brick, with ample balconies, and without the inaccessible heights that distinguish many recent hotel buildings, safer from possible dangers by fire than almost any other edifice of its kind in the country. A fine band is one of the permanent attractions of the house during the season, with three regular concerts daily. This hotel remains open from about the middle of June to the middle of September in every year, and is the property of Mr. M. Laffin, a well-known Chicago millionaire. The summer management is conducted by Mr. J. M. Lee, whose ability in that line is well known throughout the South and West. The terms are from \$15.00 to \$28.00 per week.

The SPRING CITY HOTEL is next in size to the first named, and is open during the whole year, under the management of the proprietor, Mr. Geo. R. Jones. This house was completed in the spring of 1887, and immediately took the first rank as a general hotel, and a high place as a summer resort. It is situated almost at equal distances from the three railway passenger depots, at the corner of Grand and Wisconsin Avenues, and at a point as near the center of the village as is attainable, being only a couple of blocks from the post-office, and is about three



SPRING CITY HOTEL.

blocks from each of the railway stations. It contains eighty rooms, besides fine double parlors for ladies, with reading and writing rooms for gentlemen, a very elegant and commodious office, and two dining halls. There are 225 linear feet of wide veranda on the ground floor and balconies to the upper stories. The hall-ways are wide and spacious, with convenient fire escapes. All the most desirable modern improvements are found here, including electric bells and lights, gas, bath-rooms, hot and cold water, telephone, freight elevators, laundry, etc. An orchestra is retained during the summer season. Rates \$2.00 per day.

## BANKS.

There are two banks at Waukesha, both organized as national banks and both having the solid financial backing of old and well-known residents of the county. The first established was the WAUKESHA NATIONAL BANK, which was organized as a State bank in 1855, and ten years later became a national bank of issue. Its directors are Messrs. A. J. Frame, M.



Field, Richard Weaver, F. H. Putney and H. M. Frame, and its officers as follows : A. J. Frame, president ; M. Field, vice-president ; H. M. Frame, cashier ; E. R. Estberg, assistant cashier. This bank desires to have it brought to the attention of manufacturers proposing to locate at Waukesha, that the capital under its control is ample to ensure low rates of interest upon moneys advanced by it. The following statement of its resources and liabilities at the beginning of the present calendar year, shows at a glance the standing of this institution :

## RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts,	- - -	\$511,845 73
Bonds with U. S. Treas., 4 and 4½ per cent.,		100,000 00
Bonds on hand,	- - -	99,150 00
Banking House and Safes,	- - -	10,000 00
Premiums Paid,	- - -	11,000 00
Due from U. S. Treasurer,	- - -	5,500 00
Due from Banks,	- - -	69,104 68
Cash on Hand,	- - -	57,384 46
		<hr/>
		\$863,984 87

## LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock Paid in,	- - -	\$100,000 00
Surplus Funds,	- - -	31,046 60
Circulation,	- - -	90,000 00
Deposits,	- - -	642,938 27
		<hr/>
		\$863,984 87

## THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE BANK,

though established much more recently, being less than ten years old, is in the hands of some of the oldest and most reliable citizens of the vicinity, and commands a very high degree of confidence. Its Directors are R. M. Jameson, W. P. Sawyer, John Mitchell, H. A. Youmans, S. D. James and D. L. Edwards, and the officers are R. M. Jameson, president; H. A. Youmans, vice-president, and W. P. Sawyer, cashier.

The following is its report for Feb. 14, 1888 :

#### RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts.....	\$96,288 88	
Other stocks, bonds and mortgages....	23,000 00	\$119,288 88
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation.....		12,500 00
Office furniture and fixtures.....		1,800 00
Current expenses and taxes paid.....		672 44
Premiums on U. S. Bonds.....		2,469 05
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer.....		562 50
U. S. Bonds on hand.....	\$ 6,100 00	
Due from banks.....	24,234 54	
Cash in vault.....	19,157 85	\$49,492 39
		<u>\$186,785 26</u>

#### LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in.....		\$50,000 00
Surplus fund and undivided profits.....		5,332 98
Circulating notes .....		11,250 00
Individual deposits subject to check..	\$12,935 72	
Demand certificates of deposit.....	77,266 56	120,202 28
		<u>\$186,785 26</u>

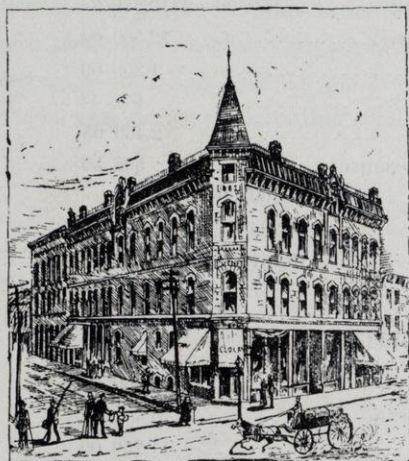
#### OTHER BUSINESS HOUSES.

The extent of this sketch is not such as to admit touching upon many of the business interests of the place, and in this section of it a few are crowded to serve as a hint to the reader of much that is left unmentioned. The mill power of the river has been noted on an earlier page, and it would be unpardonable not to speak particularly of the SARATOGA MILLS, the chief flouring establishment in the county, both as to capacity and as to equipment. These mills are but a few rods away from the C., M. & St. P. Ry. depot, and turn the requisite quantity of wheat into 150 barrels of flour every working day in the year. Messrs. Chase & Allen, the proprietors, also make a specialty of gluten flour, which is so highly recommended by the medical profession for diseases of the kidneys and the stomach, and find a large sale for it, in the summer especially.

The leading dealer in trunks, harnesses, carriages, sleighs, etc., is Orlando Culver, a New Yorker by birth, but a resident of Waukesha since 1852,



with the exception of war times, during the whole of which he served in the ranks and as an officer. Mr. Culver has always, since the war, held local offices when he would accept them, his neighbors having never had any occasion to doubt his sterling integrity and good judgment. In



PUTNEY BLOCK.

1866 he laid the foundation of his present extensive business at Waukesha, in a little shop 16 by 24 feet large. Now his shop and ware-rooms cover a space equal to 6,000 square feet of surface, which is filled to repletion with everything usually found in a first-class establishment. The large stock of carriages, surreys, buggies, road-carts, express and farm wagons always on hand, is something unusual in a village of this size, and would be a credit to many cities of far greater population than Wauke-

sha. During the past winter he sold 51 sleighs and cutters, that is to say, a greater number than all the other local dealers together were able to dispose of during the same period. Doing honest work, anticipating the wants of his patrons and keeping up with the times, are cardinal points in business which he has made use of persistently, and with the best results.

M. L. BUTTERFIELD, also a distinguished soldier who rose from the ranks to the position of a field officer, is the representative painter and decorator of the place. Excepting war service, he has been engaged in the business of paper-hanging, painting, etc., at Waukesha, for nearly 35 years, and now does a larger business in that line than any other person or firm in the county. His sales of wall paper, mixed paints, glass, etc., are also larger than from any other house in Waukesha, and are sufficient proof that the people find at his establishment what they want, and on satisfactory terms. Col. Butterfield's store and rooms are on Clinton street.

W. G. MANN, successor to Tyler & Bugbee, has achieved an enviable reputation as a photographer by his views of Waukesha, and by his portraiture of citizens and strangers. Mr. Mann is a genuine artist, as no

one will attempt to gainsay after visiting his rooms on Main street and inspecting his work. Although he has been at Waukesha only four years, he has taken the four first premiums awarded during that time over all competitors in the county, for fine photographic work.

The longest-established newspaper in the county is THE WAUKESHA FREEMAN, which has not missed a weekly issue for 29 years, and during all that time has been the permanent journalistic reliance of the Republican party in the county. During the summer months it issues a sprightly daily edition, taking the local news on the fly. The present proprietor, Mr. H. M. Youmans, was an attache of the office before he was out of his teens, and a partner in the business as soon as he had attained his legal majority. He is now, at the age of 37, the sole owner and manager of the finest newspaper property in the State, in a town of similar size. The *Freeman* goes to very nearly every house in Waukesha, and its circulation in the other towns of the county is remarkably large, for the reason that it attends more closely and carefully to the local happenings in every portion of Waukesha county than any of the other county papers. The motto of action of this newspaper is "Let no piece of news escape." It captures them all.

The *Freeman* also has a large and admirably equipped job office in connection with its newspaper business, and does an immense quantity of this class of printing during the year. The other local newspapers are *The Waukesha Democrat*, established in 1872, the organ of the local Democracy, and *The Waukesha Journal*, established in 1887, a Republican paper.

J. T. MAHONEY is the music dealer, par excellence, for Waukesha and its vicinity, having been established in that business, and that of dealer in the "Domestic" sewing-machines, for the past fourteen years.



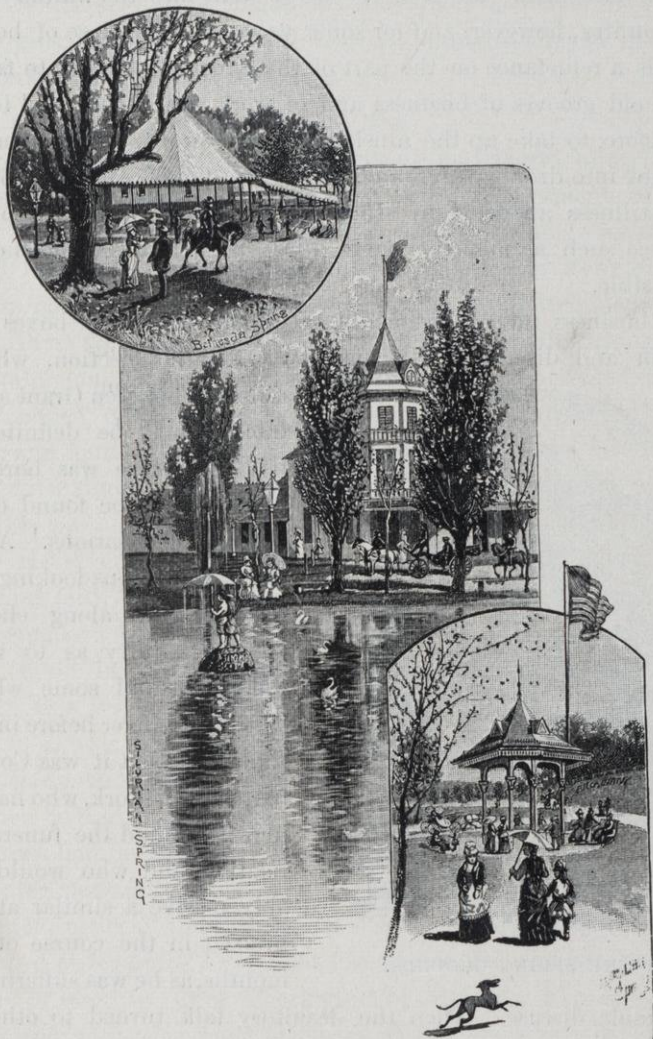
FREEMAN BUILDING.



In the musical department of Mr. Mahoney's store on Clinton street, opposite the post-office, are found all descriptions of instruments for the production of harmonious sounds, from a penny mouth-organ to the magnificent "Burdette," and from a Jews-harp to a concert grand piano. His assortment of sheet music and musical publications is as varied and complete as his stock of instruments, and it is owing to Mr. Mahoney's intelligence and promptness of action that Waukesha people are not obliged to go out of town for anything that may be required by them in the way of music. He is one of the sort of men whose presence in any progressive place is an assistance to progress, and whose exertions are towards general advancement and growth of the public welfare, instead of being a check and obstacle to every forward movement.

A list of Waukesha physicians would cover considerable paper, and would comprise a number of distinguished representatives of the two leading schools of medicine; but in selecting a representative name from among them all, it is hoped that none will consider it invidious to mention that of Dr. J. M. CARBERRY, who has reached, although comparatively young, such recognition as to cause him to be chosen chairman of the committee on sanitary matters of the Waukesha Business Men's Association, and local surgeon at Waukesha for the Wisconsin Central Railway Lines. Dr. Carberry is a graduate of the Chicago Medical College, and is now about thirty years of age. There is no doubt but that his name will be noted in the annals of medical science of this country as among those of sound and successful practitioners in this greatest and most beneficial of all the professions.

NORMAN McBEATH has long held the acknowledged position of leading tailor at Waukesha. His work for visitors has been so satisfactory and so reasonable in price that he receives orders for garments and for suits from nearly every State between the Mississippi river and the Alleghany mountains, from the lakes at the north to the Gulf of Mexico at the south. Mr. McBeath, like many others of those named among the representative business men of Waukesha, was a soldier for the Union, and served his full time as a private and non-commissioned officer in the Fourth Wisconsin, being mustered out finally as a sergeant.



SOME WAUKESHA SPRINGS.



## THE MINERAL SPRINGS.

Before the war, Waukesha was one of the most energetic inland towns of Wisconsin. Much of its energy went into the military service of the country, however, and for some years after the close of hostilities there was a reluctance on the part of the returned soldiers to fall back into the old grooves of business and of work which they had left four years before, to take up the musket and the sword. Consequently the village got into drowsy ways, and on the 9th day of August, 1868, there was a stillness about Main street which would startle any one who might see such a phenomenon in 1888—if such a phenomenon were now possible.

The business men occasionally sat upon dry goods boxes on the pavement and discussed the coming Presidential election, when the question between Grant and Seymour would be definitely settled, but there was hardly any liveliness to be found even in these conversations. A pale-faced, cadaverous-looking gentleman passing along elicited a drowsy inquiry as to who he might be, and some who had met the stranger before informed the others that it was Col. Dunbar, of New York, who had come here to attend the funeral of a relative, and who would probably receive a similar attention himself in the course of a few months, as he was suffering from



AT THE SPRING GROUNDS.

an incurable disease. Then the desultory talk turned to other subjects, and the Colonel and his ailments were forgotten. In the meantime the sick man wandered into the fields down the river and lamented over his insatiable thirst, which no water had been able to quench, for he was a victim of that terrible scourge, diabetes mellitus, and his life had indeed been despaired of by the best physicians. He sat down under an oak, and a cool spring at his feet tempted him to drink, but

he felt that it was useless to partake of water, which had hitherto proved of no effect in bringing him relief. Finally his thirst became so intolerable that he stooped down and tasted from the fountain, thinking that the act of drinking, even, might be a slight alleviation to his sufferings. To his great surprise he found that the draught allayed his burning appetite for water, and he felt like

A NEW MAN.

Day after day he returned to the spring, and found himself rapidly approaching to a condition of health, until the requirements of business took him back to New York. There he declined almost as rapidly as he had recovered here. At last he released himself from his eastern business complications and came to Waukesha, determined to regain his health or die there. Before the end of the following spring he was a well man, robust and strong as before the disease attacked him. He recommended others suffering in like manner to drink of the same waters, and found similar results in these cases. Then he decided to give the remainder of his days to the work of placing that which had saved his own life within the reach of all to whom it might be beneficial. He advertised its virtues all over the world, and with an enthusiasm and faith in the final result which approached sublimity, after purchasing an interest in the fountain, expended all the money that he could obtain in bringing it to public notice everywhere. His progress in this work was necessarily slow, for people cannot easily give credit to simple remedies. For three years he found few believers except those who tried the waters and found relief. Then came the season when he could see that his efforts were not unavailing. Faces, pale as his own had been, were to be seen about the streets, and from time to time came narrations of recoveries which seemed almost miraculous. The Chief Justice of the United States spent several weeks here, and was astonished at regaining his weight to a degree that was perceptible from one day to another. Mrs. Thorington, of Alabama, who had not been able to walk across her room for years, within six weeks of her arrival had no difficulty in walking a mile at a time. And from hundreds of other cures equally remarkable, the wonder of the virtues of the fountain spread among the people of this and other countries, and impelled some of our citizens to examine into the waters of



## OTHER SPRINGS

in the vicinity, and ascertain whether they did not possess similar healing qualities. The final results are known to the world. The preparing of the waters of the various Waukesha Springs for the markets of the world, by bottling and barreling, has become an industry of immense proportions, employing at the several bottling and packing houses hundreds of men, boys and girls, from the beginning to the end of the year. The record of cures performed by these waters in cases of kidney, liver and stomachic troubles is marvelous, and abundantly sustains the opinion that the waters of Waukesha are the most healthful in the world.

What the secret of this healthful quality may be has not yet been and perhaps never may be, discovered, but it is perhaps sufficient to be able to demonstrate its existence by the statements of thousands of those who have used the waters with clear benefit to themselves and of hundreds who had found in them a perfect cure when hope had previously been lost. To show the little apparent difference between the Waukesha waters and those of other uncontaminated fountains, we give an analysis of the water of one of the springs by Prof. C. F. Chandler, of Columbia College, which may serve well enough as a type of the others. It is as follows, for the mineral contents of a wine gallon of the water:

	Grains.
Chloride of sodium.....	1.1944
Sulphate of potassa.....	0.4943
Sulphate of soda.....	0.6212
Bicarbonate of lime.....	15.9764
Bicarbonate of magnesia.....	11.5795
Bicarbonate of iron.....	0.0866
Bicarbonate of soda.....	0.7595
Phosphate of soda.....	0.0034
Alumina.....	0.0466
Silica.....	1.0497

A grain, it will be observed, is the 480th part of an ounce, so that the whole mineral contents of this gallon of water is only about the one-fifteenth part of an ounce, or about the one-sixtieth part of an ounce to the quart. This does not seem to be an overloading of medicament, but like Mercurio's sword-thrust, "it is enough," since it accomplishes the great end of the cure of disease. Among the Waukesha springs which

have achieved reputations abroad are the White Rock, Sotarian, Silurian, Bethesda, Arcadian, Clysmic, Horeb, Hygeia, Henk, Acme and Glenn.

The WHITE ROCK SPRING is beautifully situated at the base of a solid rock bank of the Fox river, at the northwest border of the village, in

full view of the trains of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, and Wisconsin Central railroads. At a few yards distance from the spring pavilion are the bottling works of the White Rock Mineral Spring Co., at which the waters are put up with great care in many attractive ways, among which the most widely known are the White Rock Carbonated Water for table use, the White Rock Ginger Ale, and that delicious and wholesome beverage recently invented, so to speak, by the White Rock people, and named by them "Gingerette," which should be



WHITE ROCK SPRING.

tried by all who are looking for a new sensation of pleasure in the taste. All these beverages are made with the natural waters of the spring, which analysis shows to be absolutely free from organic matter or other impurity.

The SOTARIAN SPRING flows from the highest ground, and at the highest point, of any of the celebrated springs on the southerly side of the river. It has been somewhat recently put in order for general use by the present proprietor, F. A. Merrill (late Superintendent of the Wisconsin Central, and now President of the Village of Waukesha). Mr. Merrill was struck by the large flow of this spring and the remarkable purity of its appearance as it issued from its clean looking bed of white gravel, high above the other springs and above the possibility of any contamination, and upon careful tests of its excellence he concluded to place the waters upon the market, which he has done with immediate and pronounced success. The waters are sold only in bulk at \$6.00 per



barrel of 42 gallons, or \$4.00 per half barrel of 20 gallons. When packages are furnished by consignee, the prices are \$4.00 per barrel and \$2.50 per half barrel. Special pains are taken to ship this water in its purity in packages lined, so as to avoid the taste of the wood. By the use of this water diseases of the kidneys, bladder and liver can be cured, and it is claimed to be an infallible remedy for diabetes.

## STATE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

The State Industrial School for Boys, situated on the west boundary line of Waukesha, is the most important institution in the county, and probably, in respect to its general results, the most important in the State. This school was the fourth public institution of a charitable or reformatory character established by the State of Wisconsin, and was formally opened on the 25th day of July, 1860. The first Superintendent was Dr. Moses Barrett, who resigned his position in October, 1865, and was succeeded by Rev. A. D. Hendrickson, who held the place until the beginning of 1876, when he also resigned and Capt. S. J. M. Putnam was appointed in his place, and was succeeded a few years later by Mr. W. H. Sleep, the present incumbent. During the first ten years of its existence children of both sexes were received into the institution, but since then girls have been excluded. The school is intended to reclaim juvenile criminals and vagrants, and make of them, so far as is practicable, good citizens. Up to October, 1877, there had been 1,425 commitments to the school, and during the year ending with the first day of that month there had been an average of 341 scholars. From the opening of the institution to the present time there have probably been not less than 2,000 pupils received and retained until a likelihood of reformation appeared.

The plan of education pursued here is simple and effective. Boys between the ages of 10 and 16 inclusive, on conviction before a magistrate, of crime, or in a police or county court, of vagrancy, are sentenced to the institution until 18 years old. On their arrival they are placed in the lowest grade with the understanding that good deportment and attention to work and study will advance them grade by grade to the roll of honor, and that bad behavior and negligence will set them back. When they have reached the "honor" grade and have remained therein a sufficient length of time they are recommended to the board of managers

for tickets of leave, which are furnished as soon as a place in some good family is attainable. The number of those remaining until 18 years old is exceedingly small, and most of the inmates are discharged on ticket-of-leave before the expiration of two years from their reception. The course of instruction is twofold. Scholars are taught in the first place to earn a living by work, and to that end labor on the farm, in the



WAUKESHA COUNTY JAIL.

shoe, knitting or broom shop, or in the laundry or bakery five hours of every day, and four hours are given to school studies in the common English branches.

The main building of the institution was destroyed by fire in 1866, and on rebuilding the original plan was considerably modified. There are now ten family buildings, including the superintendent's and the correction house, all of which, except one, are built of Waukesha limestone. The inmates of the school are divided into "families," each presided over by a gentleman and lady, and each occupying one of these build-



ings. Huge aggregations of boys are thus avoided. The farm and grounds comprise 233 acres of land. The total cost of the school to date is not far from \$1,000,000.

### INDIAN MOUNDS.

Of the many Indian mounds in the shapes of beasts and birds which were found along the valley of the Pishtaka (or Fox river) by the early settlers, but few now remain in their entirety, and the best preserved specimens about the village of Waukesha are on the grounds of Carroll College and of Mr. M. D. Cutler respectively. In relation to the Waukesha mounds we quote extensively from "The Antiquities of Wisconsin," published in 1836, by Dr. I. A. Lapham. After mentioning the various collection of mounds along the Pishtaka, from the Illinois line northward, he says :

"Waukesha is the next place which seems to have been occupied by the ancient inhabitants. It was formerly known as Prairie Village or Prairieville; and being on the main road west from Milwaukee, its mounds were early brought into notice. They occupy three different levels : those in the lower part of the village, mostly conical, are on the lowest ground ; while those in the upper part are on what may be called the second bank ; and the others are on the highlands and south of the village. A group of these works were surveyed in 1836, with the assistance of Mr. Wm. T. Culley. At that time the log house near these mounds was the only evidence of civilization in the place ; and the works were uninjured by the white man, except that the large mound was made use of for a root-house or potato-hole. The turtle mound was then a conspicuous object ; and such was the resemblance to that animal that it was pronounced a good representation by all who saw it.

"On this mound was, at that time, a recent grave, protected by pickets driven on opposite sides, as to cross at the top. The Indians had but recently left the place, and the trail leading from the river to their wigwams ran directly over two of the mounds. This turtle was then a very fine specimen of the ancient art of mound-building, with its graceful curves, the feet projecting back and forward, and the tail, with its gradual slope, so acutely pointed that it was impossible to ascertain precisely where it terminated. The body was fifty-six feet in length, and the tail two hundred and fifty; the height six feet. The ground occu-

pied by this group of works is now covered with buildings. A dwelling house stands upon the body of the turtle, and a Catholic church is built upon the tail.

"Another turtle was found on the college grounds, and differs from the other in being concave on the back. It is also less symmetrical.

"A group of structures occupying the very high hill a little east of the town, consists of two round, four oblong, one turtle, and one bird-

shaped mound. The position of the last is peculiar, on a steep hillside, with its head downwards. The general outline of the figure, and the shape of the head and beak, leave no doubt that a bird was intended to be represented; but whether an eagle, a hawk or any particular bird, must be left entirely to conjecture.

"The very fine group, half a mile south of the town, fortunately is upon the grounds of Carroll College; and we may, therefore, hope it will be forever preserved as a record of the past. These mounds form a quasi enclosure, and hence, like many other groups of works, have been, by casual observers, called a fort. If we were not well acquainted with works of defense in Ohio



GOSSIP AT THE SPRING.

and elsewhere, which show that the mound-builders were considerably advanced in military arts, we might suppose this was intended for a rude fortification; but we can only regard it as an accidental arrangement, and not designed for any such purpose.

"Much of the ground about Waukesha was, in 1836, covered with Indian corn-hills, or remains of their recent culture of maize. In this locality, as at numerous others, mounds occupy the highest grounds and



the points of hills and other places, whence the most extensive view, above and below, can be obtained. The town of Waukesha stands on a slightly undulating plain, surrounded by hills, forming a fine amphitheatre, which, in ancient times, was doubtless crowded, as it is now, with a numerous population."

### THE LIMESTONE QUARRIES.

The Niagara limestone underlying the whole of the county furnishes two important articles of trade—lime from the upper beds, and the dolomite for building purposes, known as Waukesha limestone, a close-textured, light-colored magnesian stone, of which many of the business blocks and private residences at the county seat are constructed. At the village of Waukesha there are three classes of limestone. The upper layers of the quarry near Carroll College consist of a soft, coarse dolomite corresponding with the Racine limestone, under which are the hard, compact, and crystalline blocks of building stone of which the main portion of the Fountain Spring House is constructed. West of the river and above the village is found a mottled stone of blue and white, in addition to the two classes already mentioned.

The fossil remains in the Waukesha stone consist almost entirely of orthoceratites, specimens of which may be seen in all our pavements, with now and then a trilobite or its cast, and in the upper quarries west of the river the pentamerus is pretty common. The principal quarries of these kinds of stone are Hinckley's, in the town of Eagle, Hunter's, in Ottawa, Audley & Graham's and Roberts', in Delafield, Johnson's, in Genesee, Ross & Caincross' and Ormsby Brothers', in Pewaukee, Colville & Ormsby's, Gray's, Davidson's and Caldwell's, in Lisbon, and Saunders' and Howard's, in Menomonee. A very complete collection of local fossils is to be found in the Carroll College cabinet, and comprises many varieties of corals, shells and crinoids besides those mentioned above.

### PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Pewaukee lake, five miles north of Waukesha, is the fountain head of the Illinois river, flowing into the Mississippi and the Gulf by way of the Fox river, through the village of Waukesha. The Menomonee river flows through the eastern towns of the county and into Lake Mich-

igan at Milwaukee, its waters there finding their way through the St Lawrence to the North Atlantic. From these facts it is clear that the dividing ridge which turns a portion of the streams of Wisconsin towards the Great Lakes and the North Atlantic, and another portion towards the Mississippi, passes within a few miles of Waukesha itself, or, in other words, that this vicinity is drained towards the east as well as towards the south and west. The altitude of the town is nearly a thousand feet above the sea level, in fact, and its atmosphere is consequently invigorating and pure, without being too attenuated as in the case of much greater elevations. Here and there, at points from six to twelve miles from the village, are tall hill-tops, upon which the observatories of the United States surveys have been erected, as at "Government Hill," in Delafield, at "Prospect Hill," in New Berlin, and at "Lapham's Peak," just across the county line at the north. Otherwise the surrounding country is undulating with hills of moderate height, and interspersed with occasional bits of prairie and with those crystalline lakelets which made the region famous for its beautiful scenery, even before the healing qualities of the Waukesha waters had been published to the world. In every direction from the village fine carriage roads lead out among the hills and prairie lands to the summer homes of city people, who can afford a country residence among such desirable surroundings, and at the north, the southeast, the south, the west and the northwest, the little lakes shimmer in the sun and invite the fisherman and the pleasure seeker to come and participate in the pleasure of idleness or of sport. Tens of thousands of visitors respond to this invitation every summer, and in "the season" the county almost doubles its ordinary population.

### FIFTY YEARS AGO.

In 1832 the hostile Indians under the chief, Black Hawk, were finally subdued in Southern Wisconsin, and their leader made prisoner by General Street. Soon after the restless American spirit of inquiry was turned in the direction of the country west of Lake Michigan, which was previously almost unknown, except at the extreme northeastern and southwestern points. It was in the early part of 1834 that three young



Hoosiers, Morris D. Cutler, his brother, A. R. Cutler, and John Mandeville, left the town of La Porte, Indiana, to seek a desirable location in that part of "Michigan Territory" west of the lake. These were the



MORRIS D. CUTLER.

first white settlers of Waukesha county, and the first named is still hale and vigorous, and probably the wealthiest permanent citizen of the county, as well as the most imaginative and preposterous cicerone that ever undertook to instruct inquirers in relation to the country inhabited by him.

Their journey to Milwaukee was not a pleasant one, for roads were unknown in those days. The settlers' houses had not yet been established so as to answer the purposes of inns

to weary emigrants. They journeyed on horseback, following the shore of the lakes, bivouacked whenever night overtook them, taking their food from their knapsacks, and making their beds with the blankets which were fastened to their saddles.

When they turned inland from Milwaukee, they found a delightful change from the monotonous scenery of the lake. Oak openings were spread over the undulating surface of the ground, and at the feet of these monarchs of the forest there was no undergrowth of tangled brush to obscure the view or to impede the progress of the travelers. The green grass of the prairie received the shimmering sunlight through the leaves above, and clumps of wild roses and prairie flowers of a hundred hues added the beauty of infinite variety to the prospect.

Now and then the loftier heads of tamaracks would indicate the marshy ground which they must avoid, but these did not occur so often as to excite fears regarding the salubrity of the new country. We can well imagine that when these three youths had reached the eminence overlooking the magnificent valley of the Pishtaka (or Fox river), they considered it is nearly a realization of an earthly paradise as was likely to be attained through years of wandering.

Far over the hills in every direction appeared the soft velvety green of the oak trees, while at one side of the amphitheater at their feet was spread out a little prairie on which only an occasional tree relieved the monotony of the wild grasses and flowers. Near the foot of the western bluff the serpentine Pishtaka sparkled at intervals through the overhanging verdure, and a dozen miles away appeared the lofty range of Delafield hills, blue and dim in the distance. Near them were clumps of hazel bushes, on which the pale green buds gave promise of a plentiful harvest of nuts, and the myriads of strawberry blossoms at either hand awakened thought of luxurious repast in the near future. The smoke rolled lazily up from Indian encampments for miles along the river, and to the hospitality of the wandering Pottowotomies our travelers were glad to entrust themselves, while they pursued their investigation with more minuteness.

Of these Indians it may be well to say a word before going farther. It is well known that they continued to spend a portion of every year among the lakes and rivers of Waukesha county for years after the first settlements were begun, and consequently our older settlers became familiarly acquainted with hundreds of them. The disposition of the aborigines is uniformly described by those who knew them best, as having been extremely good. Malicious criminals were almost unknown among them, and the settlers suffered very little from petty depredations on the part of their copper-colored friends. The women are said to have been as virtuous generally as are those of an equal population of white people, at least in their relations with their own race.

## THE MANNER OF BURIAL

practiced by the Pattawotomies was similar to that of many of the wandering tribes to-day. The body of the deceased was clothed in the blanket worn during life, a pipe, tobacco and food were placed in its hands for solace during the journey to the happy hunting grounds, and it was then set upon the ground with an enclosure of branches to keep it from the birds and beasts of prey, and was left to moulder into dust. The variations from this manner of burial were few and of no importance. Mr. M. D. Cutler states that he has seen a dead infant bound to the limb of a tree, and on one occasion discovered the body of a man



tied in a standing position by the forehead, neck and waist, to the trunk of an old oak, but in the latter case, also, there was the fence of broken limbs to protect the corpse from wild animals. The method first described was almost invariably practiced.

None of these Indians were permanently located. During the season of corn-planting their women and children occupied the higher lands among the lakes and rivers throughout the county, and pursued their primitive methods of agriculture, while the adult males spent their time in hunting, fishing and lounging about the camp. As winter approached they removed to some rendezvous farther south, returning with the ensuing spring. It was with such people that our three young Hoosiers foregathered during their explorations in the neighborhood of Waukesha. With the assistance of their dusky friends they were enabled to proceed with promptness and thoroughness. They went to Prospect Hill on the east, and from that delightful eminence looked down the Muskego valley with its chain of silvery lakes stretching for miles to the south, and in every other direction saw the undulating country covered with oaks and maples. To the west they journeyed among the hills and lakes of Genesee and Delafield, and were shown the fishing grounds of Pewaukee on the north.

But thus far they saw nothing that equaled Waukesha in beauty and salubrity of location, and in promise of future growth from superior facilities in the way of water-power, as well as from apparent fertility of the country for miles away in every direction. They made a final exploration, however, on their way home, following the course of the Pishtaka river downward into Illinois, and ascertaining the practicability of conveying goods by wagon over the route. The country was found to be sufficiently open for the purpose, and a few days after their arrival at La Porte, they had a pioneer's outfit ready for transportation to Waukesha, which they again reached, early enough in the month of June, to break up forty or fifty acres of land, which they planted to corn and potatoes, except the last plowing, which they sowed with buckwheat. They were assisted in their summer's work by a young man named Luther, whom they had hired for the season before setting out for the second time. Mr. Luther afterwards "squatted" upon the farm now known as "Rose Glen" farm, the present property of Mr. John Stevens.

In the intervals of farming the Cutlers erected a temporary cabin (as the small log hut was called in those days,) near the present location of the Blair Iron Works. This was for the purpose of securing possession of the water-power, which was justly expected to become very valuable. Mr. Mandeville made his claim on what is now known as the School Section.

### NO OTHER SETTLERS

came to Waukesha county during this year, but a visit from the father of the Messrs. Cutler, a wealthy citizen of La Porte, was the means of making the country better known among his acquaintances, and of preparing the way for a more extensive immigration in 1835.

In September, 1834, Milwaukee county was set off from Brown county, which had heretofore comprised the eastern half of the present State of Wisconsin. The new county embraced the area now covered by Milwaukee, Washington, Waukesha, Jefferson, Racine, Walworth and Rock counties, with portions of Green, Dane and Dodge. The northern part of this division was called Milwaukee township, and the southern, Root River township. The population of the entire region was not a thousand, and it was found a hard matter to fill the county offices for that year. In 1836 this part of Wisconsin took a boom, and settlers poured in rapidly. The Cutler settlement became a favorite location and was christened

### PRAIRIEVILLE

by the people who established themselves in the neighborhood. By the close of the year quite a town had been started and the most desirable lands in the vicinity had been "squatted upon" in expectation of a Government survey at an early day, as it was certain that the water-power of the river would soon be utilized. The class of people who were arriving were of the very best character for the opening up of a new country. Strong, healthy, enterprising and intelligent, they were, for the greater part, the very ideals of what immigrants ought to be. From this time forward, for five or six years, there was nothing but a monotony of prosperity.

The old cabins of poplar poles gave place to comfortable log houses. A flouring mill and saw mill were erected and put in operation with



plenty of work to do. Stock grew more numerous on the farms and the surrounding towns were being settled by pioneers of character equally desirable with those of Prairieville itself. In October, 1839, the lands were put in market and sold with fewer complications than would have been expected in a country where the settlers had staked out their claims before the making of an actual survey. Each settler was allowed to purchase the land upon which he had "squatted" at the minimum price of \$1.25 per acre, and for the most part they were thus enabled to secure the fruits of their labors in improving their farms.

### THE NEW TOWNSHIP.

Early in 1842 the town of Prairieville was organized, and on the 5th of April the first town meeting was held. Among the voters on that occasion were Wm. A. Barstow, afterwards Governor of the State; Alex. W. Randall, afterwards Governor and still later Postmaster-General of the United States; H. N. Davis, afterwards State Senator (and father of C. K. Davis, who is now United States Senator from Minnesota); Silas Chapman, the Milwaukee map publisher; E. D. Clinton, of railway building repute; and Messrs. M. D. Cutler, Vernon Tichenor, Orson Tichenor and John Gaspar, of our surviving present citizens. The list which has been preserved shows that Waukesha was appreciated by good men nearly half a century ago, and before there was a clear road to Milwaukee. The census of 1845 showed an enormous increase in population, there being within the limits of Waukesha county at that time 13,733 people, or more than there were within the boundaries of the State ten years before. It was therefore thought by the more ambitious politicians that the time had arrived for carving the inland towns away from Milwaukee county and establishing

### A NEW COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

After an exciting contest the project succeeded, and the sixteen western towns of Milwaukee county were set off in the spring of 1846, and known thenceforward as Waukesha county. The first Board of Supervisors assembled at Prairieville, in Vail's Hotel, and organized by the election of Curtis Reed, of Summit, as Chairman, but the succeeding sessions were held in the old Congregational Church. The location of

the county seat was fixed by the Board at Prairieville, after a long season of balloting, and then only by a bare majority. The name of the place was at the same time changed to correspond with that of the county. The first term of court was held in the old academy building, beginning February 15, 1847, by Judge Miller, of the United States District Court, Alexander Cook holding the position then of territorial district attorney. Among those admitted to practice at that term were Jason Downer, afterwards Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, A. W. Randall, Alex. Cook, Wm. S. Hawkins, Vernon Tichenor and Jonathan E. Arnold. Albert Alden had been elected Sheriff and acted in that capacity.

### UNDER STATE GOVERNMENT.

On the second Monday of March, 1848, the people of Wisconsin approved the constitution prepared by the second constitutional convention, and on the 8th of the following May State officers were elected. The first term of Circuit Court at Waukesha was held in the Court House, at Waukesha, November 13, Judge Levi Hubbell presiding.

Although Waukesha was the seat of the county government, it remained unincorporated until 1852, when its excellent village charter was received from the Legislature. In the previous year (March, 1857,) the railroad from Milwaukee had been completed to this place, and from that time on, to the beginning of the civil war, there was general prosperity, but very little that would be noted as of interest in a historical point of view.



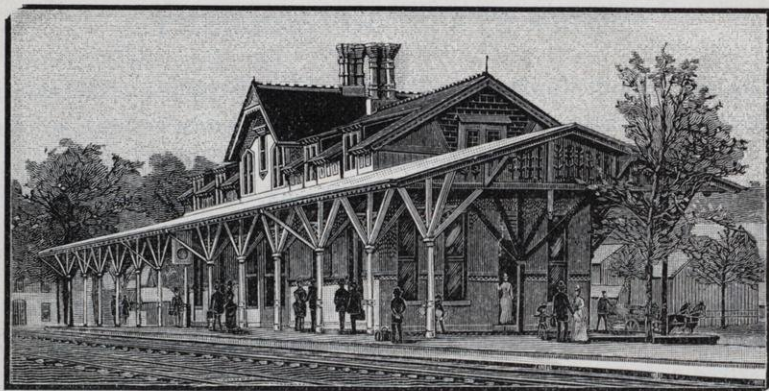
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# Chicago & North-Western

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