



# LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## **Souvenir of Fond du Lac, fully illustrated: showing the progress of the best city in Wisconsin. [1912?]**

Lewis, H. O.

[Fond du Lac, Wisconsin]: [Haber Print. Co.], [1912?]

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/IVPU5G2ESG35680>

Based on date of publication, this material is presumed to be in the public domain.

Original material owned by Fond du Lac Public Library.

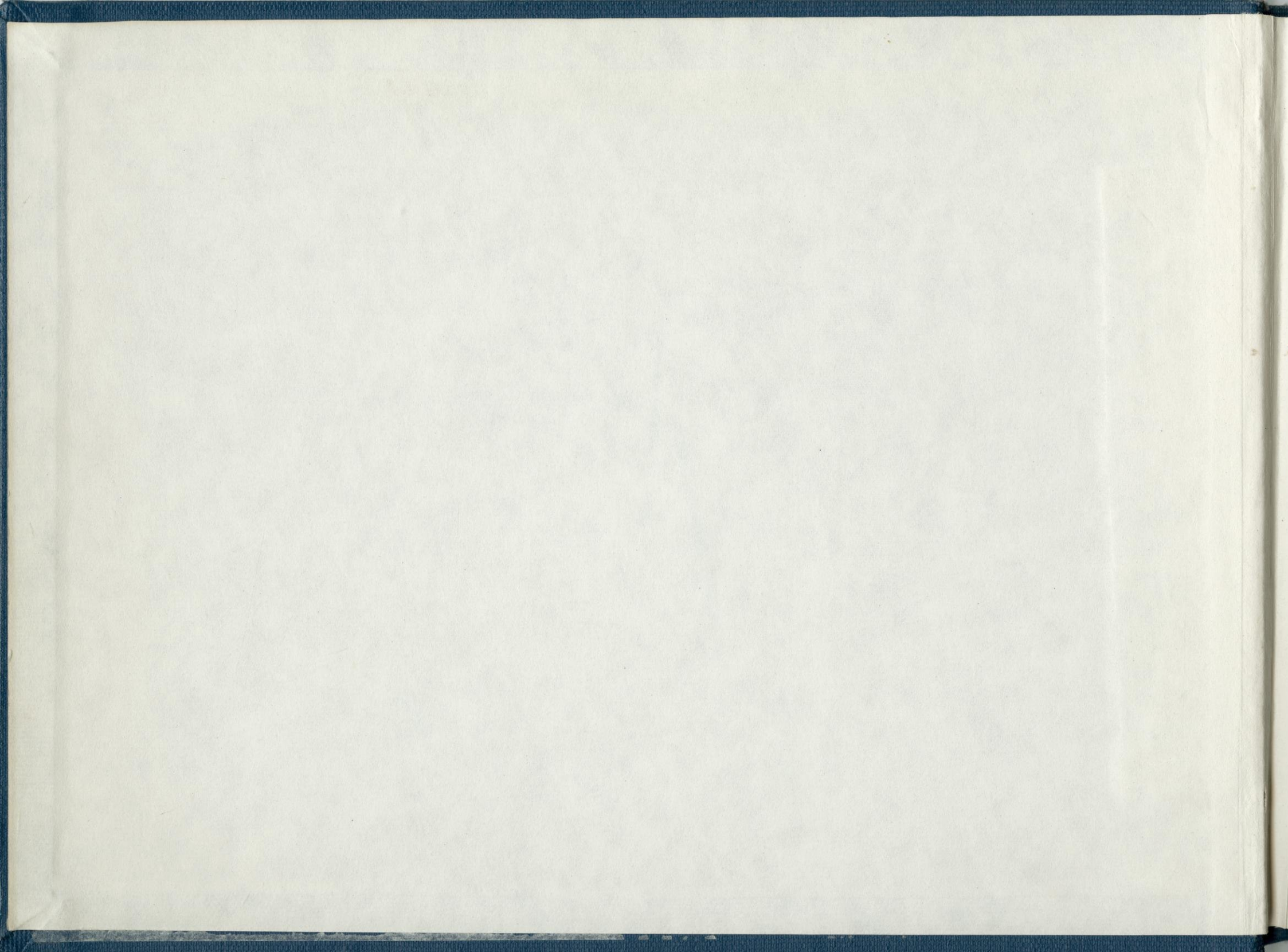
For information on re-use, see

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

1911  
1912  
1913



LH  
REFERENCE (ADULT)

c.1

×  
977.5 So5f

Lewis, H. O  
Souvenir of Fond du Lac, fully illu  
strated :



8000241267







SOUVENIR  
OF  
**FOND DU LAC**  
FULLY  
ILLUSTRATED

SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF  
THE BEST CITY IN WISCONSIN





\*  
977.5  
Sost  
c.1



IN an early day, as the Sun gleamed through the mists and the splendors of the dawn, the earth trembled, quaked; her very foundations seemed to be rent asunder. The surface heaved, twisted and rocked about as though some huge demon within were struggling in an effort to break through. The strata had faulted, the waters receded and all was quiet. Then life appeared, and the world was soon crowned replete with glory.

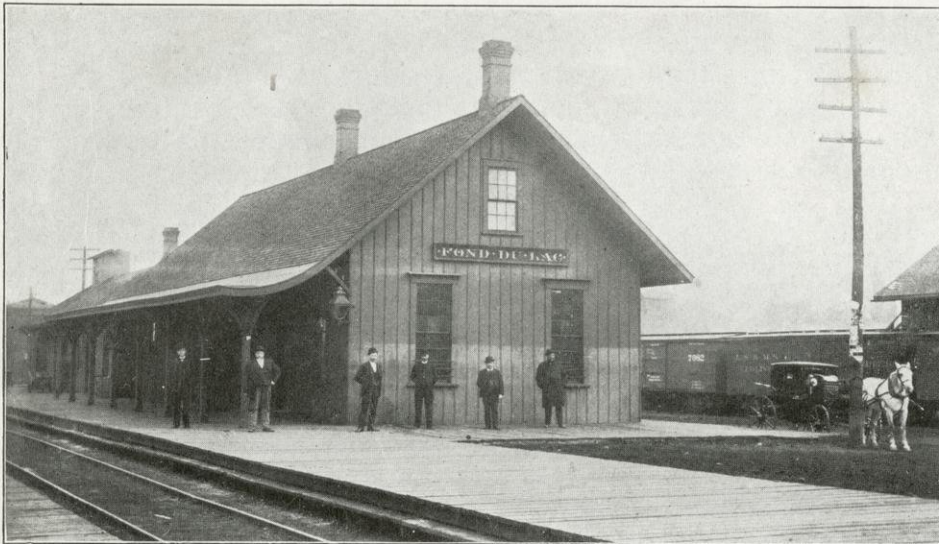
The sequence--A ledge of limestone thirty miles in length, covered with a growth of magnificent trees, shrubs and flowers, looked down on the waters of Beautiful Lake Winnebago as if to say, "You are secure forever, rest in peace." Cool springs and sparkling brooks flowing from out the shadow of their depths bade all Life to "Drink their Health," as the gentle breezes wafted the fragrance of the wild flowers.

The Mound Builders came and made their abode here. The Indians who roamed the virgin wilds of America early learned the place. Attracted, unwittingly perhaps, by the rare beauty of the spot, this stolid, sturdy race left evidence of having lived here for hundreds of years. Probably the first settlement made by our ancestors in the interior of what is now Wisconsin, was at Fond du Lac. They came from all points and found here the Idyl of their Dreams.

Today, the meets and bounds having been declared, the City of Fond du Lac is the county seat of Fond du Lac County in the State of Wisconsin, and is easily accessible from all points of the World. Three lines of Railway lead to the City from eight different directions and Interurbans, Waterways and Highways converge here. The City is situated in the very heart of the Dairy and Agricultural Industry of Wisconsin, the leading Dairy State in the Union. Fond du Lac is a live commercial center and a manufacturing City of notable importance. The very best of Educational and Religious, of Business and Social opportunities present themselves.

Nature did her work here on a grand scale, but seventy-five years of intelligent, persistent effort on the part of our citizens, has made this place more beautiful, more healthful than ever before. Statistics record this the healthiest city in the Northwest. It is now as ever the pride of her many loyal citizens, and a model "Home" city.

It is the purpose of this booklet to illustrate briefly the wonderful advancement made. To show as best possible with the few early day pictures obtainable, the adverse conditions under which some of our prominent men lived, and wrought out their successes. Also to compell the attention of the many who are looking for just such attractive features as are nowhere to be offered in any better way than by "The Best City in Wisconsin."

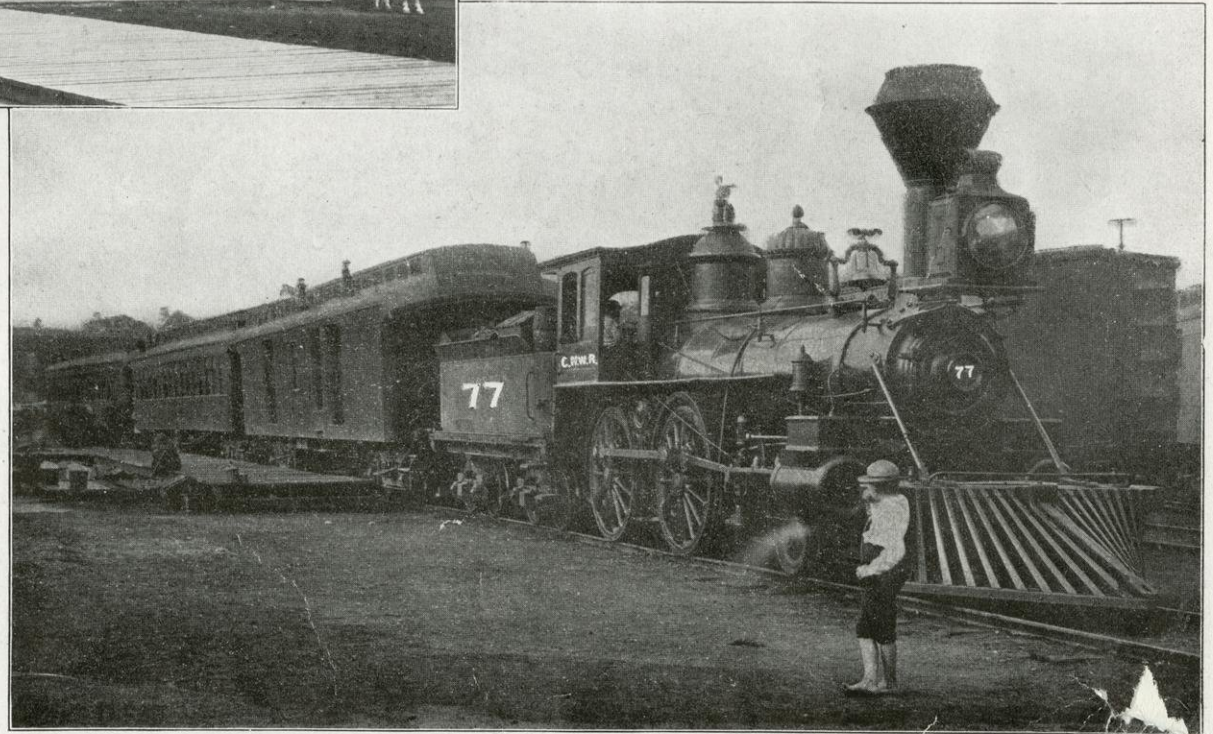


#### OLD C. & N. W. DEPOT

One of the old time wooden depots, of which we had several. The old depot was located on West Division street near the corner of Brooke street.

#### A TRAIN OF THE EIGHTIES

This picture was taken in 1889 at the old depot above. Not remarkable on account of its age, but furnishes an interesting comparison with present as seen on opposite page.

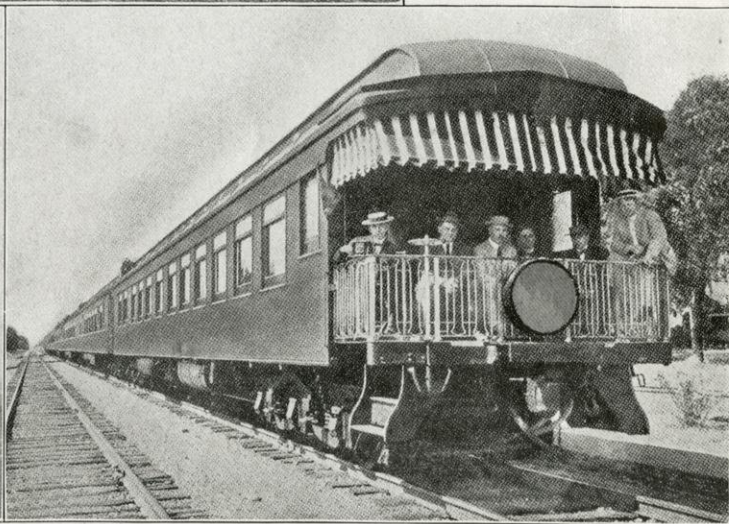
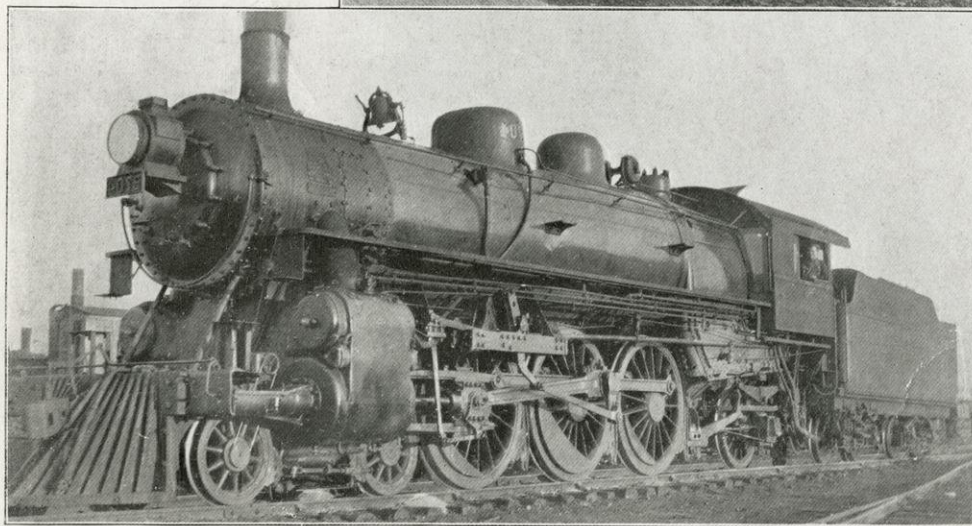


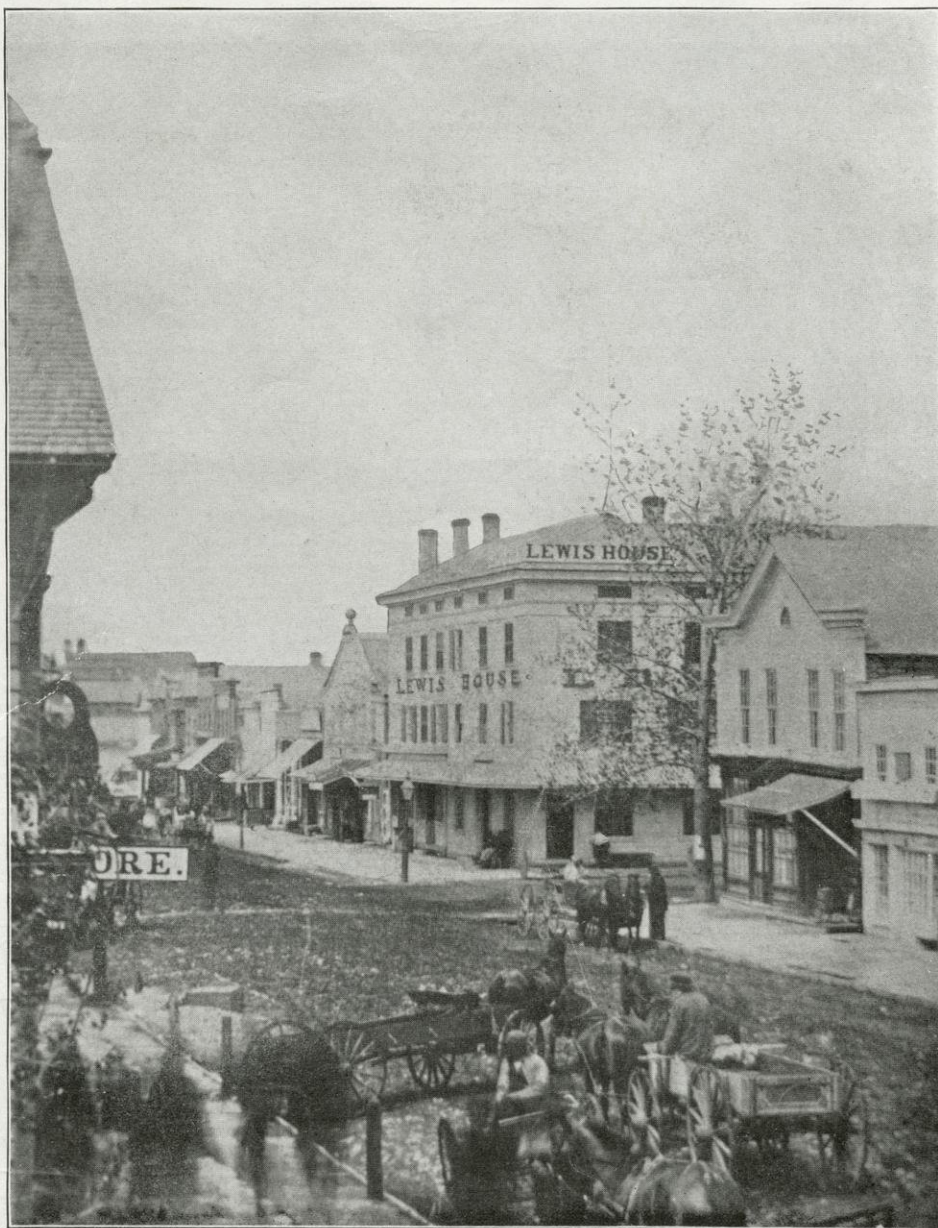
NEW PACIFIC TYPE  
OF  
LOCOMOTIVE  
IN SERVICE  
ON THE  
VELVET SPECIAL  
TRAINS  
OF THE  
SOO LINE



PRESENT DEPOT  
OF THE  
C. & N. W. R. R.

Fond du Lac has Excellent  
Railway Service. All of  
the Modern Luxurious Ac-  
commodations are provided.

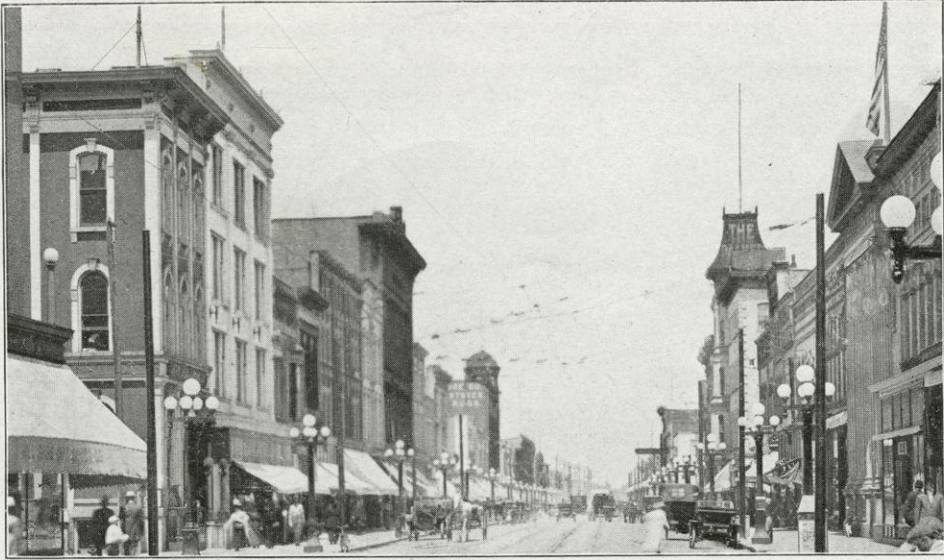




#### MAIN STREET IN THE EARLY SIXTIES

Looking north from Forest avenue, we note the "Old Lewis House," which was located on the corner of Main and Sheboygan street where our present Palmer House is now. It was destroyed by fire in April 1867, together with all other wooden structures south of it to where the Fond du Lac National Bank Building now stands.

To the left in the picture we see just the edge of the old wooden building occupied by the Bank of the North West, reorganized later as the First National Bank. Original photo made by O. E. Wilkins and reproduced by courtesy of Mr. Edward Kent.



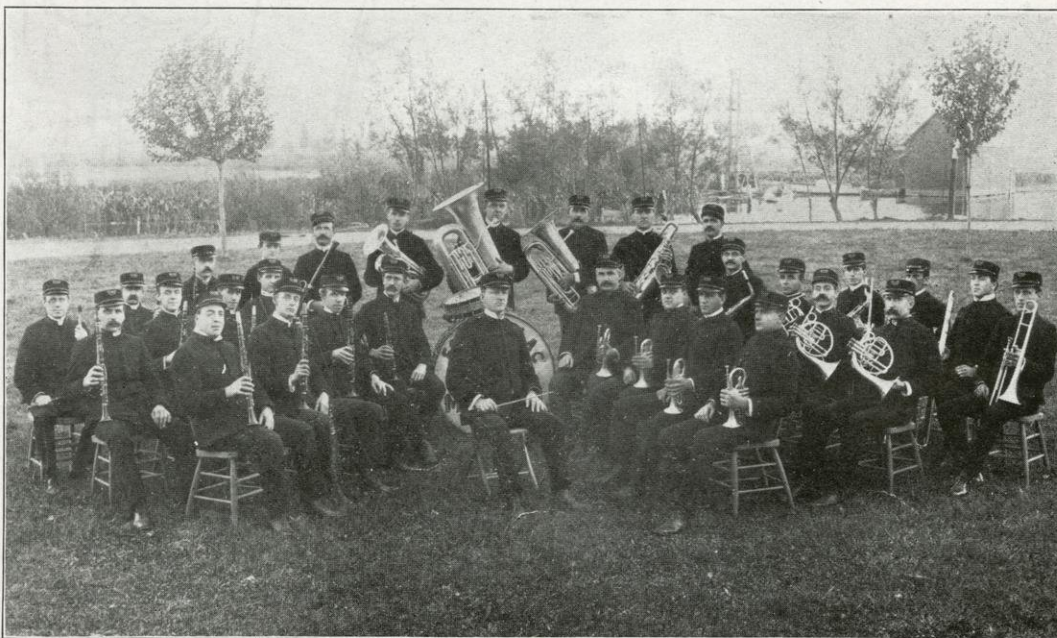
MAIN STREET NORTH FROM FOREST AVENUE 1912



THE GREAT WHITE WAY--MAIN STREET 1912



MUSICIANS OF THE EARLY SIXTIES  
Washington Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 Band.



FOND DU LAC MILITARY BAND

Thus far it has been impossible to secure the exact date of the picture of the "Old No. 1 Band," but it is known to have been taken between the years 1865 and 1869. The members of the band whose pictures we find in the group on opposite page are, Jerome Gibson, W. G. Hooker, A. W. Chapman, G. W. Miller, Thomas Heathcote, Mark St. John, J. W. Byam, G. D. Stanton and I. N. Welch. At the time the above picture was taken the band was under the leadership of I. N. Welch. Reproduced by courtesy of Mrs. A. W. Chapman.

The Fond du Lac Military Band, is composed of about 40 members. The picture above was taken at the time the band was under the leadership of Prof. H. G. Bowen, whose qualifications both as a leader and a musician of rare ability, together with the diligent and faithful work of the members, placed the organization in the forefront, an enviable reputation they still enjoy.

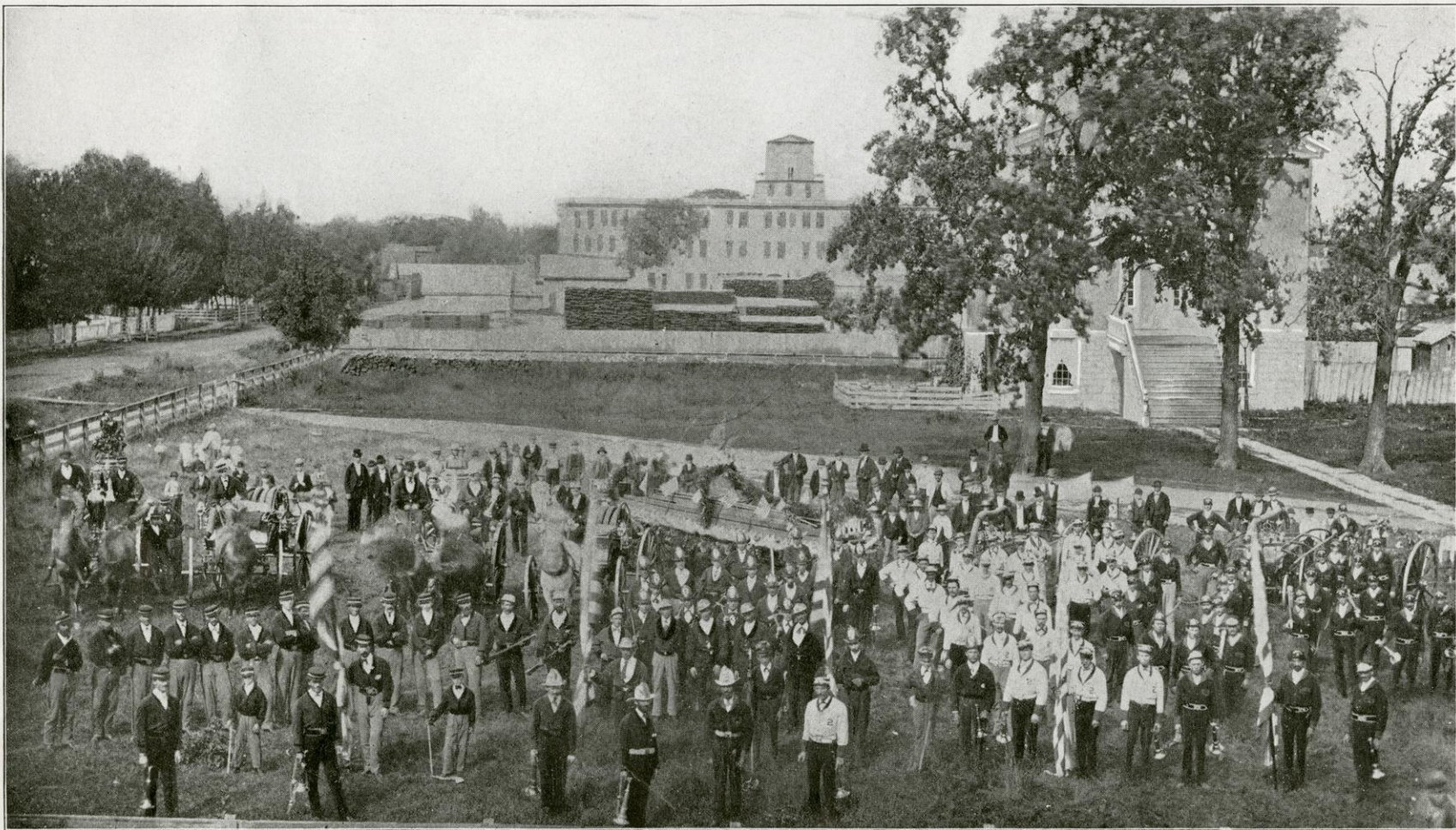




EAST SIDE OF MAIN STREET, NORTH FROM FIRST STREET IN 1870



VIEW FROM SAME POINT TAKEN IN 1911

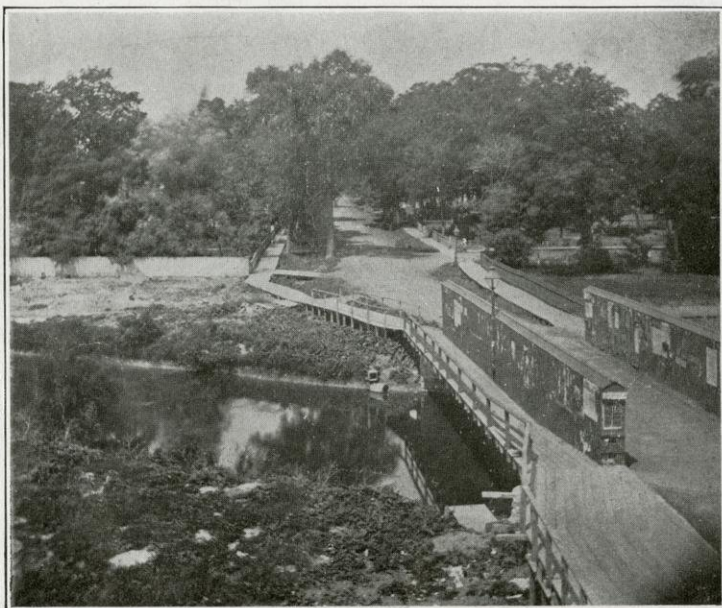


OLD COURT HOUSE AND THE SQUARE IN 1872  
Showing also the Volunteer Fire Companies in Uniform for Annual Review.



COURT HOUSE AND SQUARE IN 1912

Showing Monument erected in Memory of the Soldiers of the Civil War 1861-1865.



ONE OF THE OLD WOODEN BRIDGES

At one time all the bridges of the city were of this old style construction.

The above picture was taken in 1874 and shows the Forest avenue bridge over the East Branch of the river about a block and a half west of Main street.



NORTH MAIN STREET IN 1870

The above picture was taken from the roof of the Palmer House and shows almost without exception, all wooden buildings. Picture taken before the present Lewis House was built in 1871.



MAIN STREET, NORTH FROM DIVISION STREET 1912



MAIN STREET IN 1875  
Showing West Side of Street.

This picture was evidently taken from a point a short way south of Forest avenue, that the vacant corner might not show. The corner where now stands the handsome store building of The Hill Bros.



MAIN STREET IN 1912  
Showing West Side of Street.

This view showing same block as pictured in 1875, only looking north from First street.



ELK'S  
CLUB HOUSE

HENRY BOYLE  
THEATRE

PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

MASONIC  
TEMPLE

SHEBOYGAN STREET 1875

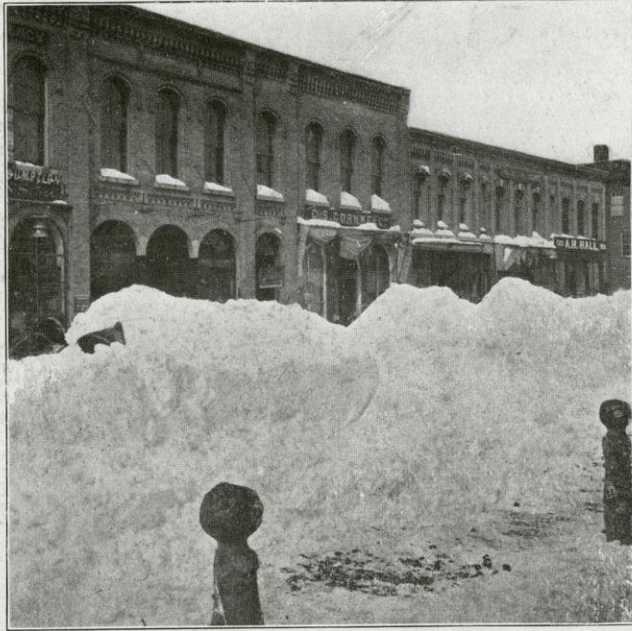




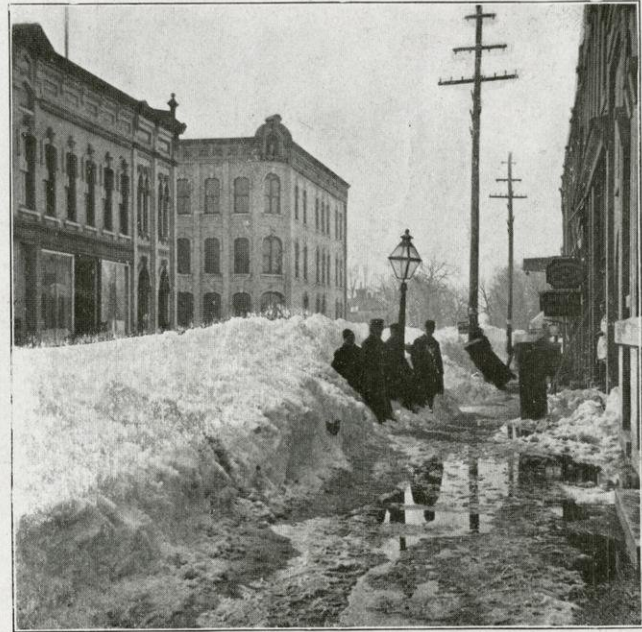
OLD SETTLERS PICNIC SEPT. 1st, 1875

This picture was taken on the old County Fair Grounds on South Main street by John W. Dillon. Note the old settlers of that day in wagon marked 1838.

Also four members of the Old Hazen Band and many interesting and familiar faces. Reproduced by courtesy of Mr. Fred Chandler.

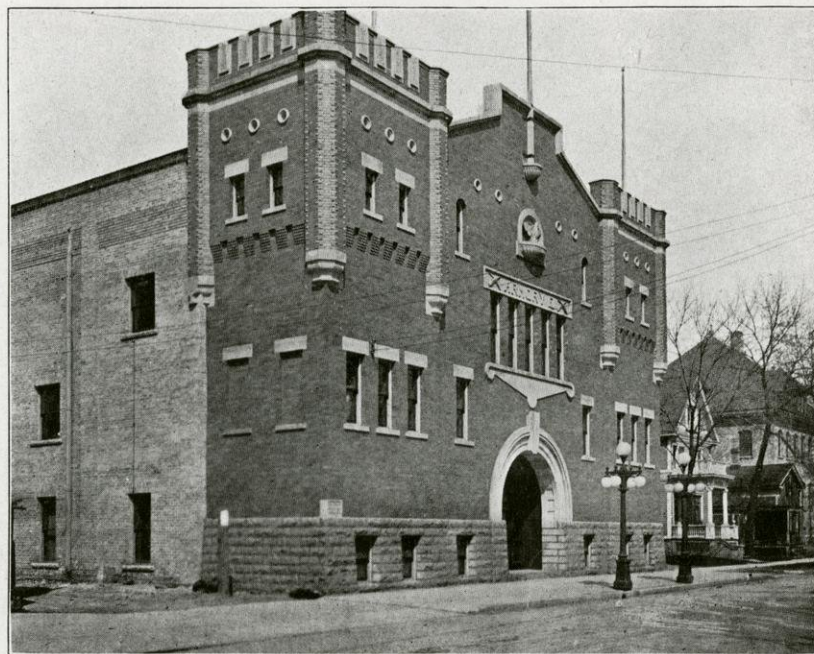
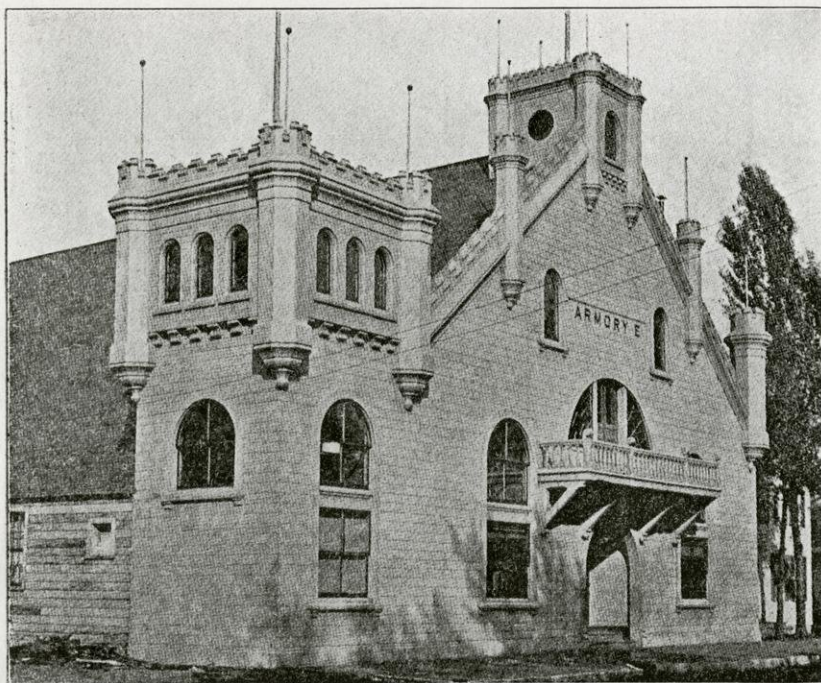


MAIN STREET



FOREST AVENUE

In February of the year 1881 we had the heaviest fall of snow ever known in this locality, and from that time to the present, we have never had anything to equal it. The pictures speak for themselves.



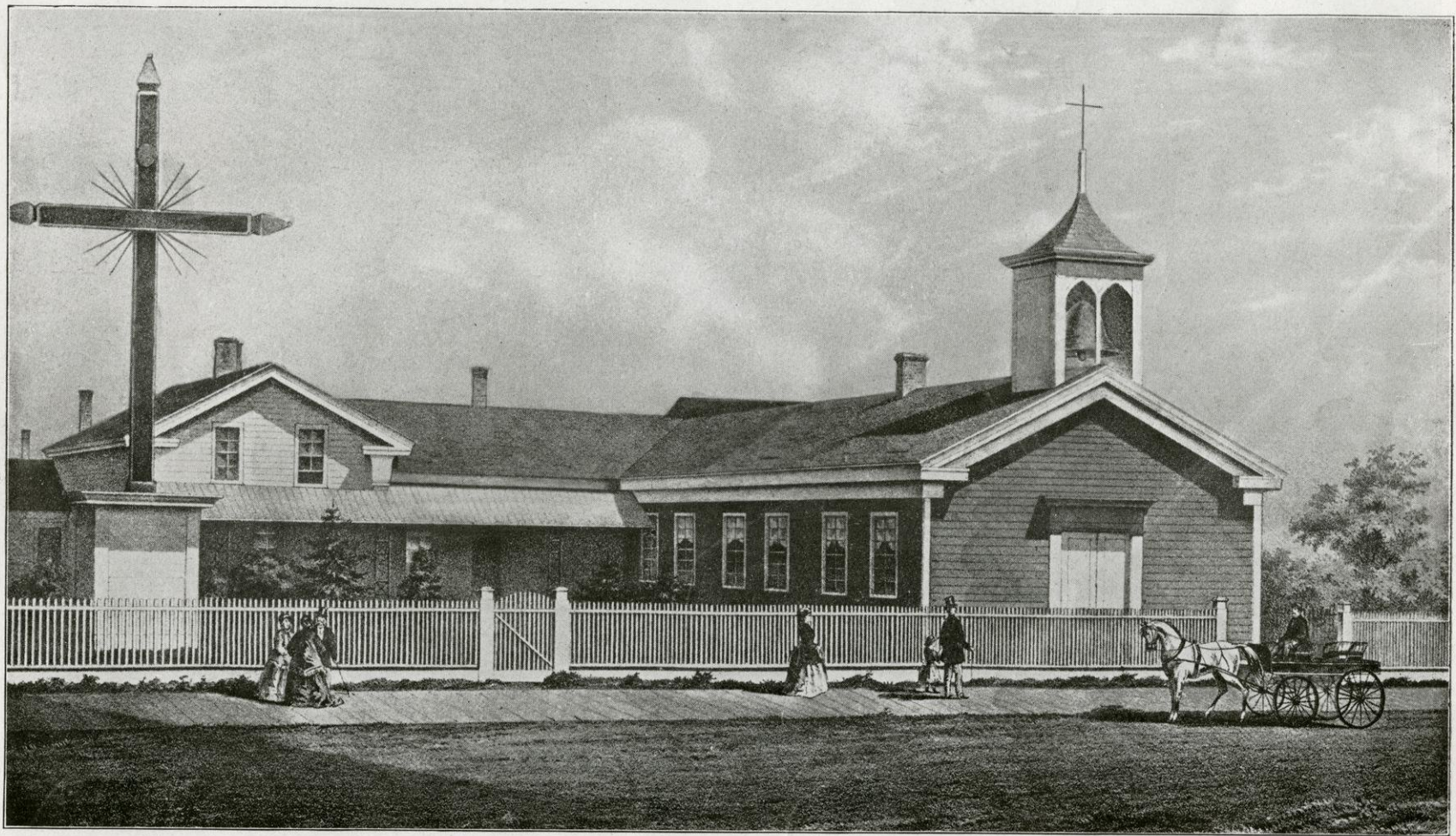
THE OLD AND THE NEW HOME OF CO. E, OF THE WISCONSIN NATIONAL GUARD

Company E was organized and commissioned in 1880. During the first eight years of their history they occupied rented quarters at several places about the city. Then an old wooden building known as the skating rink on East Second street was purchased and remodeled, as shown in the picture at the left and above. From the first the organization has had many of our foremost citizens and business men as members.

Through the diligent, faithful and united efforts of both officers and men, Company E has pushed to the front as guardsmen, not only in Wisconsin, but in the United States. The Pfister Trophy, awarded each year to the company taking first rank in combination drill and rifle practice, was once held by Company E for seven consecutive years.

At the competitive drills at the St. Louis Exposition in 1900 they were awarded first place and a prize of \$700.00. The judges were officers of the regular army. No less notable have been the achievements of the Company E Athletic Association in basketball.

Financially the organization has been well managed, and more than self sustaining. No better evidence of the loyalty of the citizens of Fond du Lac could be had, than the contribution of \$15,000 to assist them in the erection of the new Armory, pictured at the right and above. The new home has cost approximately \$45000.



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

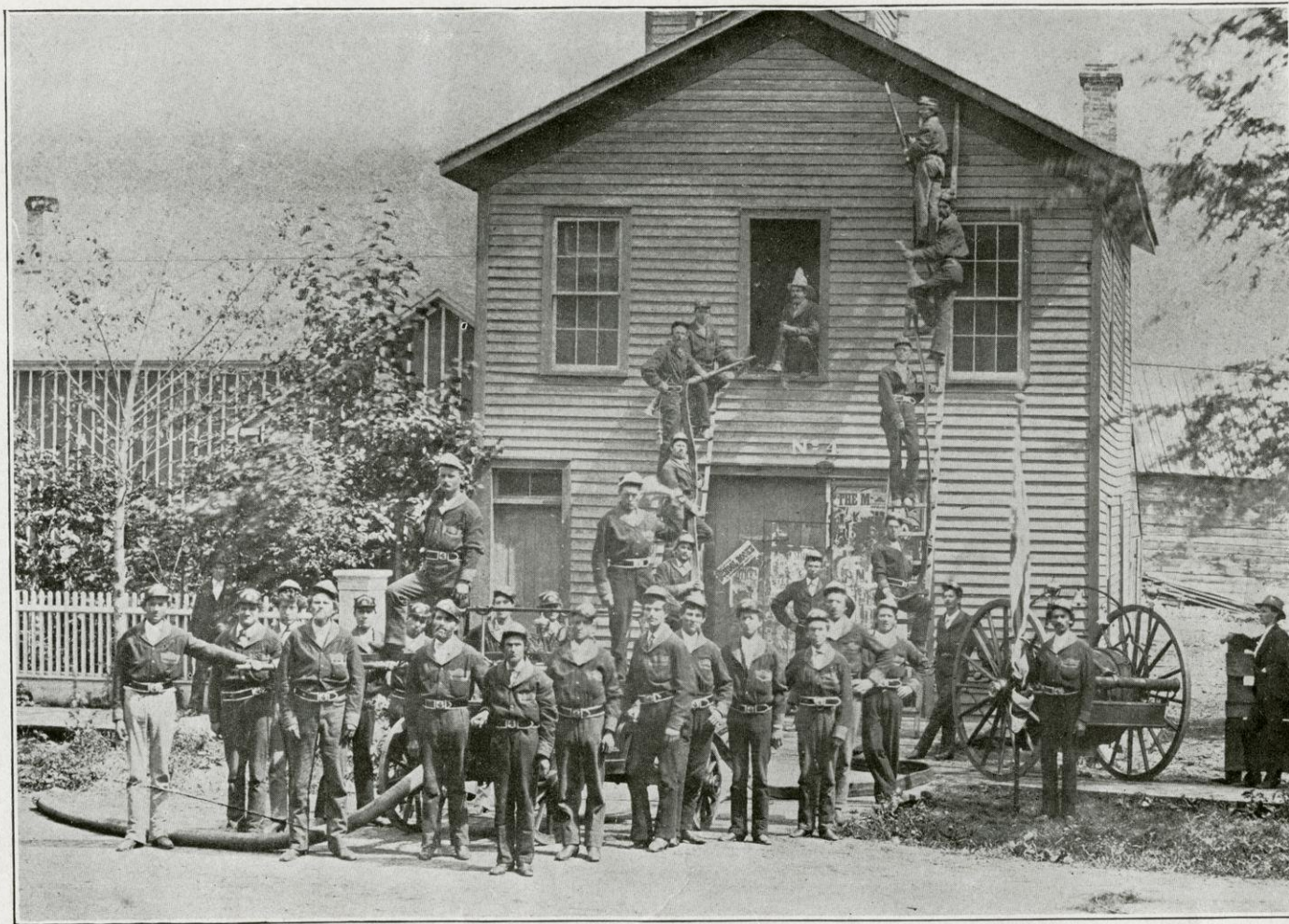
Formerly known as St. Louis Church, Erected in 1848, on corner of Marr and Second Street.



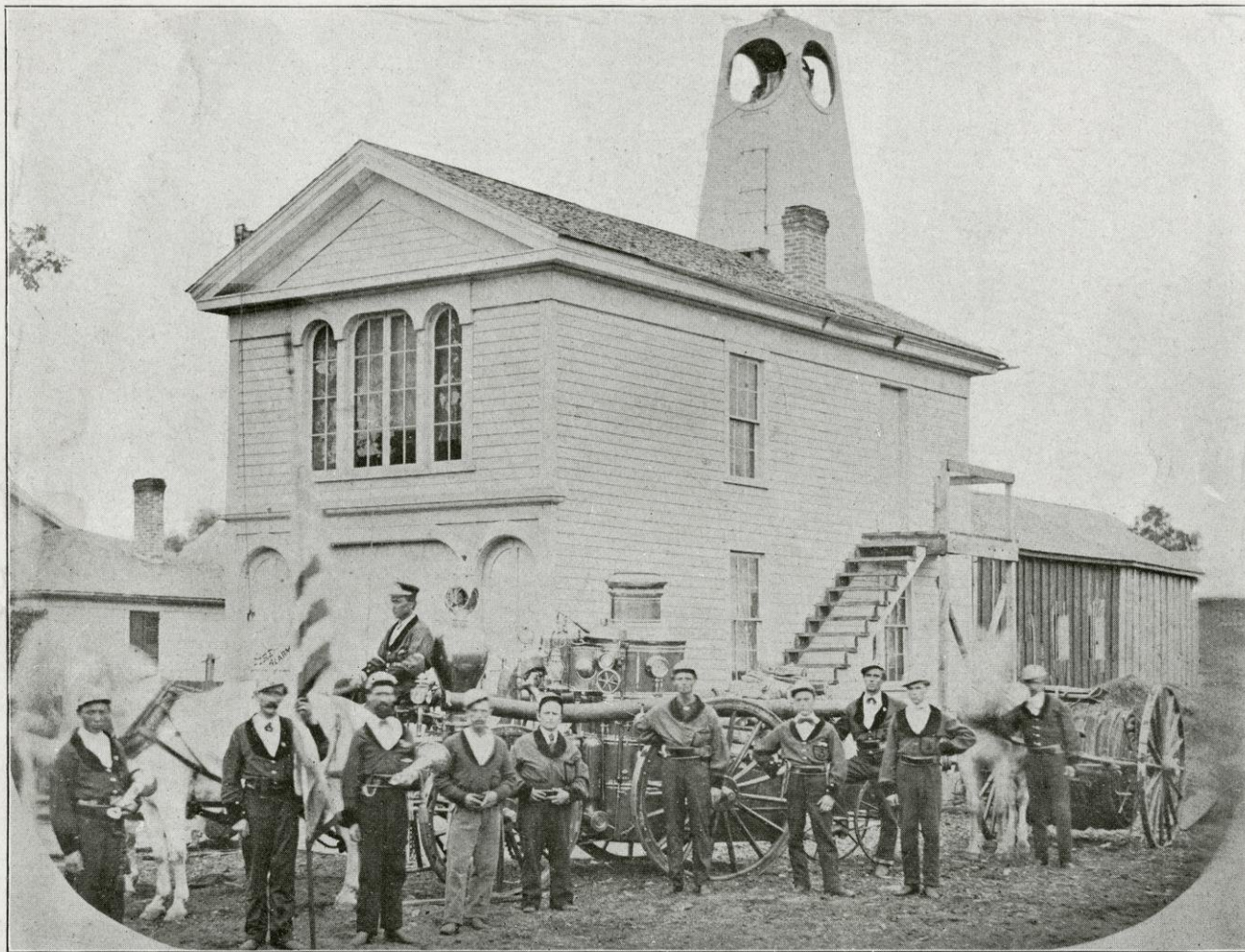
THE  
"SELF PROPELLER"  
ALEX WHITE  
IN  
1874

As early as 1874 Fond du Lac purchased its first Automobile Fire Engine, doubtless one of the first in this part of the country. It was placed in charge of No. 1 Company at its present location on East Second street near Main street.

VOLUNTEER  
FIRE  
COMPANY  
No. 4  
IN  
1874



Old No. 4 Company had their headquarters in a frame building located on the east side of Military street between West Second and Western avenue nearly opposite the Friedens Kirche. Their apparatus consisted of an old hand engine and two wheel hose cart. There were about forty men in the organization.



VOLUNTEER  
FIRE  
COMPANY  
No. 3  
1868

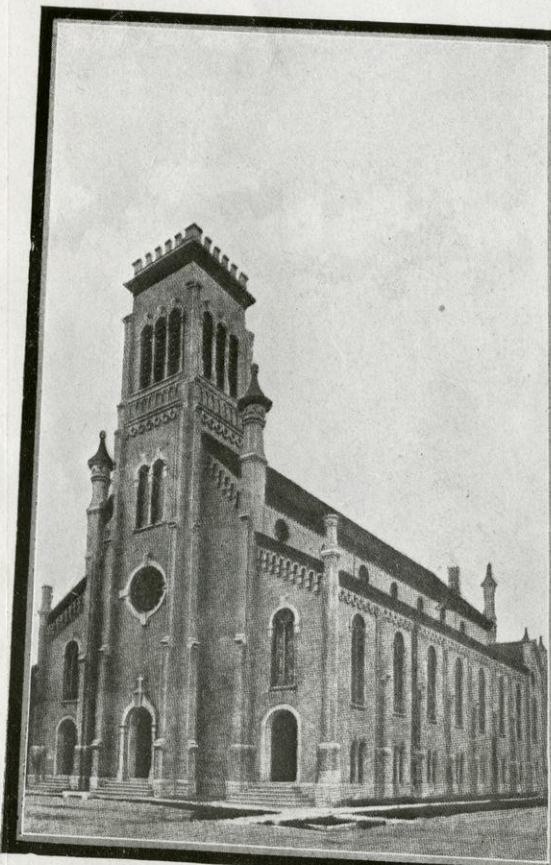
This picture is of the old No. 3 Fire Company, known as the Winnebagoes, and the old wooden structure occupied by them on the corner of Packer and Cotton streets, before the present brick building on the corner of Arndt and Brook street was erected.



VOLUNTEER HOOK AND LADDER CO. No. 1

This Company consisted of about thirty-five men, with headquarters in the frame building on the north side of East First street between Portland and Marr streets, on the site now occupied by the brick residence built by Andrew Payne. No horses were used, the apparatus being pulled by the volunteers with a long rope.





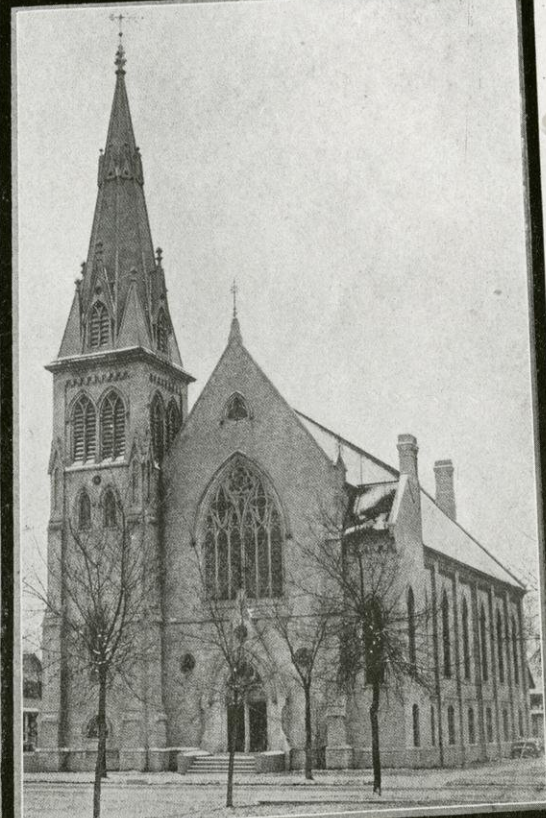
ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Erected in 1874  
Destroyed by Fire Sept. 25th, 1908



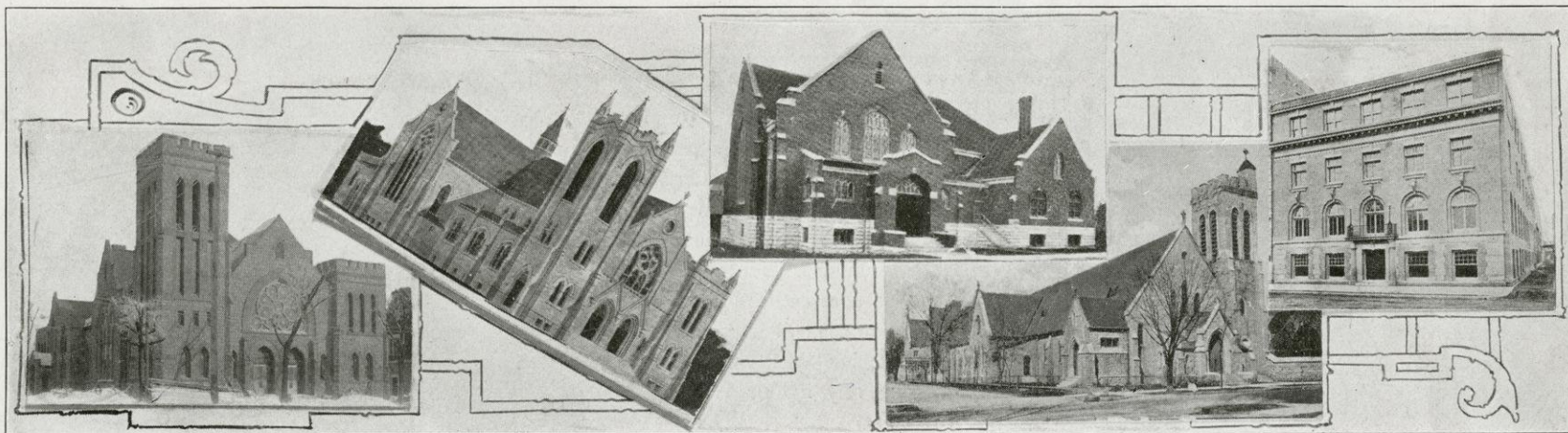
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Erected in 1853  
Removed in 1903



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

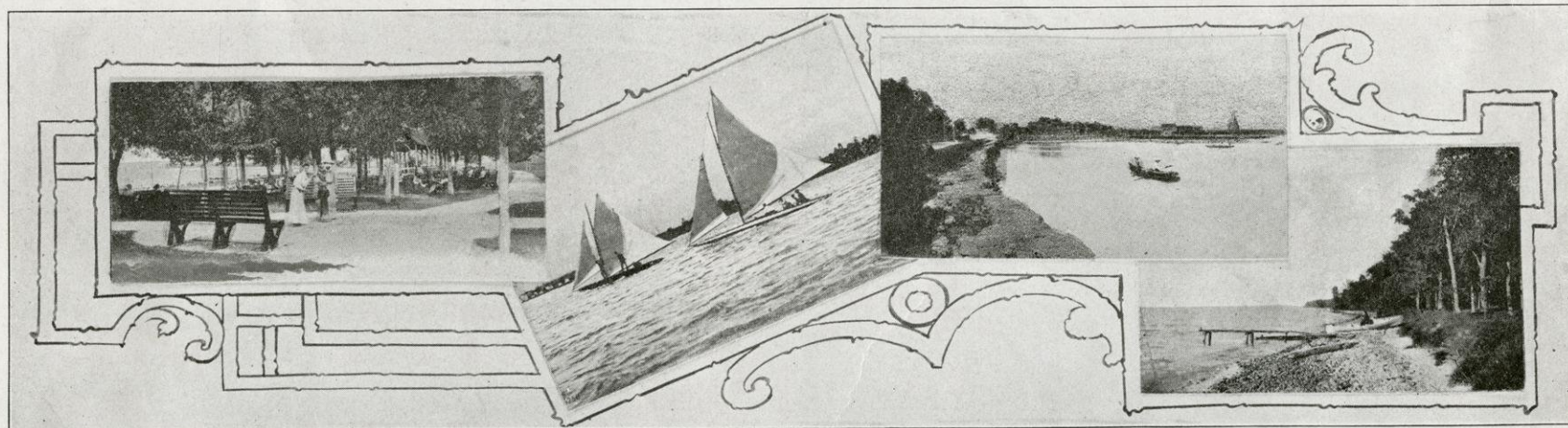
Erected in 1869  
Destroyed by Fire Sept. 25th, 1908



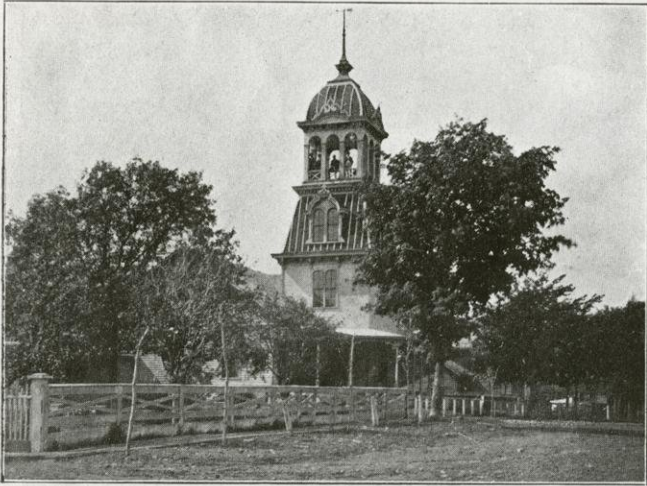
PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION  
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL



LAKESIDE PARK AND OTHER VIEWS ON THE SHORE OF BEAUTIFUL LAKE WINNEBAGO

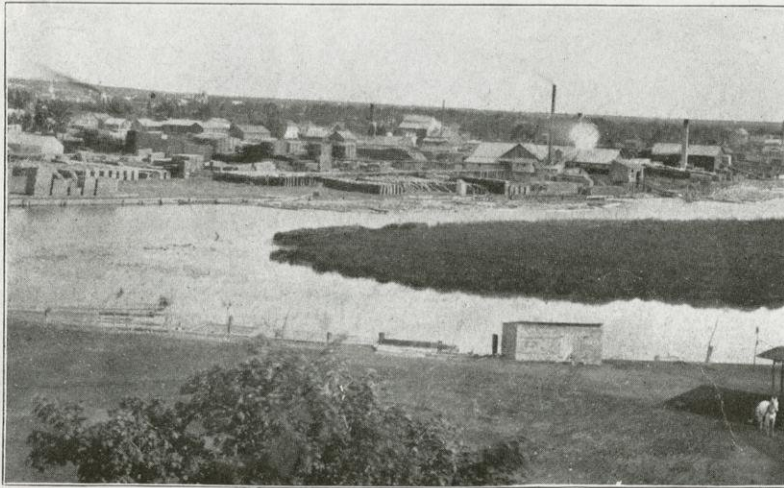
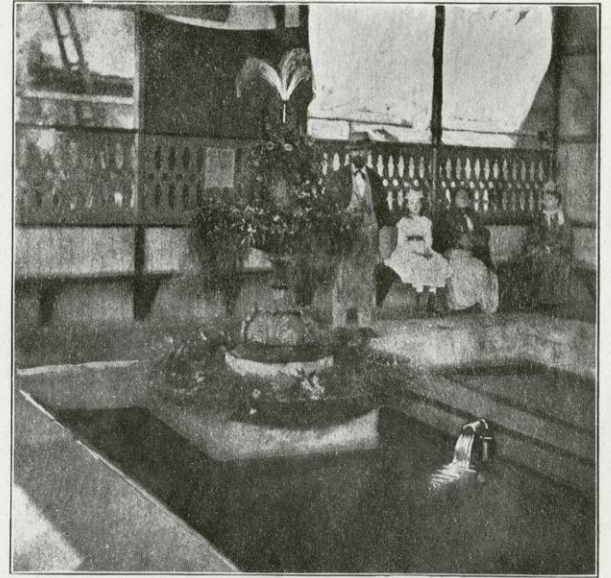


#### THE FOUNTAIN CITY

At a very early date in our history Fond du Lac was christened the "Fountain City."

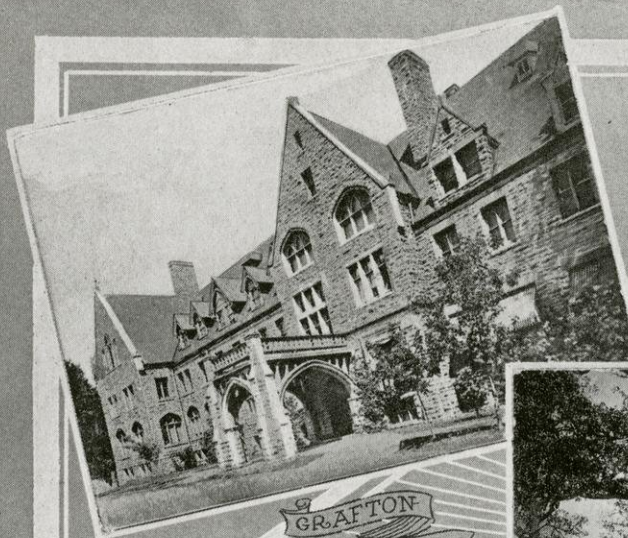
To the left is an exterior and to the right an interior view of the famous "Hunter Fountain" which possessed remarkable magnetic and medicinal qualities.

Artesian Well Water is used exclusively in our Water System.

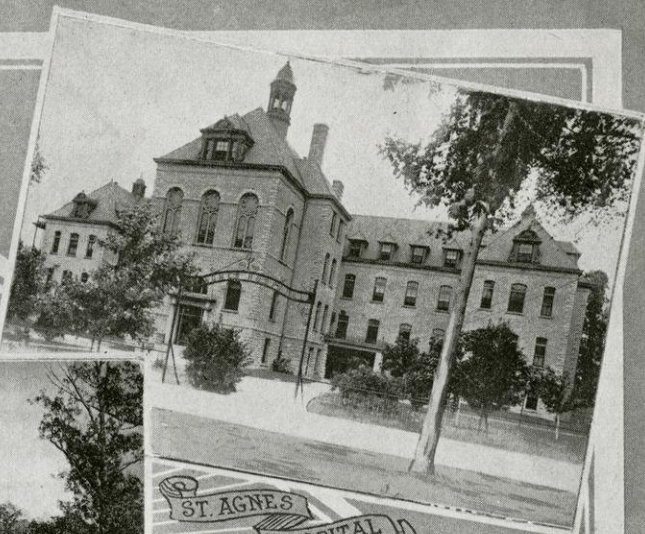


#### LOWER TOWN IN THE SEVENTIES

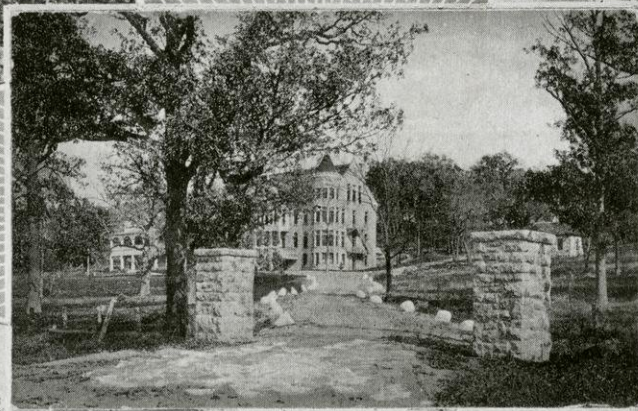
Our earliest settlement was made in what is termed Lower Town. Many saw mills and factories were here in the sixties and the seventies. But the saw mills have nearly all been replaced by other industries; pavements and other permanent improvements made and a large portion rebuilt with comfortable modern homes.



GRAFTON  
HALL



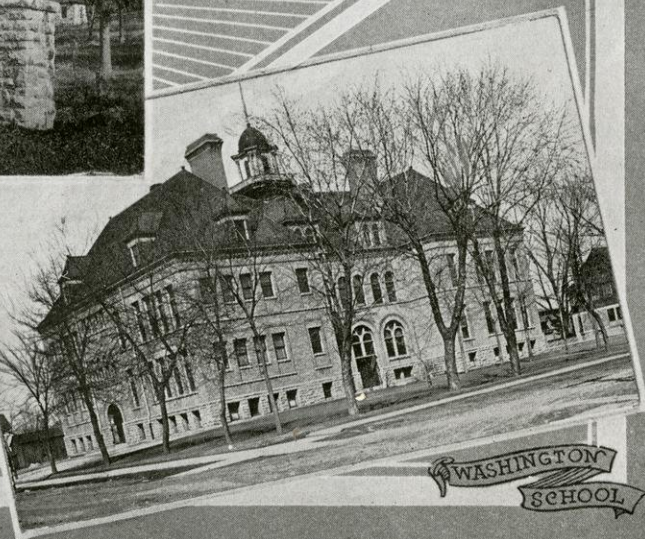
ST. AGNES  
HOSPITAL



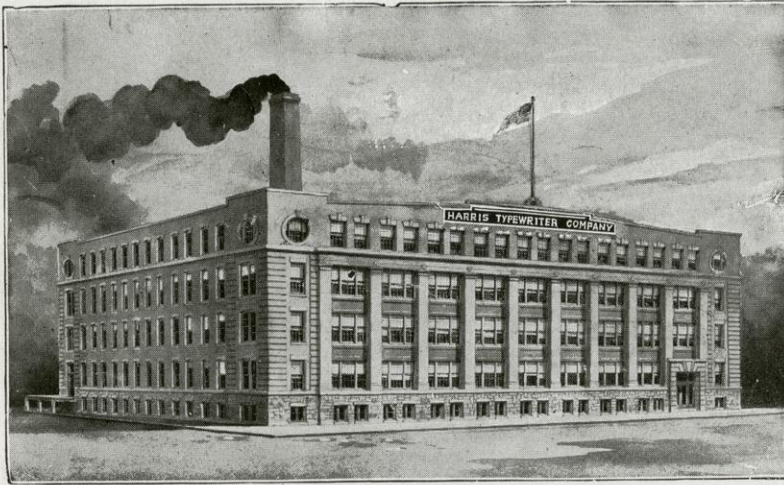
ST. MARYS ACADEMY



RESIDENCE OF  
BISHOP GRAFTON



WASHINGTON  
SCHOOL



## MODERN FACTORY BUILDING

Erected in 1903

By the Citizen's Building Co. of Fond du Lac.

An illustration of what a

REAL LIVE CITY

will do to secure Worthy Manufacturing Industries.

When an opportunity was presented to the citizens of Fond du Lac to secure one of the factories of the M. D. Wells Co. of Chicago, on condition that a suitable factory building would be erected to cost approximately \$90,000, a committee was appointed to wait on the business men, and within 48 hours a wire was sent, advising the M. D. Wells Co. that the proposition was accepted.

The material was largely ordered by wire and the building erected and equipped with adequate power plant, electric elevators and fire sprinkling system, all ready for occupancy in exactly 90 days after the first stone was laid.

The Wells Company occupied the factory building for seven and one-half years, vacating on account of the death of Mr. Wells, and the liquidation of all his business interests.

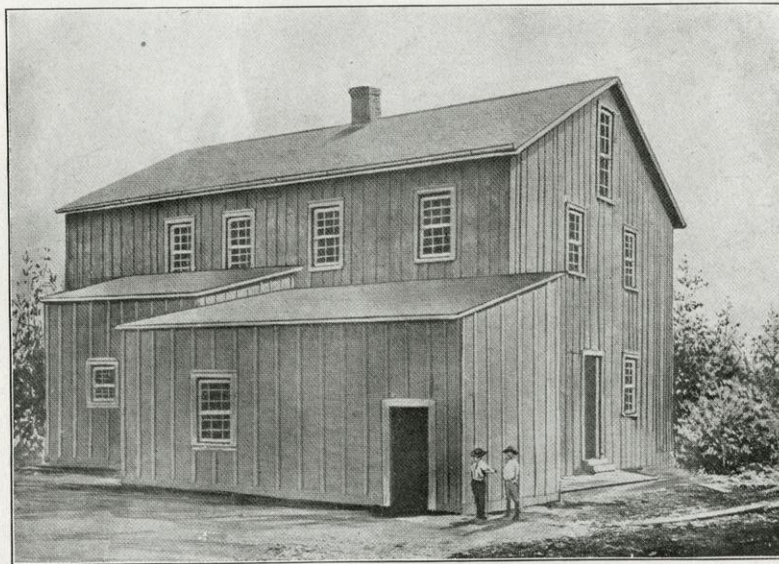
Immediately following, an opportunity to secure the Harris Typewriter Co. was offered and promptly accepted. This company manufactures the Harris Visible Typewriter, and the entire output of the factory has been sold under contract for some years in advance.

This industry promises soon to become the largest typewriter factory in the world.

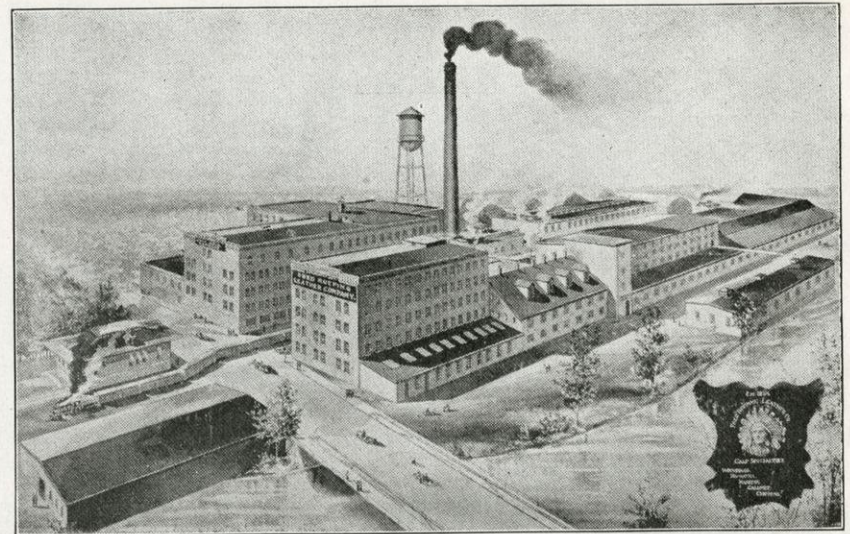
## INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

An Illustration of the Growth of one of our Manufacturing Industries.

Railway facilities and all other conditions conducive to growth present themselves in Fond du Lac.



TANNERY OF 1854



PRESENT PLANT

### THE RUEPING LEATHER CO.

In the old wooden building pictured here, Mr. William Rueping and his sons laid the foundation of a business which has made a most remarkable growth. The present plant of the Rueping Leather Company is the largest tannery of upper leather in Wisconsin and is represented by branch offices in Europe and all the largest cities of the United States.

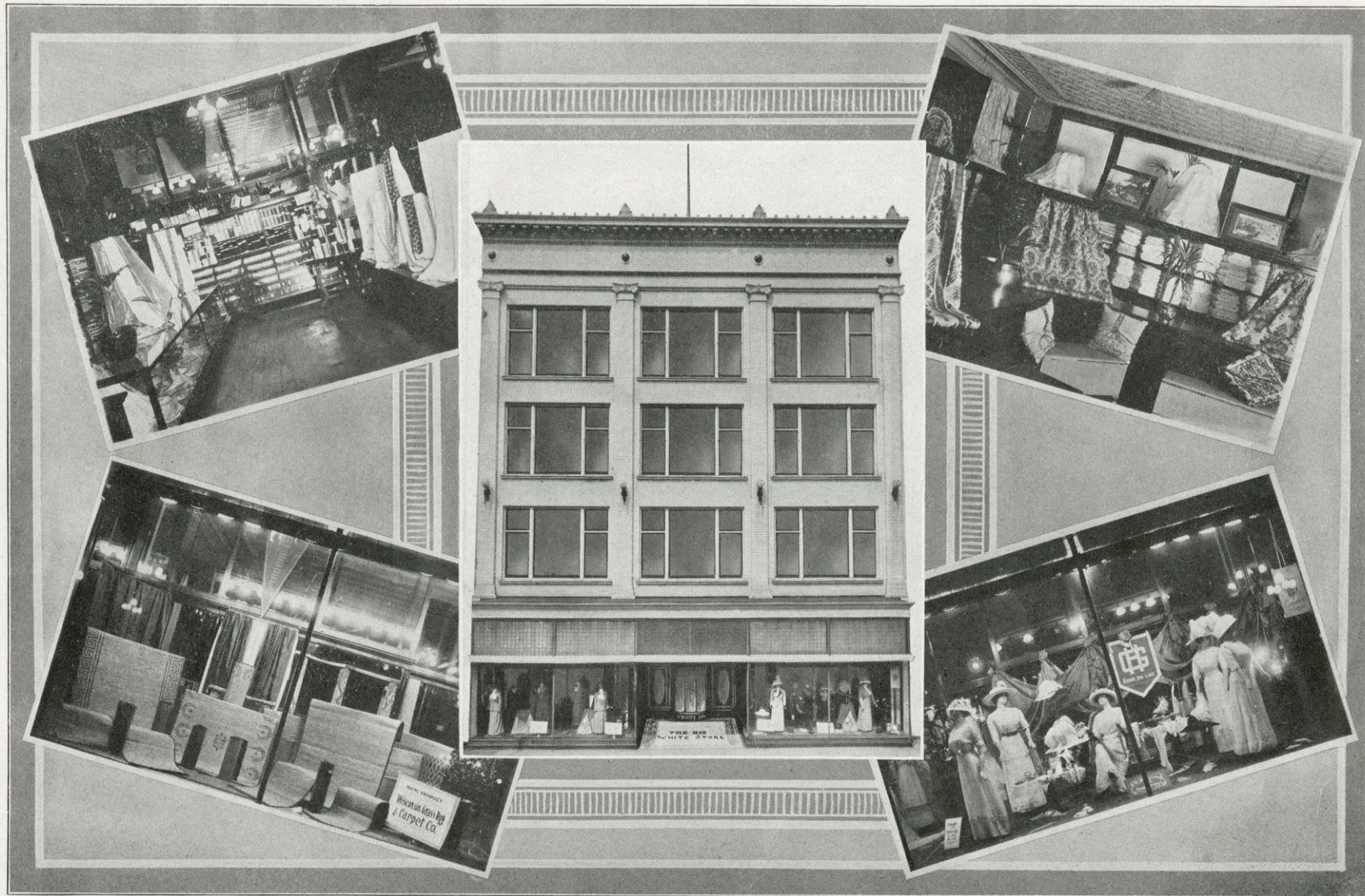


OLD MUSIC HALL AND ITS SUCCESSOR THE RUEPING BUILDING S. W. COR. MAIN AND DIVISION STREETS

#### AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE REBUILDING OF THE CITY

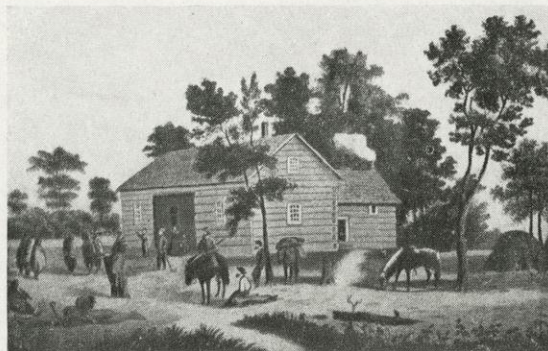
The old wooden buildings have gradually been removed and handsome, modern stone and brick structures erected in their places. On our Main street, may be mentioned the Commercial National Bank Building, the Fraternal Building, the Hill Bros. Building, the Collins, the Rueping, the Reeves and the Reinig Buildings. Some of the improvements made on other streets show even a greater advancement, and would furnish a list too long to enumerate here.

Even the old style brick buildings have had to make way for the modern. A few most noteworthy on Main street are the Whittelsey-Reeves, the E. M. Little, the Gruenheck, the McKenna, the T. E. Ahern Co., and the Fond du Lac National Bank Buildings.



AN ILLUSTRATION OF ONE OF OUR MODERN STORE BUILDINGS. THE OLD SEWELL BLOCK, REBUILT BY J. F. GRUENHECK IN 1908.





FIRST HOUSE IN FOND DU LAC

To each and every one of the parties who have so kindly contributed the old pictures that have made this booklet possible, I wish to extend my most sincere appreciation of their kindness. Old photographs and views of the character of those herein are very scarce. Should any of the readers of this book find that they have stereopticon views or photographs that might prove of general interest or benefit, and not published herein, I would be very grateful if they would advise me of the fact, as it may be possible soon to enlarge on the work which is herein presented for the first time, and considering the subject, very briefly.

Box 132, Fond du Lac, Wis.

H. O. LEWIS.

#263









8

FOND DU LAC PUBLIC LIBRARY



8000241267

