Kenosha illustrated: historical, descriptive and biographical. 1897

[s.l.]: F.J. Anderson, 1897

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GARDEN ILLUSTRATED

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KENOSHA ILLUSTRATED

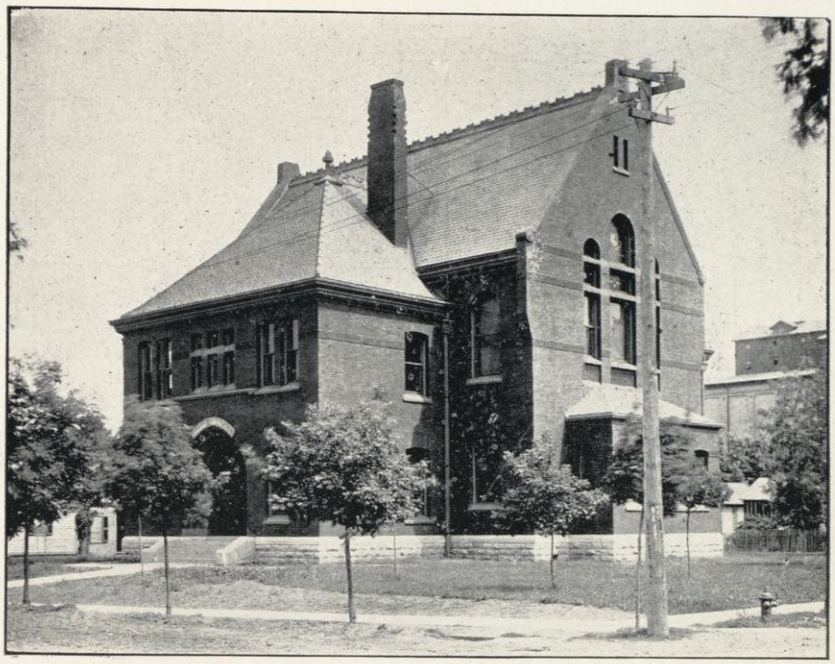
HISTORICAL, DESCRIPTIVE AND BIOGRAPHICAL.

PUBLISHED BY F. J. ANDERSON,

1897

KENOSHA ILLUSTRATED.

Kenosha is the Indian name for Pike. That is the designation given the river here by the tribes who lived hereabouts. The first name applied to this settlement was Pike Creek which was the English for "Kenosha ce-pee," which meant the same thing. This name applied to the settlement for two years when the inhabitants decided to change it to Southport, a post-office having been established here at that time and the name Pike Creek was not considered a good one by the post-office department.



COURT HOUSE AND COLLEGE OF COMMERCE.

The name Southport was taken for the reason that it was the most southerly port then on the lake, outside of Chicago. In those days all this country was a portion of the territory of Michigan and the land upon which Kenosha now stands was a part of Milwaukee county, whose sheriff and other officers were appointed by the territorial governor of Michigan. The name Kenosha was not adopted until 1850. At that time the village was chartered as a city and the change was made in deference to the wishes of a great portion of the early settlers who desired that the Indian term for Pike Creek be used.

The story of the early settlement of what is now known as Kenosha is one filled with the usual hardships of the pioneer. To begin at the beginning of its settlement one must start from Hannibal, Oswego County, New York. In that town in December of 1834 a party of

guests were at a supper table and discussed with much enthusiasm the then all dominant subject of the great West and its beautiful prairies, productive soil and remarkable possibilities. Each one in that party rehearsed many reports that he had heard from the marvelous country of the West and the enthusiasm grew so high that before the party broke up a plan for the organization of an association was fixed upon which was to be a mutual profit-sharing scheme or enterprise, the founding of a colony being its prime object. Shortly after this party there was a general public meeting called for the purpose of inviting the co-operation of all who desired to join such an enterprise. This meeting was attended by a larger number than was expected Peter Woodin was made chairman of this meeting and John Bullen, Jr., secretary. The main step taken at this meeting was the adoption of a constitution presented by the Rev. Jason Lathrop and the adoption of the name Western Emigration Company. Money being

STORM VIEW ON LAKE MICHIGAN.

raised to commence operations, Waters Towslee, C. W. Turner and Sidney Roberts were appointed explorers. They left Hannibal on the 25th of March, 1835, for the West with instructions to explore the country along the western shore of Lake Michigan with the view of finding an eligible situation for a commercial town with lands in its vicinity adapted to agricultural pursuits.

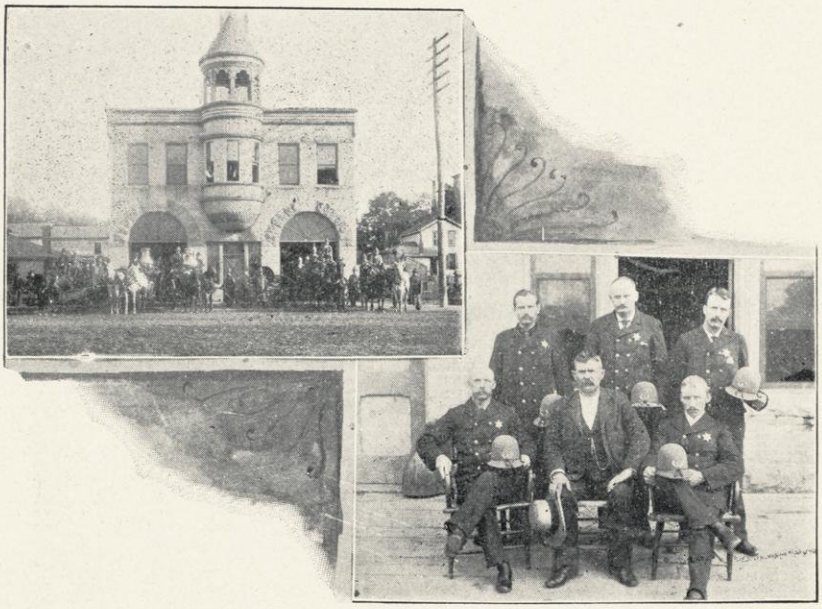
Milwaukee was fixed upon as the first point the committee was to visit, that being the only place then known between Chicago and Green Bay as being settled by white inhabitants. From Milwaukee they were directed to explore either north or south along the shore as they might judge best. This committee took $2,800 of the company's money with them with which

to make investments. They came West by way of Lake Erie to Detroit and thence across what is known as the states of Michigan and Indiana to Chicago. At Chicago they found there was no road to Milwaukee, so they proceeded by land following the beach of the lake until they got about half way, when they found a small sailing craft coasting along the shore which took them to Milwaukee. At Milwaukee they learned that there were several points on the lake shore to the south capable of being rendered of commercial importance which was as yet unoccupied by claimants. They, therefore, took their course south, exploring such points

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

as they considered afforded natural advantages for the construction of a harbor. The first stop was at the north of the Root river where Racine is now located. Lands here were claimed by Captain Gilbert Knapp, Wm. Loose, Mr. Barker, Mr. Hubbard and others. These gentlemen had already made arrangements for laying out a town, but the committee entered into an agreement with Capt. Knapp by which they were to pay $2,700 for the claim upon the land on which the principal part of the city of Racine now stands. This bargain was never consummated through some misunderstanding, and much unpleasant feeling was the consequence.

The committee, thinking the bargain settled, went back to Hannibal to report. There was some dissatisfaction expressed with this committee so it was removed and John Bullen, Jr., was made the sole agent of the company. An attempt was made to hold Captain Knapp and others to their agreement to sell to the company but this failed and all idea of locating at Root River was abandoned. Mr. Bullen, therefore, went south. On the 6th of June, 1835, the exploring party came to Pike Creek. This locality had been noticed before, but some of the party overlooked its advantages of a harbor. At this season of the year Pike Creek spread itself out to the width of a large river and had a sufficient depth to float a ship, and at once suggested the idea of building a town upon its shore. So it was resolved to lay claim without delay to the lands. Accordingly claims were made for the company by John Bullen, Jr., Hudson Bacon and J. G. Wilson, on the north side of the Creek. The land on the south side was taken up by David Crossitt.



POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT.

As soon as it was made known in Hannibal that the committee had chosen a site for the contemplated home of the company the stockholders at once made preparations to emigrate. In the summer and fall of 1835, fifteen families of the stockholders landed here. A part of these settled on the land in this vicinity with the view of engaging in agriculture. The first year the population of the place consisted of thirty-two persons, including children. The habitations of these persons were rude shanties built of logs and covered with bark. The first frame building in the town was erected by N. R. Allen and John Bullen.

The country at that time was filled with adventurers and speculators and many of them wandered through the new settlement, so that scarcely had the pioneers got comfortably lodged in their cabins before they were annoyed by intruders upon their rights. There were

no courts established here then to which a person with a grievance could apply. The law was largely that of might as against right. No one had a legal title to any of the land claimed by him, so that land grabbers and claim jumpers did a considerable to annoy the first possessors. There were many exciting incidents between the members of the company and these lawless intruders. One case in particular being spoken of by early historians being that in which Samuel Resique and John Noble, two speculators who landed from Chicago in July, 1835. They "squatted" upon the claim now known as Washington Island. There was at that time no shanty on the land and no resident "squatter" there. They, therefore, laid claim to the entire island. erected an encampment and otherwise made proper claim demonstrations. The company which had previously taken this claim ordered the "squatters" to leave the premises without delay. This was absolutely refused. It was next proposed to eject them forcibly, but this by some was considered as not being compatible with "squatter"

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PARK.

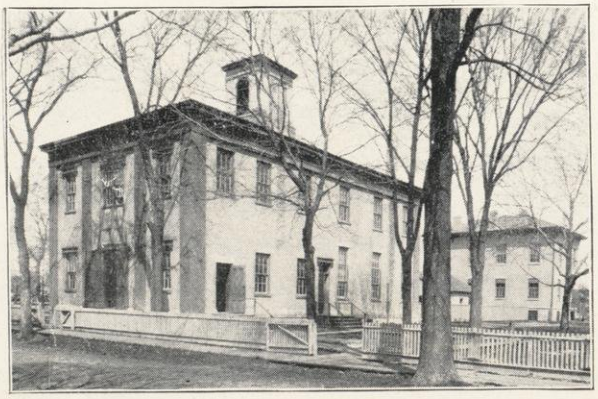
law. On the morning of July 25th six men armed with axes crossed over to the island and began to cut down trees and brush and commenced building a fence. They entirely enclosed one acre of the land leaving the cabin in the center thereof.

During the time of this small squabble Resique had been to Chicago and secured some laboring men and a good supply of provisions and he and Noble were prepared to maintain their possession on the island. Shortly after Resique's return the fence began to disappear by piecemeal and soon disappeared altogether. Thus the two men kept possession of the island with only an occasional small skirmish until the summer of 1836, when very warlike demonstrations were made by both the company and by the "squatters." Judge Wm. Bullen attempted to take possesion of a portion of the island by virtue of a claim originally made by

an agent of the Western Emigration Company. Resique marshalled a force of men to maintain his possession. For several days armed men were employed and it looked as though bloodshed would surely follow. The dispute, however, was finally compromised by allowing Judge Bullen to come into peaceable possession of that part of the island lying within the limits of the northeast quarter section number 31.

At that time Washington Island, which covered an area of some thirty acres, was considered the most valuable property of the projected town site. It was believed that every foot of its surface would eventually be used as the chief commercial point of business. It was considered so valuable that a Mr. Garrett, a then wealthy capitalist of Chicago, in the fall of 1835, offered $7500, for a good claim to the island. Other speculators and capitalists made very liberal offers for portions of this now little valued property.

For the purpose of following the story of the settlement it may be well to say that the Western Emigration Company was dissolved in December of 1837. It had proved a losing speculation to most of the stockholders. The want of proper rules and regulations for the adjustment of difficulties which arose from land claims was fully felt by the early settlers. In February, 1836, a meeting was held and a code adopted for mutual protection, called the "Claimants' Union." Soon after a convention was held in Racine, at which a more extensive combination was organized entitled the "Milwaukee Union." It was in connection with the formation of the "Claimants' Union" that the first printing office was established in the new town. The Rev. Jason Lathrop had brought with him a small outfit of type from New York. The first printing was that of the constitution of this Union. His outfit consisted of a wooden box about 12 by 24 inches in size with sides rising above the base on which the type were made to stand of the height of type. The owner of the outfit made his own ink and used the old-fashioned ball with which to distribute it on the type, and passed a roller over the paper on the form resting on the side of the box or table. That did the press work. The expense of this printing material Mr. Lathrop declares to have been $10. Lyman C. Draper, who in the early years of the state was Secretary of the State Historical Society, declares that Mr. Lathrop's printing establishment must have been the second in Wisconsin.



FIRST HIGH SCHOOL IN WISCONSIN.

The new community was not long in arranging for religious observances. Some irregular religious meetings were held until the latter part of August, 1835. About that time a religious meeting was called to be held in the log building on the lake shore on the north side of the harbor put up by Mr. Bullen. There were present twenty-eight persons, twenty-

one of whom spoke at more or less length During most of the year 1836 religious meetings were held in the house of Wm. Bullen on the island. In the latter part of the season of 1837 a block building was put up on South Main street, near what is now known as Market Square, to be used for a school house and place of worship, free to all denominations. In 1839 a frame building of considerable size was erected on the north side of the river in what is now known as the Second ward for an academy and a place of worship, also free to all denominations. During these years no regular clergyman was employed. The preaching was done by some itinerant and missionary preachers; and when no clergyman was present some member of the church read sermons from a printed volume. R. H. Deming, Rev. Abner Barlow and Rev. Jason Lathrop preached In 1840 the Methodist society built their first church edifice

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH.

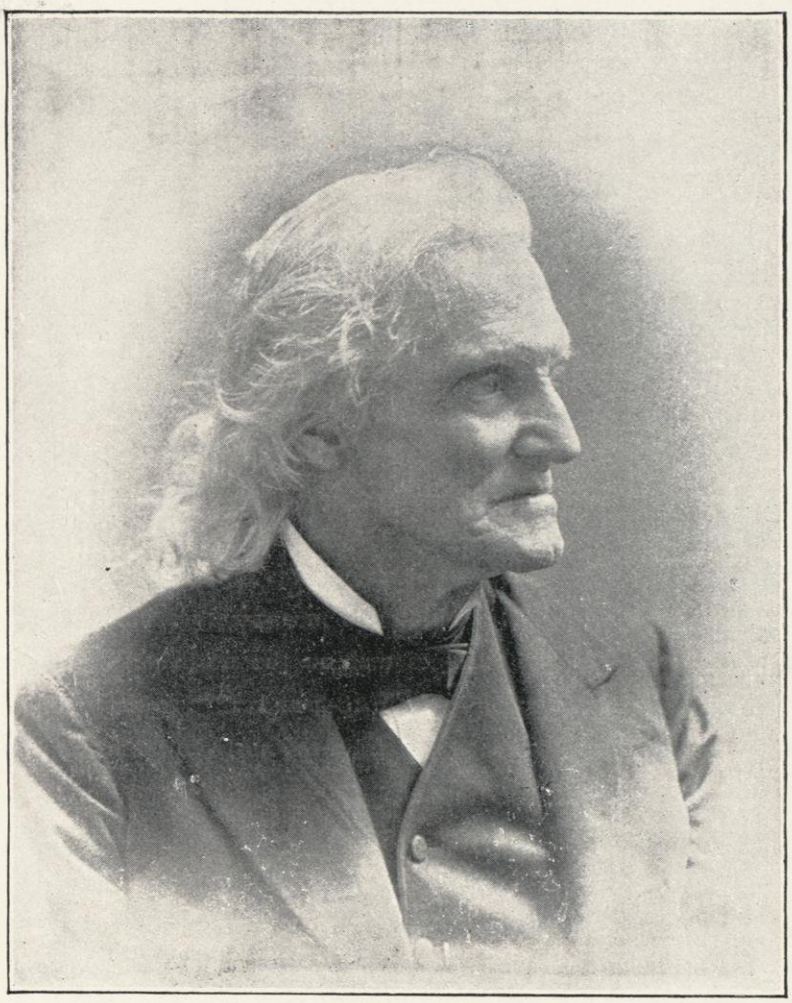
erected in Kenosha. This building originally stood on what is now known as the southeast corner of Main and South streets. In 1855 this church was removed south near where the present edifice now stands. On February 4th, 1840, the Kenosha County Bible Society was organized. In 1843 the Congregational society built a good sized church on the north side of the river on lot 4, block 84. Some ten years later this was moved across the river on the ice and barely escaped being sunk in the river. It was put on lot 4, block 34. Soon after the removal of the Congregational church a German Protestant church was built on its former site. In this same year the Baptist society erected a handsome church. A few years later the Episcopal society erected a small, but neat church in the First ward.

The Irish Catholic church was built in 1845, in the Third ward. In 1848 a religious denomination was organized by C. L. Sholes, H. C. Turner, Sheldon Fish and others. It was called the Excelsior church and aimed to gather together all people without regard to their religious beliefs. This church ceased to exist about two years later, owing to dissensions within its ranks.

ST. JAMES' CHURCH.

The first anniversary of our national independence was celebrated on the 4th of July, 1836. The celebration took place on Washington Island. All the inhabitants of the place, numbering in that year eighty-four people, turned out to do honor to the occasion. There were also a few in from adjoining towns and farms. The main feature of the parade was a team of twenty oxen carrying various flags and devices. Rev. Jason Lathrop was the orator of the day. After this celebration the day was properly observed each year thereafter for many years. The orator on the occasion of the second celebration was Col. M. Frank.

Along in the fall of 1839 a meeting of citizens was called for the purpose of discussing the advisibility of forming a village. The matter had been warmly discussed among the two hundred inhabitants for some little time. At this meeting a committee was appointed to draft a village charter. That being done the proposed charter was forwarded to Madison to the Hon. Wm. Bullen, who was then a member of the territorial council. This charter was enacted into law incorporating the village of Southport, February 9th, 1841. It contained a provision that it should first be submitted to the legal voters of the proposed corporation for



COL. MICHAEL FRANK.

approval before becoming a law. An election was held in March of 1841. Ninety-nine votes were cast in favor of and six against it. From that time the place became known as Southport. Having become a chartered corporation it was necessary for the citizens to select their first list of officers. Consequently an election for this purpose was held on the first Monday in April, 1841. The village was divided into two wards, known as the north and south

wards, the river being the dividing line between the two. The south ward elected as trustees David Crossitt, Chancey Davis and F. S. Lovell. The north ward selected J. Bullen, A. D. Northway and Wm. Seymour. Col. Michael Frank was made the first president of the village. The subsequent presidents who followed to the time of the incorporating of the city were as follows: Wm. Bullen, 1841; John W. McCoy, 1842 and '43; Sereno Fisk, 1844 and '45; Theodore Newell, 1846; John W. McCoy, 1847; Michael Holmes, 1848, and Wm. S. Strong, 1849.

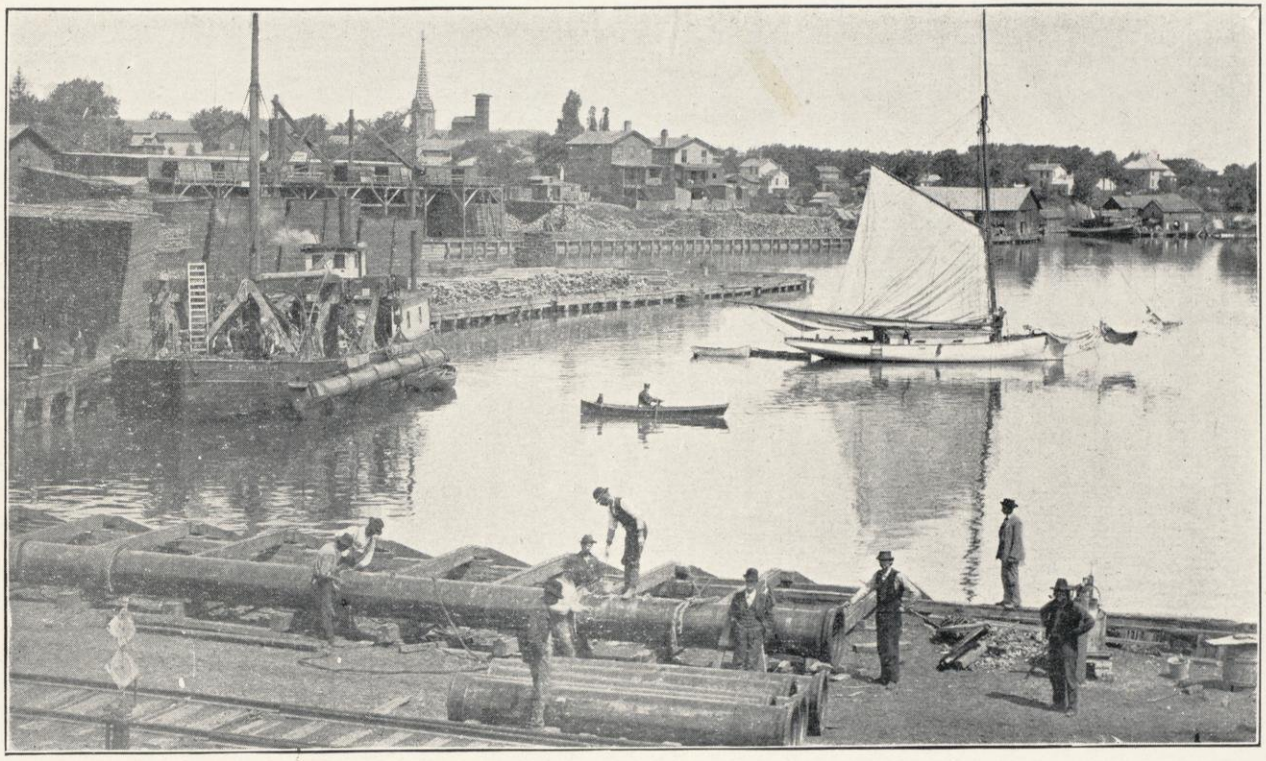
Wallace Mygatt, from whose sketch we quote some account of the first settlement, gives a list of the merchants doing business in the village in the early days. He says: "In the village in 1838 the entire business establishments of the place, with the exception of a block tavern on Main street kept by H. Whitney, were situated on Lake and Pearl streets. There were four mercantile establishments, to-wit: Hale & Bullen; Frances Quarles, R. H. Deming and Wm. Bullen & Co., then situated on Lake street, north of Pearl. The postoffice was kept in the store of Wm. Bullen & Co. On Pearl street was located the Kenosha Ce-pee house, kept by J. H. Boardman; a blacksmith shop by David Crossitt; a tailor shop by Philander Dodge; a boot shop by Nathan Dye and R. B. Winsor had a shop in which he manufactured harness or window sash and doors in such proportion as the wants of his customers demanded."

In 1839 the principle mercantile establishments before mentioned were transferred from the south to the north side of the harbor. The postoffice was then removed from the former to the latter locality, and the Wisconsin House, also on the north side, was opened as a tavern and was also the stage house. The object was to transfer the business of the place from the south side to the north side, which was measurably accomplished for a time, but some difference arising among the business men on the north side about the locality of a bridge and facilities, business returned again in 1841 and 1842 to the south side, and settled on Main street. The postoffice was removed from the north to the south side on the 12th of April, 1841.

In the season of 1836 the first steamer came to anchor half a mile from the mouth of the creek and landed passengers and freight. A number of small vessels stopped during that year. In the following year sixty-one steamboats, eighty schooners and two brigs; in 1838 there were seventy-two steamboats and eighty-eight schooners; in 1839, one hundred and two steamboats, forty-seven schooners, three brigs and one ship. The place had now become so generally known abroad and traffic on the lake was getting so extensive that efforts began to be made looking toward the proper fitting out of a harbor. The method of landing passengers and freight had heretofore been such as is generally practiced where there is no harbor or wharf facilities. A lighter, capable of carrying several tons, was built in the spring of 1836 and kept on the beach of the lake. Whenever a vessel came in sight for the purpose of landing passengers or freight, this lighter was launched from the beach and manned. In the earliest years it required nearly every able bodied man in town to handle it. The work soon

became so arduous that it became necessary to make some determined effort in the direction of securing from Congress a much-needed appropriation for harbor construction. From the very first settlement of the town this had been looked upon as a work of great necessity and of certain and near accomplishment. In the earliest years the settlers were unwilling to admit that more than three years would elapse before this important improvement would be made. However, the first vigorous effort was not made until 1837. At that time the Hon. Charles Durkee was deputed by the people to go to Washington for the purpose of interesting members of Congress in the subject. Mr. Durkee succeeded in procuring a special pre-emption bill to be passed through the Senate. This bill guaranteed the right to make a pre-emption of about a section of land within the present corporate limits of the city of Kenosha, each settler being allowed to pre-empt two village lots. These lots were, by the provisions of the bill, to be appraised and sold for a sum not less than the appraisal, the proceeds to be applied to the building of a harbor. The passage of this bill by the Senate caused great excitement throughout the community, and it was regarded as settling the matter of a harbor for good. The bill, however, failed of passage through the House of Representatives.

The first preliminary survey of the harbor was made by Captain Allen, of the United States Topographical Engineers, in the summer of 1837, at the expense of the citizens of the town. He estimated the cost of building a harbor at $87,000. Two years later Captain Cram, under the direction of the War Department, made a harbor survey at Southport, at Pike River and at Racine. The report of this survey and estimations of Captain Cram was officially published in January, 1840. This report stated that the construction of a harbor at the south mouth of Pike Creek, the place where Southport was situated, would be nearly $200,000 and that at Pike River about the same amount, while that at Racine was estimated at less than $50,000. The publication of this report caused the greatest of indignation among the citizens of Southport. He was charged with the deliberate intention of prejudicing the War Department unfavorably to a harbor appropriation for Southport. It was intimated that his reason for this was that he was said to be a large real estate owner at Racine. Indignation ran so high that a public meeting was held by the people of Southport February 10th, 1840, to devise means of counteracting the influence of Captain Cram's report. Great jealousy had existed between the citizens of Southport and of Pike River, which was then located on the north side, but which has since completely disappeared from the map, and but very little intercourse existed between the two places. The people of Pike River, however, looked upon the report of Captain Cram as particularly intended to disparage their harbor. Hence, on this occasion, for the first time, they joined with the people of Southport to make common cause against a government official, who it was believed had conspired against both the interests of Pike River and Southport. The result of the meeting, which was held at Seymour's tavern, was the passage of resolutions strongly condemning Captain Cram and expressing a determination to resent the influence and mischievous intent of the report and demand his removal from office. A committee was appointed to go to Milwaukee to secure



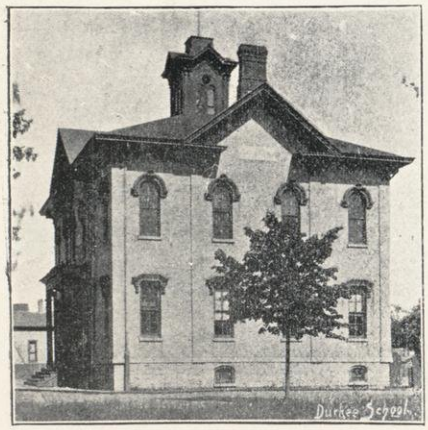
KENOSHA HARBOR—PREPARING INTAKE PIPE FOR CRIB.

the co-operation of citizens in that place. It being understood that the Milwaukeeans were on no friendly terms with the Captain. The outcome of this meeting and resolutions was nul. In March of 1840 the mechanics of Southport held several spirited meetings and formed an organization to build a harbor by subscription to be paid in installments of money and work, and the enterprise was discussed for several weeks, but funds sufficient for the enterprise were not raised and the project was abandoned. Deputations and petitions were sent to Washington several times, but apparently without success until on the 25th of June, 1844, word was received that an appropriation bill had passed Congress granting $12,500 for the construction of a harbor. This news was received with demonstrations of great joy and a great public dinner was got up, speeches made, toasts drank, accompanied by music and the firing of guns. There soon arose, however, a cloud of the size of a man's hand. News reached the town that Col. Abert, who was designated by the War Department to locate the harbor and direct the expenditure of the appropriation, regarded the terms of the act of Congress such as to make it discretionary with him to locate the harbor at the south mouth of Pike Creek or at Pike River. This caused a great panic. It was then decided that representations must be made to Col. Abert to show him the greater importance of a harbor at Southport than at the other point. Col Abert arrived the 26 h day of August and it was understood that he was about to announce his decision in the matter when the Hon. Chas. Durkee went to him and presented him with a paper which had been written by Col. Frank. After Col. Abert had read this article he asked the gentlemen present if the statements therein contained were correct. Mr. Durkee replied in the affirmative. Thereupon Col. Abert announced that the harbor would be fixed at the south mouth of Pike Creek. This decided the fate of the town and was the death knell to the settlement at the north. The news of this decision spread very rapidly and was received with the greatest of delight. The following year, 1845, another appropriation of $15,000 was obtained from Congress. Since that time work on the harbor has been prosecuted more or less every year by money borrowed on the credit of the corporation, by tax levied on the real estate of the town and by further appropriations from Congress.

The people of Pike were largely from New England, New York and Ohio, with comparatively few Germans, Irish, English and Scotch. The control of business and public affairs was largely in the hands of the native Americans, but the foreign population was of more than average intelligence and enterprise. The pioneers of this town of all nationalities were not excelled in intelligence and culture by those of any section of the West. At an early day there were homes here as comfortable as those that had been left behind. The early settlers brought their books with them, and their love of learning gave a tone to their social life that would not suffer by comparison with that of the present day. It was not remarkable that such a community became a pioneer in the cause of education. President Whitford, of Milton College, formerly a state superintendent, in his history of education says that in 1836 there were eight private schools in Wisconsin with an attendance of seventy-five scholars. This would be an average of a little over nine scholars to each school.

The population of Wisconsin was then about nine thousand. In the winter of 1835 and 1836 Miss Laura Malthy collected about half a dozen scholars and opened a school on the north side of the river, within the corporate limits of what is now the city of Kenosha. About that same time the Rev. Jason Lothrop opened a school in the neighborhood now known as Spring Brook. The first school house was built in the fall of 1837. It was constructed of logs hewn on the inside, and was twenty feet square. It was located on the corner just north of the Dan Head & Co. bank building. This building was used for school purposes, religious meetings, lyceums, caucuses, lectures, traveling shows, court, social gatherings, etc. The first schools were supported by subscription, but in the winter of 1836 and 1837 the territorial legislature adopted the school code of Michigan, after which school districts were organized and the schools were sustained by a rate bill; that is, each family was required to pay in proportion to the number of children sent to school.

The subject of free schools was one which had been given a great deal of attention by the most prominent of early citizens here. As early as 1845 Col. Frank, who was then a member of the territorial legislature, secured the passage of a law for the establishment of free public schools. The passage of this law was the starting of a long struggle having for its object the building up of a free school system. The law allowed the people to raise a tax to pay the expenses of the public schools. A number of the people considered this to be an encroachment upon their rights, and the first meeting of the citizens called at which this school law was to be voted upon, was held March 27th, 1845. The chairman was unable to control the meeting and it broke up in confusion, the law not having been voted upon. The popular cry seemed to be "No taxation to educate my neighbors' children." This seemed to be as well founded upon the law of right as the old cry of "No taxation without representation," used by our Revolutionary forefathers. Some of the most prominent of the citizens such as Col. Michael Frank, R. H. Deming, Charles Durkee, J. B. Jilson, O. F. Dana and others, set about the task of educating the people to see beyond narrow, selfish interests and to see the ultimate good that must come to the state and to society by enlightened citizenship. The second meeting was held June 23, 1845. At this meeting the law was carried, trustees and superintendent were elected, and it was voted to raise $500 to pay arrearage on school house



and for defraying expenses of a summer school. This summer school was the first free school in Wisconsin, and the first outside of New England in this union. It was opened June 18, 1845. A building was erected in the northern part of the town of a capacity to accommodate from one hundred to one hundred and fifty pupils. The village had been divided into two districts, and there was a school house in each. An academy and female seminary over-shadowed the public schools in the south ward for a time, but in 1848 public opinion had crystalized and the foundation was laid for the structure which recently gave place to the present High School building. The building now standing upon the old site was but

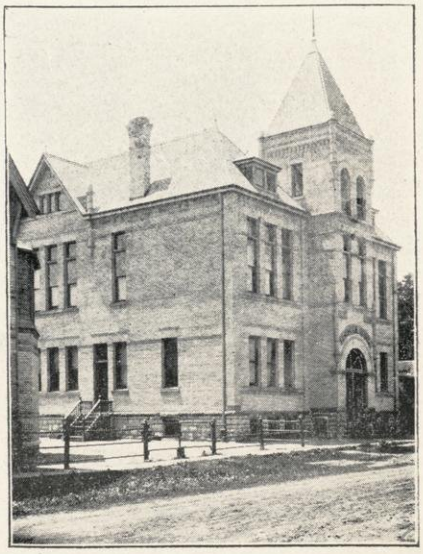
KENOSHA HIGH SCHOOL.

the evolution of that built some fifty years ago. The sagacity, self-denial and the liberality of those early people made the present edifice possible, and their spirit will influence the work during the years to come. The names of Josiah Bond, Charles Clement, Reuben Deming,

Charles Durkee, Harvey Durkee. Michael Frank, Sereno Fisk, Samuel Hale, Henry B. Hinsdale, John B. Jilson, F. W Lyman, Hayes McKinley, Theodore Newell, J. V. Quarles, C. Lapham Sholes and Charles Sholes may not meet the view of the youth who attend school here today nor have their portraits adorned the walls of the school rooms, but they are worthy of remembrance and should never be forgotten.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL.

In the summer of 1849 the building commenced the year before was completed and on Monday, July 30, it was dedicated with an appropriate ceremony. The school was opened the next day with an enrollment of about four hundred pupils. The site of the building was a gift to the district by Sereno Fisk. The newspapers of the state heralded the cost and dimensions. It cost $4,500 and it was seventy feet long, forty-three feet wide, two stories high and built of brick. It contained two rooms 50 by 40 feet and four rooms for recitation purposes. Its cost was two and one-fifth per cent of the valuation of the property in the district. It was for several years the best school house in the state and few persons visited Southport who left before inspecting it and the school conducted within its walls. Some of the most prominent principals or rather some of those who subsequently became the most prominent principals in the state were early teachers in this school. The first principal was Z. C. Graves, who came from Ohio.



From that early day the public schools have been not only of first public importance but have received the sturdiest of support and have always ranked high in efficiency and thoroughness.

Two years after Wisconsin became a member of the sisterhood of states, more particularly speaking at the session of the legislature in 1850, Kenosha county was set off from Racine county and the name of this town was changed from Southport to Kenosha and incorporated as a city. The first election for city officers was held on the first Monday in April, 1850. The first mayor elected was Col. Michael Frank, who had also been the first president of the new village a few years before

One remarkable thing stands out prominently during the time that Col. Frank was mayor, which is of particular interest owing to the fact that it is the only occurence of its kind known in the state of Wisconsin, namely the hanging of John McCaffrey. In those days the mayor of the town acted as the presiding magistrate in preliminary hearings and to Col. Frank unfortunately fell the duty of presiding in this case wherein the defendant was charged with having murdered his wife.

The mayors who followed Col. Frank came in the following order: D. C. Gaskell, 1851; C. C. Sholes, 1852, 1853, 1854 and 1855; Volney Hughes, 1856; G. H. Paul, 1857 and 1858; Asahel Farr, 1859; I. W. Webster, 1860; M. H. Pettit, 1861; Frederick Robinson, 1862 and 1863; Asahel Farr, 1864; M. H. Pettit, 1865; Col. Dennis J. Hines, 1866; M. H. Pettit, 1867; I. W. Webster, 1868; Frederick Robinson, 1869; M. H. Pettit, 1870; Asahel Farr, 1871, 1872 and 1873; I. W. Webster, 1874; O. G. King, 1875; J. V. Quarles, 1876; Asahel Farr, 1877 and 1878; Frederick Robinson, 1879; A. C. Sinclair, 1880; Henry Williams, 1881 and 1882; O. S. Newell, 1883; Z. G. Simmons, 1884 and 1885; E. L. Grant, 1886; Charles F. Stemm, 1887; Henry Williams, 1888 and 1889; John B. Kupfer, 1890; O. M. Pettit, 1891, 1892 and 1893; W. M. Farr, 1894, 1895 and 1896; Frank C. Culley, 1897.

During the administration of most of these mayors Kenosha had been a very conservative town. No very rapid strides were made in the matter of public improvements, owing largely to the fact that the city was laboring under a very heavy debt incurred by the building of the Kenosha and Rockford railroad. This debt had threatened the city with bankruptcy and for years it hung as a pall over the city. The prospect of being obliged to pay the debt or even the interest on it appalled many people who otherwise would have looked upon Kenosha very favorably as a place in which to buy property and go into business. Up to the time of 1886 the city had stood still, if it had not actually retrograded. Real estate became almost valueless. Very little property changed hands and what transfers did occur were made at such remarkably low figures that no one cared to purchase. In 1886 the city's obligations were purchased by some of our most enterprising citizens collected by Z. G. Simmons, reduced to $200,000 and refunded at 5 per cent. The city has paid the interest on this every year since then and has reduced it to the sum of $170,000. Owing to the fact that

the city was already bonded to the limit allowed by law a great question arose during the administration of O. M. Pettit concerning a method for the establishment of the water works system for the city. A system could not be built by the city but the citizens had agitated the necessity for such a system until some action was necessary on the part of the authorities.

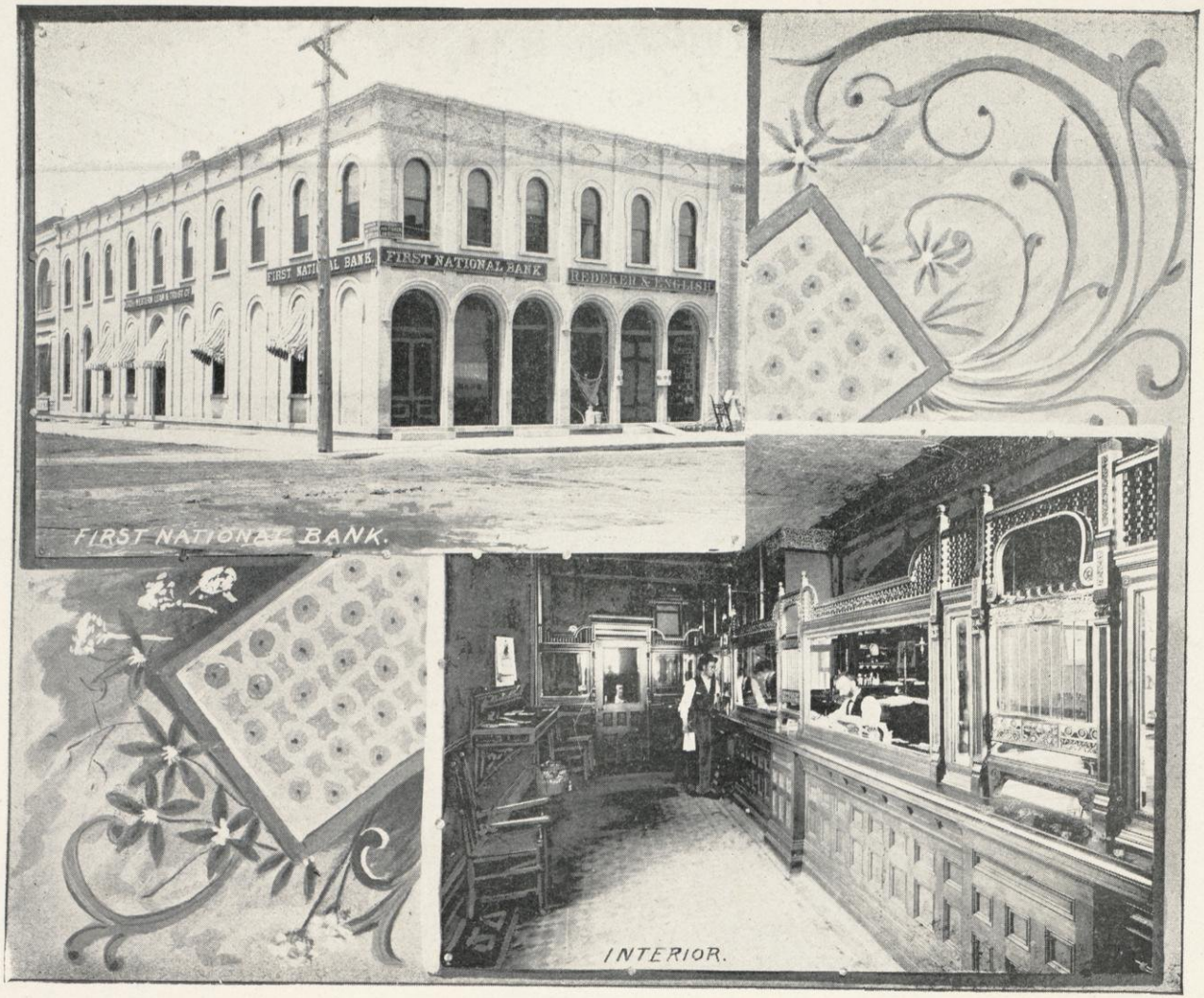
THE POWER HOUSE.

Consequently the Common Council granted a franchise for the building of such a plant by I. W. Newcomer, who was to build the works under an understanding with the city that he was to float bonds and the city would have the option of taking it off his hands in a year. Mr. Newcomer experienced some difficulty in the matter of getting the bonds on the market when Wheeler & Co. took the franchise off his hands and with the co-operation of some of our citizens floated the bonds and built the works. The system cost about $125,000 and very soon after completion was taken off the hands of Wheeler & Co. by the city during the administration of mayor W. M. Farr. The capacity of these works is large enough for a city three or four times the size of Kenosha and afford the best of fire protection. It now consists of a power house and about fifteen miles of water mains.

In addition to this new system of water works Wheeler & Co., at the direction of the city council, and before turning the water system over to the city purchased the south side artesian system of the Park City Water Company and the north side plant of the North Side Water Company, which had previously done service for fire protection and domestic service throughout the city, and added them to the new system, which was turned over to the city at a total cost of $137,000. This provides over 200 fire hydrants located throughout the city, 166 of which are direct pressure hydrants connected with the new system and the balance are artesian hydrants. This consolidation of the three systems puts Kenosha in the front rank as regards water supply, both for fire protection and sanitary uses.

It is expected that before 1900 Kenosha will have a fine lake shore park and drive. The city already owns most of the ground along the lake shore and there is a feeling among prominent citizens that the city ought to own it all and turn it into a public park.

Since the time of the refunding of the city debt improvements in all parts of the city have been the general rule. A complete sewer system has been built, being about fifteen miles in extent, four of our principal streets being mained, Main street, Park avenue, Prairie avenue and Market street have been paved with the best of brick, while Deming street Durkee avenue and the west end of Market street have been macadamized.



FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

It is a fact which few people seem to realize that Kenosha has one of the earliest of the National banks organized in the United States in the First National Bank. It was organized as a state bank in 1853, beginning business in 1854. It was known then as the City Bank. Then in 1864 it entered the National system and stands as No. 212 in the list; and from the day of its organization to the present time has withstood every financial crisis with almost the sturdy indifference of the rock of Gibraltar. It is the oldest financial concern of the city as well as being the strongest. It passed through two of the greatest panics this country has seen, those of 1873 and 1893, absolutely unscathed and undisturbed. It has come to be a sort of by-word of impregnability. It is noted for its strong cash reserve and its conservative methods of business. During the panic of 1893 there was not a bank in Wisconsin which made so good a showing as did this one. Its capital stock is $50,000, with a surplus of $25,000; undivided profits, nearly $30,000; deposits now reach $700,000 and over. The officers are Z. G. Simmons, president; R. F. Howe, vice-president; Charles C. Brown, cashier; W. P. Robinson, assistant cashier.

The Northwestern Loan and Trust Company is very closely associated with the bank, being in the same building. This was organized October 22, 1894, with a capital stock of $60,000. The chief business of the company is expressed in its title. It is strong and conservatively managed by some of the best known men of the city.

Any mention of these institutions would be incomplete without mention of the exceptional abilities of Mr. Z. G. Simmons, who is president of both. He is thoroughly a self-made man, and has risen to his present high standing and position through the sheer force of character and his abilities. He has been a resident of Kenosha for nearly fifty years and in that time has assisted one way or another nearly every line of growth in the city. He spent his early years on a farm, coming to Southport in 1843, at the age of 15. At 21 he became clerk in Seth Doan's store. He remained here sixteen months and then bought Mr. Doan out. He remained in mercantile business for ten years and then sold out and took the presidency of the Kenosha, Rockford & Rock Island Railroad company, which was without funds or credit. By careful management he succeeded in completing the road and ran the first train on the day of the battle of Bull Run. Years ago he purchased an interest in the Wisconsin State Telegraph Company, which was developed into the Northwestern Telegraph Company, and has been its president since its organization. The lines were leased by the Western Union Telegraph Company in 1881 for 99 years on a basis of 2½ million 6 per cent stock and 1¼ million of bond. Mr. Simmons pushed this enterprise to a phenomenal success.

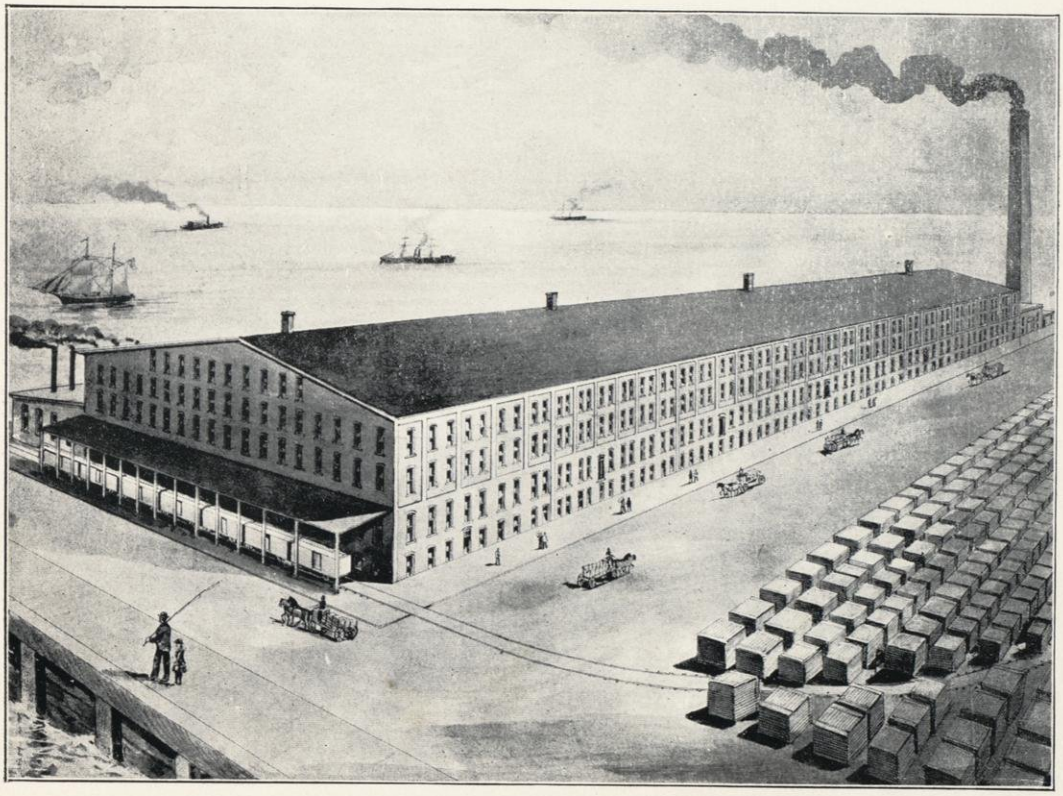
Mr. Simmons is also president of the Northwestern Wire Mattress Company, a sketch of which appears elsewhere. He was also chiefly responsible for the railroad up Pike's Peak in Colorado, which at the time it was proposed engineers declared to be an impossibility. Its successful operation now bears its own testimony to the sagacity and determination to overcome difficulties which has ever been Mr. Simmons' marked characteristic.

Perhaps the most notable achievement of Mr. Simmons, which had the good of the city for its object, was the refunding of the city debt while he was mayor in 1884 and 1885. In its endeavor to build a harbor and extend its railroad connections, the city became heavily, almost hopelessly, in debt. This debt amounted in judgments and interest thereon to $1,750,000. Mr. Simmons succeeded in getting this refunded with $200,000 of 1–20 bonds at 5 per cent. In 1865 Mr. Simmons represented Kenosha county in the legislature.

Charles C. Brown, cashier of the bank, is very closely associated with Mr. Simmons in his enormous business. He shares Mr. Simmons' love of Kenosha and together they plan much for the advancement of the city. Mr. Brown is president of the Kenosha Business Men's association. He is a Kenosha boy born and bred, having first seen the light here in 1854. Like Mr. Simmons he is entirely self-made, having made his way in the world from the most humble beginnings. His first business connection was with Gilbert M. Simmons, when they went into a general mercantile business in 1875 in the Simmons' Hall block. Mr. Simmons sold his interest in 1878 and the firm of Doan & Brown was organized and went into business in the building now occupied by W. F. Fisher. Mr. Gilbert Simmons became cashier of the bank. In 1890 this firm sold out to W. F. Fisher, Mr. Brown succeeding Mr. Simmons as cashier of the bank.

THE NORTHWESTERN WIRE MATTRESS COMPANY.

The Northwestern Wire Mattress Company conducts the largest business of its kind in the world. Not only that but it is rapidly increasing in capacity, consequent upon the great demand made upon it for its goods. The company was incorporated in 1884, with a capital



NORTHWESTERN WIRE MATTRESS CO.

CHAS. A. DICKHAUT—Architect.

stock of $100,000 since increasing it to $400,000. It has the largest factory building in the city and is located on the lake shore at the mouth of the harbor. The line of goods manu-

factured by this concern includes not only wire mattresses, but spring beds, cots, cradles, children's and full sized folding beds, iron and brass bedsteads and folding chairs. The enormous output of this company is sold to the trade and is shipped to every corner of the United States, as well as to England, Continental Europe, Australia and South America. That prosperity has been kind to this company is proven by the fact that within the past year the capacity of the plant has been so increased that fully one hundred and fifty more employes are required to operate it than were necessary one year ago. Nearly five hundred people are now employed by this company. The annual product of the factory reaches a considerable over half a million dollars. It has a capacity of 1,500 wire mattresses per day and saws up over 5,000,000 square feet of maple plank every year, which is shipped in here by boat and landed at the company's own dock. The building is 600 feet in length by from 100 to 184 in width and is operated on the plan of taking the raw material in at one end and never allowing it to go in but one direction until the completed product reaches the other end, from which it is shipped out. It takes four engines to operate this big concern, the main power being furnished by a Hamilton-Corliss. The other engines are self-regulating rapid motion.

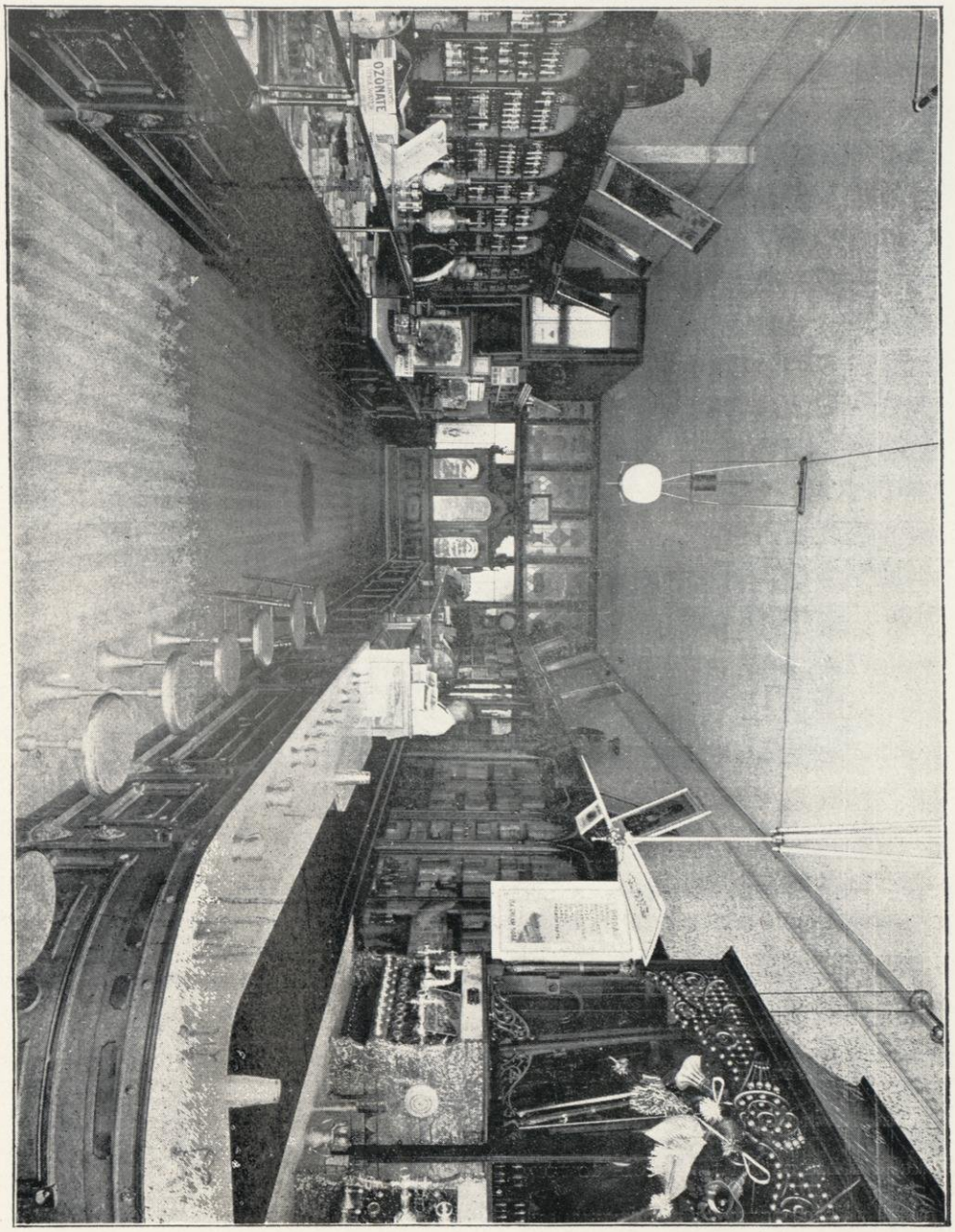
The present factory building is not the first put up by the company, the original plant having been destroyed by fire in 1892. The present building was then erected on the site where it now stands. The present building is brick and put up on the slow-burning construction principle. It has a complete automatic sprinkler system throughout and underwriters' fire pumps with a capacity of 750 gallons per minute.

Z. G. Simmons is president and treasurer of the company; Z. G. Simmons, Jr., is vice president, and R. F. Howe secretary. The company is considered one of the most prosperous and stable of any in the city. It is a distinctively Kenosha institution, having grown here from nothing to its present magnitude, which fact is attributed by the owners largely to its natural location.

WOODWARD & CONLEY.

The firm of Woodward & Conley stands among the highest in the city. The gentlemen composing it are prominently connected socially and in a business way with the best interests of the city. The picture herewith presented is absolutely faithful as to the detail of the interior. The store is well appointed and one of the most popular in the city in any line. It forms a sort of headquarters in its line, being wholesale and retail drugs, perfumeries and sundries. The stock carried by the firm is one of the largest and most complete in the state of Wisconsin. The gentlemen make prescriptions a specialty and carry the finest line of prescription goods of any house in the city. They give special attention to their sundry department and have a most complete line, to which they have recently added very materially, thus making the largest display ever offered in Kenosha.

O. H. Woodward, the head of the firm, is an expert in his line and is the practical man. He has been a resident of Kenosha about seven years and in that time has proven himself both public spirited and enterprising. He belongs to the Free Masons and is one of the directors of the Kenosha Business Men's association.



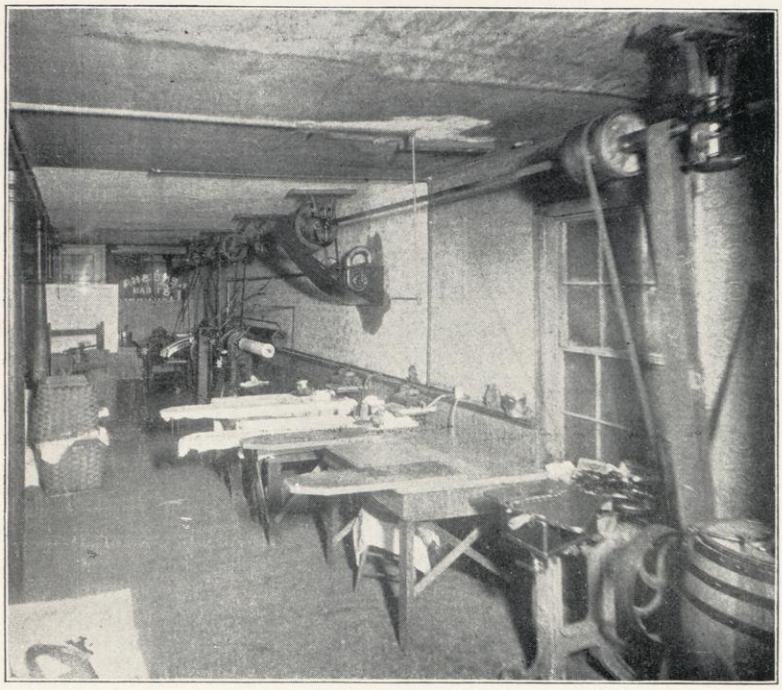
INTERIOR OF WOODWARD & CONLEY'S DRUG STORE.

Sigel Conley, the junior member of the firm, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin Before he formed a partnership with Mr. Woodward he had been in the dry goods line, gaining considerable experience with the commercial and social world by travel. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and has frequently held posts of honor in that organization.

The firm has been very successful in its line, and future prosperity seems to be inevitable because it is deserving.

REMER'S KENOSHA LAUNDRY.

The name Kenosha Laundry has been a household word in Kenosha for the greater part of a year. What has made it so has been the indomitable energy and push of H. E. Remer. He is an old experienced laundryman and as such has studied very carefully the needs of laundry patrons and has been just as careful to fill those needs. These two things form very largely the success of every business man, and it is only the degree of his understanding of the public needs which fixes a man's business standing, shrewdness and acumen.



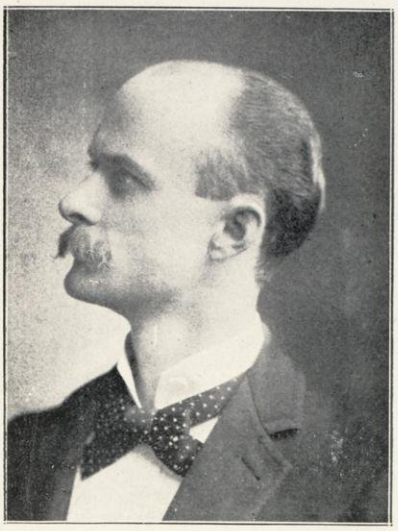
The man who understands the public's needs best is always the leader in his trade or calling, and in the laundry business in Kenosha this place is cheerfully accorded Mr. Remer. He seems to have been richly endowed by nature with a clear insight into the requirements of his position, so that to say that he is one of the most successful of laundrymen is to put it truthfully. This fact could not be better evidenced than in the fact that when Mr. Remer came here he purchased a successful business and during the past year has been able to double it, and he still looks forward to greater increase. A few of the new points Mr. Remer introduced into the business in Kenosha are the facts that he does not put too high a finish on all his linen which is to be polished, for the reason that the high finish is injurious to the goods; then he uses condensed water exclusively, doing away with injurious and damaging chemicals. Another point of the first importance to the wearer of the shirts "done up" at this laundry, is that the shirts are ironed to fit the body and the neckband to lay flat on the neck. The greatest comfort is thus assured.

Mr. Remer was born in Tonica, Illinois, July 1861. He went to Clarinda, Iowa, in 1880, and attended the schools there, graduating from the High school. Immediately after leaving the schools he took up the laundry business, learned it thoroughly and has been in it ever since. He conducted a laundry for seven years in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and then went to Hastings, Nebraska, where he remained three years. From there he went to Chicago and for three years conducted a successful laundry there. He came to Kenosha directly from Chicago. A great portion of his success has been due to the fact that he is a big advertiser.

Mr. Remer is a regular member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Ancient Order of United Workmen and other organizations of a secret, social and insurance character. He is also a prominent member of the National Laundrymen's association, and is chairman of its Wisconsin state executive committee.

ALBERT E. BUCKMASTER.

Albert E. Buckmaster has easily taken a front rank among the lawyers of Kenosha, notwithstanding that at the time of the publication of this work he had been in Kenosha but a little over three years. Before he had been a resident of the city six months he was elected district attorney of Kenosha County.



Mr. Buckmaster was born in LaFayette, LaFayette county, Wisconsin, about thirty-four years ago, to Benjamin F. and Alsaida Cook Buckmaster. He was a farmer's son and spent all of his earlier years amid wheat fields and corn stalks, following the plow or feeding the cattle after the usual and customary routine of the average country lad. His earliest education began at the district schools. Later he attended the schools of Darlington, Wis., graduating from the high school there in 1882. Determined upon further education he attended the Wisconsin State University, graduating with the class of 1889, taking the degree of bachelor of letters.

Mr. Buckmaster then taught school for a time, becoming principal of the schools at West Salem, and later became teacher of mathematics in the Wisconsin Academy at Madison. Just after graduating he applied for a position in Washington under Secretary Proctor. The position was offered him, but he declined it because of his contract as principal of schools. In 1892 he entered the law class of the State University and graduated in 1894 with the degree of L. L. B. Immediately after graduation he came to Kenosha, and after looking over the field, decided that there was room here for him and he thereupon opened an office at the corner of Main and Market streets in July of that year. The following November the voters of the county elected him district attorney on the republican ticket over D. C. Lloyd, the democratic nominee and incumbent of the office. He was re-elected to the position in 1896, and is, therefore, serving his second term. Since entering upon the duties of this office Mr. Buckmaster has had some strongly contested cases on his hands, and bears the proud record of not only sending a greater number of criminals to their punishment than were sent up by any three of his predecessors, but also of having lost but one case in all his practice in circuit court. Some of the most important cases ever tried in the county have been in his hands. He was the prosecutor of the famous Chicago Bedding Company arson trial in 1895, the Hilgendorf murder case in 1886 and the Pleva murder case in 1897. In each of these cases he secured convictions.

He married Miss Nellie E. Stalker, of Mauston, Wis., daughter of H. J. Stalker, M. D., in December, 1892. Two children have blessed and cemented this union. Ben is 4 years old and Dean six months old.

THE DAVY BURNT CLAY BALLAST COMPANY.

The Davy Burnt Clay Ballast Company is one of the largest and most stable of Kenosha's enterprises, though few of the common people seem to realize the fact. It has no large and imposing factory buildings or works in the city, but it conducts operations on a large scale and does business with a number of the largest railway corporations in this country. It is largely because of the fact that its business is mostly with the railways which makes it so little known among people in general.

It is a company which was incorporated about twelve years ago, and has a capital stock of $500,000, and is engaged in the manufacture of burnt clay ballast for railway roadbeds and general highways. The works of the company are mostly in Missouri, Iowa and Texas, Kenosha being the headquarters and offices for the transaction of its business. The great quality claimed for the style of ballast burnt by this company is its economy. This economy is evidenced in the burnt clay's durability, cleanliness, freedom from dust, elasticity and porosity. It may be made from any kind of clay or in any part of the country. The porous quality of the clay is one of the strongest arguments in favor of its use, from the fact

RESIDENCE OF Z. G. SIMMONS, JR.

that it keeps railway ties dry and thereby adds greatly to their length of life. The idea of its economy in use is carried out by the fact that it is cheaper than rock, is more easily and cheaply transported and easily put under the track. Its elasticity makes it easier on rolling stock, and is at the same time easier and cheaper by one half to maintain tracks in line and

in surface than rock. It is not materially affected by frost or heat. Its specific gravity is nearly the same as rock, being 2.1, which with the bond the pieces form one with another, prevents the ballast from washing away, and makes the most perfect road bed known. In making up the clay into ballast it is submitted to an intense heat until it is thoroughly vitrified and it becomes so hard that it will cut glass.

The company was originally started as the Davy Clay Ballast company by William Davy and Sons. They carried on the business for a number of years, and until more capital was needed to keep up with the growing demands. The present company is the outgrowth of the old company. The Davys have left it for other fields of operation. The officers of the present company are Z. G. Simmons, president; A. F. Towne, secretary; James Cavanagh, vice president; Z. G. Simmons, Jr., treasurer and general manager. The product of the company is now in use by the Burlington, Rock Island, Wabash, Missouri, Kansas & Texas and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul roads, and is well liked by all of them.

Z. G. Simmons, Jr., the general manager of this company, is a Kenosha boy, having been born and reared here. He is a son of Z. G. Simmons, a sketch of whom appears in connection with the First National bank. He received his education in the Kenosha schools and at Manlius, New York, and since graduation has been engaged with his father in some of his largest enterprises. He is one of the directors of the First National bank and Northwestern Loan & Trust company, and vice-president of the Northwestern Wire Mattress company.

A good evidence of Mr. Simmons' energy and executive ability in handling big enterprises is shown by the manner in which he built the big Sterling Cycle works factory. He took the contract to put up one building 100x500 feet in size, one 100x250 and one 70x100, all of brick, and to be completed and ready for occupancy within three months. When the machinery arrived at the end of that time the buildings were ready and complete.

DR. L. E. KALTENBACH.

Dr. L. E. Kaltenbach is one of the best known young men of the city. He has been here but about six years, but in that time he has built up a business which might well be envied by many an older dentist He is a thorough believer in painless dentistry and has equipped his office, which is in the Masonic block, with all the latest appliances for this purpose.

It may be truly said that his office is the best equipped in Kenosha with electricity, compressed air and all the other late appliances for minimizing pain.

Dr. Kaltenbach is a Wisconsin boy, though he comes from the western side of it. He was born in Potosi, Wis., in 1871. He received his common school education in his native town and then went to the Iowa State University where he graduated in dental surgery in 1891. Immediately after graduation he came here and entered business. Matters progressed so well with him that he has been able to form a partnership with J. A. Kennard in the baking business, a sketch of which will be found a little farther along in this book. Dr. Kaltenbach makes a specialty of Oral Surgery.

ISERMANN BROS.

The Isermann Brothers have been known to the public for a great many years, but not under the firm name as given above. The firm is composed of George S. Isermann and Michael J. Isermann, who established the present store at the corner of Main and Market streets in 1895. Prior to that time Mr. Michael Isermann was a member of the firm of A.

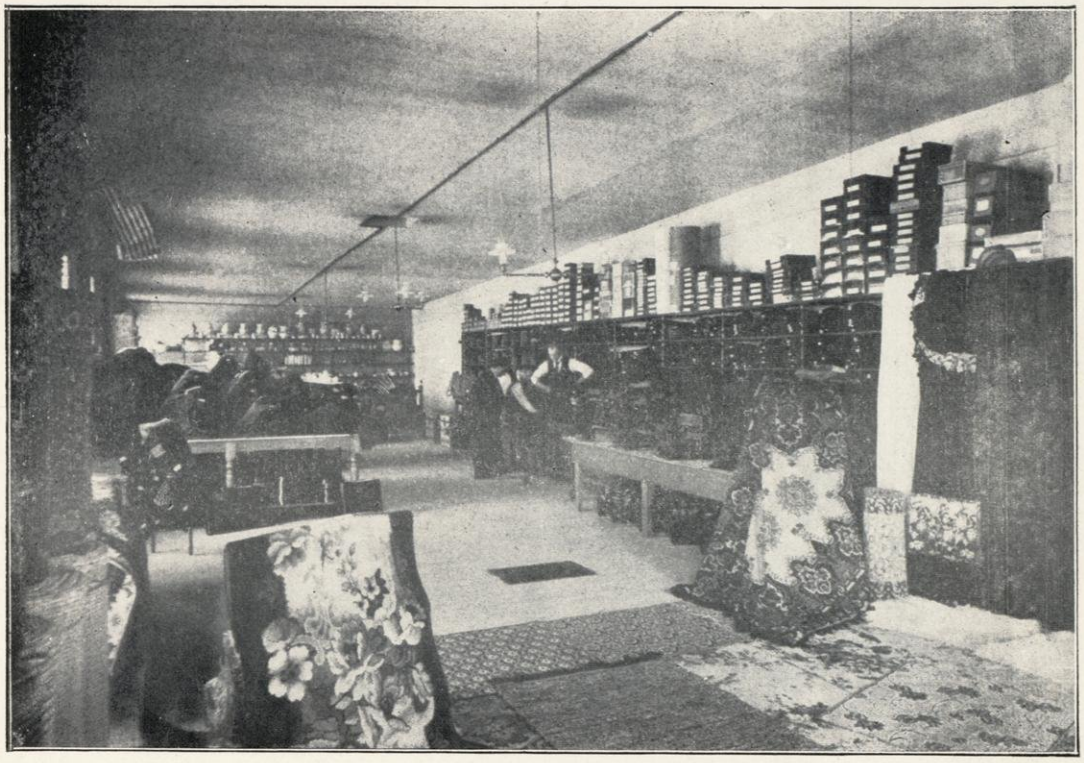
INTERIOR VIEW LOWER FLOOR OF ISERMANN BROS.

Isermann & Son, which then transacted business on Market street, between Main and Exchange streets. The business was conducted there between the years 1892 and 1895. George S. Isermann has been a traveling salesman for fifteen years prior to his connection with this firm, the last nine being with the Inbusch Bros., of Milwaukee.

The present store is one of the largest and most complete in the city and the only one in its lines as a department store. The principal lines carried are dry goods, clothing and carpets, while the other important departments are staple and fancy groceries, crockery, glassware, gents' furnishings, hats, caps, flour and feed and merchant tailoring. The store building is 100x28 feet in size and the firm occupies every inch of its two floors and basement, besides the old location where the business was formerly carried on, in which the stock of flour and feed is now kept. The main business is transacted on the first floor, where the dry goods, clothing, gent's furnishings, hats and caps and grocery departments are. The re-

mainder, with the exception of the flour and feed, are on the upper floor. The location of the store is one of the most prominent points in the city, being immediately at the head of Market square.

They have seen their business increase with every quarter that has gone by since they have been in business in their new corner store, and it is safe to say that they now have as large a trade if not arger, than any other store in the city, and it will keep increasing as long as they continue in their present gentlemanly way of doing business.



INTERIOR VIEW SECOND FLOOR OF ISERMANN BROS.

They are energetic, hustling young men who spare neither pains nor enterprise in making the business under charge and direction a profit to themselves as well as a credit to the city. With a large number of clerks, all inspired with the enthusiasm which characterizes their employers, and the modern appliances necessary to a prompt attention to customers, the business of Isermann Bros. gives every promise of continued growth.

Both George S. and Michael J. Isermann are well known and popular merchants, having been born in Kenosha and educated in its public schools. They are a very busy firm, but public spirited so far as their limited time allows. They enjoy the confidence of a very large class of citizens.

HARRY A. KUPFER.

The Kupfer livery stable occupies one of the most prominent corners in the business portion of the town. Because the position of the barn is prominent does not by any means explain the great popularity of the turnouts, nor why people go there for "rigs" in preference to other places. There are several reasons for the fact, first among them is that Mr. Kupfer turns out the best to be had in the city, and another is that Mr. Kupfer comes from one of the most prominent families in the city, and is himself one of the most popular business men on the street. The stable is located at the corner of Main and South streets, having a facing on Main street. Mr. Kupfer always keeps abreast of the requirements of Kenoshans, by always

H. A. KUPFER LIVERY BARNS.

keeping on hand a better class of turnouts than are furnished by any other liveryman. He makes a specialty of funeral conveyances, and in this line he has the best and finest equipment. His line of carriages and coupes are the best and most up-to-date which are obtainable for parties, weddings and all the other purposes for which people patronize livery stables, when in search of amusement, health or business.

Mr. Kupfer, like some of the others whose sketches appear elsewhere, is a Kenosha boy, born and bred. He knows the needs of Kenosha from life long association with its citizens and business interests. He applies himself very closely to his business. The fact that he has made so great a success of it is, no doubt, very largely due to his constant and painstaking attention.

THE M. H. PETTIT MALTING COMPANY.

There are few concerns doing business in Kenosha who have so long and marked a career as the M. H. Pettit Malting company has had. The business was the first of its kind in the west and established in 1857 with a capacity of 50,000 bushels per year. The business continued at this rate of output until 1868, when the growing demands made upon it compelled the company to tear down its old buildings and replace them with new ones. The increased capacity thus secured mounted up to 300,000 bushels per year. There was no stop here, however, for within a few years it was found that the capacity of the plant was altogether too small and it was again increased to over 600,000 bushels per year.

The business of the company was originally started by M. H. Pettit. That gentleman died in 1873, when Messrs. J. C. M. Kehlor and J. B. Pettit joined the widow in carrying it on. In 1885 the company was re-organized with a capital of $150,000 and an investment of nearly $250,000. At this time Frederick Robinson became president, O. M. Pettit, vice-president and C. E. Remer secretary and treasurer. Upon the death of Mr. Robinson in 1893 O. M. Pettit became president and C. D. Pettit, vice-president. The picture herewith will give a very fair idea of the magnitude of the plant, which covers fully a half block of ground surface, the main buildings being solid brick and stone, 150x80 feet in area and five stories high. The two elevators, buildings and warehouses, 80x80 in dimensions, have a storage capacity of 500,000 bushels.

The product of the company is marketed all over the United States. The freight rates and shipping facilities of Kenosha enable the company to compete with any other company in other parts of the country. The company has the reputation of turning out the very best quality of malt. Messrs. O. M. Pettit and C. E. Remer are both experts in the business and have a very thorough knowledge of the requirements of the trade.

The company holds memberships in both Chicago and Milwaukee exchanges and are therefore able to personally secure the best grades of barley. They pay special attention to the grades of barley purchased and generally find that the Wisconsin and Minnesota barley are the best. Thus the company is in a position to get the cream of every year.

O. M. Pettit, the president of the company, is a Kenosha boy from the ground up. He was born here June 28, 1854. He was given a good education, graduating from the State University of Wisconsin at Madison in 1873. Ever since that time he has been connected with the company. In the spring of 1891 Mr. Pettit was elected Mayor of Kenosha, and at the two succeeding elections was re-elected by enormous majorities. His administrations of the city affairs were so able that he bears the reputation of having been the best mayor Kenosha ever had.

Mr. Pettit is a Free Mason of high standing; is M. E. H P. of Kenosha Chapter, No. 3. R. A. M. and is serving his fourth term. He is also Past Eminent Commander of Racine Commandery, No. 7, and is one of the officers of Milwaukee Consistory, 32 degree, also a Noble of Tripoli Temple, A. A. Noble of the Mystic Shrine and an honored member of Chicago Palace of O. G.

O. M. PETTIT AT HIS DESK.


BARLEY ELEVATOR
MALT ELEVATOR
O.M. PETTIT
President
C.D. PETTIT
Vice Prest.
G.F. REMER
Sec'y Treas.
M.H. PETTIT,
MALTING Co.
KENOSHA
WIS
LEVYTYPE Co. CHI.

WILLIAM MATTOCKS FARR, M. D.

There are few men in Kenosha who are better or more favorably known than is Dr. William Mattocks Farr. He was born in Peacham, Vermont, but has spent all his life in Kenosha, and by his honorable and upright career has won the esteem of everybody. Like his father who died June 13, 1887, the doctor has been one of the leading practitioners in Kenosha county for many years.

William Mattocks Farr was born to Dr. and Mrs. Asahel Farr November 23, 1853, at Peacham, Vermont When the boy was but a few months old the father looked to the great west as the most promising field for his labors and so removed to Kenosha with his family in 1854. From that time on this city remained the home of the father and family. The present doctor came from some of the fine old revolutionary stock of this county, being able to trace his lineage back to a time three or four hundred years prior to the revolution, to Old England. He is a great-grandson of Jeremiah Wheeler, of Concord, N. H., who was one of the prime movers in the revolutionary spirit of his time and place. The line of the family in this country is almost all of the purest New Hampshire stock

Unlike many boys who are born to parents well-to-do in this world's goods, William Farr was taught by his mother that naught was of value in this world save as it was the fruit of toil, and that honest work was ennobling. In following out this teaching the lad in his early days solicited the position of janitor of the Congregational church, and received his first wages, which amounted to $2 per week, against the protest of his father. This same spirit has followed him all through life.

Like all the other boys of Kenosha he had the advantages early of a free public school system, and availed himself of them. Leaving the High school here he decided to take a course at Beloit college, with a view to becoming a preacher. Sickness overtook him, however, and this fact changed the course of his life. He had to give up his studies at Beloit and as soon as he had sufficiently recovered he decided upon medicine as his life work. He accordingly attended the Chicago Medical College, and graduated in the spring of 1878. He has been a practicing physician here ever since. For years he has been the local surgeon for the Chicago & Northwestern Railway company.

In politics Dr. Farr has always been a republican, but always one of the liberal kind, who could see good in other parties. He served one year as school commissioner. In the spring of 1894 he was requested by the republicans to head the municipal ticket. Not being a politician, but a public spirited citizen, he accepted the nomination and was elected. The main purpose of his taking this position was to carry out the purpose of giving to Kenosha a first class waterworks system. The problem of how this was to be done was one beset with a thousand difficulties, not the least among which was the indebtedness of the city. A plan

was successfully evolved which gave to Kenosha such a system as would be a credit tc the best city in the world of much greater size than Kenosha. In the furtherance of these plans Dr. Farr was re-elected twice to the mayoralty, retiring in the spring of 1897. It is also a noteworthy fact that he was the first mayor of Wisconsin to call in the state board of arbitration for the settlement of a labor difficulty. The difficulty was amicably settled. Upon his retiring from the mayoralty he was made a member of Gov. Scofield's staff, with the rank of Colonel.

During his earlier life the doctor was a member of the Congregational church, but for some years he has been a member of St. Matthews' Episcopal church.

Dr. Farr married Miss Beatrice Isabella Keith, of Chicago, July 17, 1879. Seven children have been the result of this union, all of whom are living except one. Their names in the order of birth are: Irving K. (dead), Elna Wheeler, Malcolm Douglas, Reginald Hadley, William Mattocks, Jr., Constance Irene and Rosalie Catherine.

RESIDENCE OF DR. W. M. FARR

The home of the Farr's is one of the pleasantest in Kenosha. It is situated so that it faces Central park, and presents a delightful outlook over that section of the city. It is one of the most hospitable homes in the city.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

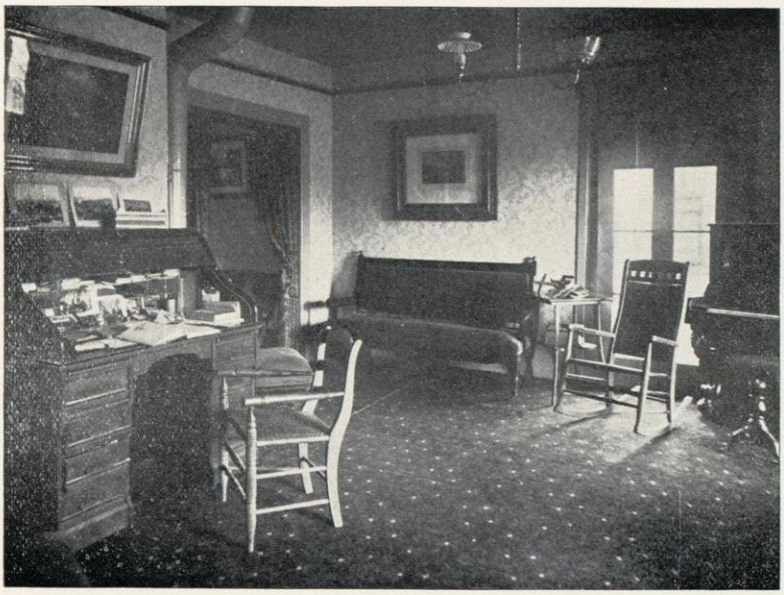
The Young Men's Christian Association has been in existence in Kenosha for eight years. Starting in rooms over the First National Bank, with small and inconvenient accommodations, the foundation was laid for the permanent establishment of an institution which has been and which will be of great benefits to the young men of the city. After four years the present property was purchased, and used for Association purposes to the present time. Within the last three months many changes and improvements have been made on the interior of the old building, and it now is the most attractive and comfortable place of resort for young men in the city. The object of the Association has always been the highest and truest development of young men. Its doors are open to every young man who has an ambition in life, and whose purpose is to attain it.

VIEW OF READING ROOM.

There is no other place in Kenosha where access can be had to the daily papers and other current literature. The Association is supplying this much felt need among the young men, by maintaining a first-class reading room. From 9 o'clock in the morning until 10 o'clock in the evening, men, whether members or not, are permitted the use of this room. It is a very cheerful, well lighted, carpeted room in which it is a pleasure to spend a few hours. Local dailies; Chicago, Milwaukee, Racine, Waukegan, St. Paul, St. Louis, Sioux City, Baltimore and New York papers are kept on file; also thirty-five daily and weekly papers from Wisconsin cities and towns, kindly furnished by one of the local newspaper offices. The best periodicals and magazines are upon the reading table, including the leading religious weeklies.

Any young man of good moral character and with satisfactory references, may have privileges of membership immediately upon filling out an application and paying the regular fee. A member of an evangelical church becomes an active member, otherwise an associate member. The Association lately adopted the permanent membership plan. When a young man becomes a member he is always a member, and engages to pay the annual fee until he gives notice of withdrawal.

The regular membership fee is three dollars, which entitles the holder to full privileges of library, reading room, games, parlor; to full social and religious privileges, bible classes and bath room.



INTERIOR VIEW OF PARLOR.

During the past year two hundred young men were enrolled, using the bath privileges, library and reading room. Many were helped in finding employment and otherwise assisted.

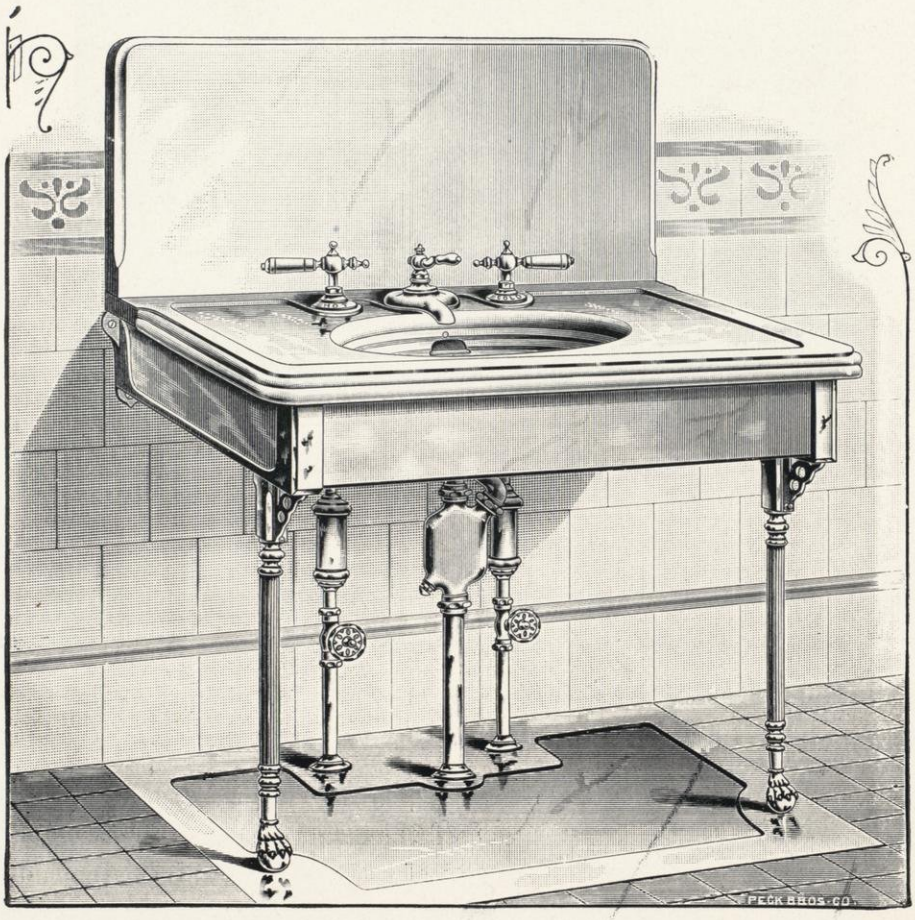
The game room is supplied with the best quiet games: Q-K, carroms, checkers and chess. These are for the use of members.

The present officers are A. E. Buckmaster, President; W. W. Cooper, Vice President; C H. Pfennig, Jr., Treasurer; W. G. Burr, Recording Secretary.

Directors: W. R. Cheever, C. F. Beachel, L. M. Thiers, I. W. Huff, E. B. Kipp, T. J. Marx, A. B. Ames, W. L. Hackley. F. B. Rose, General Secretary.

BURR BROTHERS.

Few firms in the city have shown more substantial progress along the line of building up business and extending their influence than has the firm doing business at 214 Park street under the name and style of Burr Bros. The firm is composed of E. B. Burr and W. G. Burr. The business was started at this stand May 1, 1889, and since that time it has grown to proportions which marks it today as one of the foremost in its line in Kenosha. The firm started out modestly, and rented the building in which it first did business. Misfortune overcame them on September 12, 1893, when the store and contents were destroyed by fire. Discouraging as such a thing as this was, it only determined the Burr Brothers to better themselves, and thus turn disaster into a victory. They set at work immediately to erect the present brick block for themselves, and thus added one of the most substantial business blocks to the city it had hitherto had. The block stands three stories high, and is 38x80 feet in size The business of the firm is transacted in one half of the first floor, and the American Express Company in the other. The second floor is leased for offices and a small hall, while the third floor is what is known as the Knights of Pythias castle hall. The building is provided with all the most modern conveniences with hot water heat.



Both the members of the firm are eastern men, having been born in Deanville, N. Y., E. B. Burr August 30, 1862 and W. G. Burr February 21, 1864. Since coming to Kenosha they have carried a full line of plumbing, steam and gas fitting supplies. They are always enterprising and at the front, having had some of the most important contracts let out in the city since their coming. They have just finished the job of putting in a full steam heating outfit at the Grant House. Their work is always to be relied upon and is always such as to inspire the public with confidence in them. E. B. Burr is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias while W. G. Burr has long been recognized as one of the moving spirits of the Y. M. C. A.

R. O. GOTTFREDSEN, JEWELER, AND JOHN McKUNE, PIANOS.

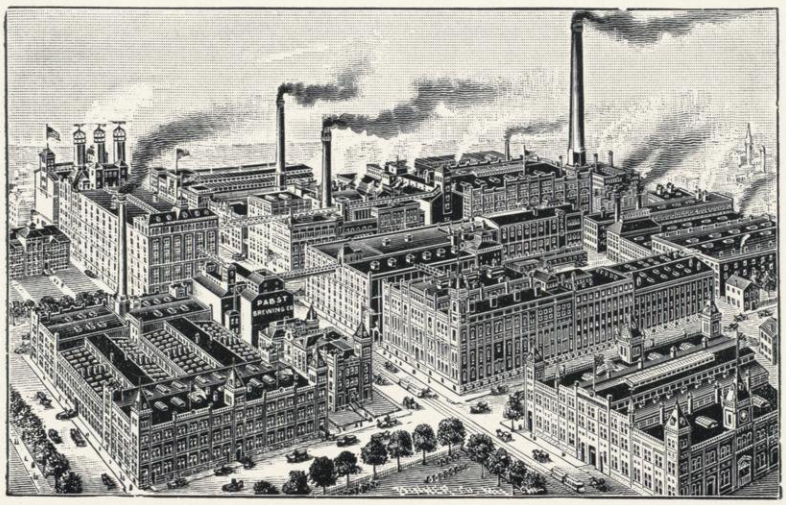
R. O. Gottfredsen, the oldest watchmaker and jeweler of Kenosha, has lived in this city since 1850. He carries a large and well-selected stock of watches and jewelry, in addition to which he has a stock of sheet music and musical instruments. Mr. Gottfredsen is, of course, a practical workman, having learned his trade in Copenhagen, Denmark. He has been very successful in Kenosha, and is one of the old-time respected citizens of the town.

John McKune, in the same store with R. O. Gottfredsen, deals in pianos, organs and sewing machines. Mr. McKune is a native of Wisconsin and came to Kenosha four years ago, where he established the first permanent piano and organ store in the city. He has been agent for the celebrated W. W. Kimball piano for twenty-one years, for which he created a arge and profitable trade. Mr. McKune is assisted by his son, Frank U. McKune.

PABST BREWING COMPANY, F. J. GOTTFREDSEN MGR. OF KENOSHA BRANCH

There is probably not a spot on the civilized globe where the name Pabst is not known and connected with the greatest beer producing plant in the world. True to the traditions of the name the Kenosha branch of that vast institution is the largest of any branch in the city. The business here is under the able management of F. J. Gottfredsen. He has about the bulk of the trade here, selling fully two-thirds of the beer consumed in this city. Mr. Gottfredsen is a practical brewer himself, having been for years connected with his father in the manufacture of beer. The firm was established in 1852, under the name of J. G. Gottfredsen & Son. The brewing part of the business was sold out in 1893 to the Pabst Brewing Company and F. J. Gottfredsen was appointed the local manager. The firm still retained the malting part of the business and still operate that on Milwaukee avenue. A large quantity of this malt is shipped every year to various breweries, in different parts of the country. This malt is made exclusively from Wisconsin barley, and is acknowledged throughout the country as the best on the market for this purpose.

Mr. Gottfredsen has not only the trade of Kenosha to look after, but he handles the trade of all the towns as far as Rockford, Ill., on the road running west from this city. The amount of the amber fluid which passes through the business channels under Mr. Gottfredsen's control is almost incredible.



PABST BUILDINGS AT MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Frederick J. Gottfredsen is purely a Kenosha product. He was born and reared here, and is, without a doubt, as widely known throughout the city and county as any man within their borders. He is one of those whole-souled, genial, generous hearted fellows, who would be bound to be well known to everybody, no matter what business he might be in.

LOUIS G. BOHMRICH.

Louis G. Bohmrich has long been identified with some of the most prominent of Kenosha's enterprises, so that it is not a stranger who is here introduced to the Kenosha public. Not only is he well known to Kenoshans, but he has a reputation which extends beyond the borders of the state as a chemist, as well as a lawyer.

Mr. Bohmrich was born in Germany, October 26, 1855. In his early years he received his common school education in the public schools of Germany. After he left the public schools he went to Koenigsburg, Prussia, where he studied the chemistry of grain and graduated as an expert malster.

Mr. Bohmrich came to America in 1880, and followed his chosen profession for five years in Cincinnati. During his residence in that city he met and wedded Miss Elizabeth Knauber. This important event took place September 12, 1882. Three daughters have come to Mr. and Mrs. Bohmrich, their names being Stella, Brunhilde and Louise.

In 1885 Mr. Bohmrich came to Kenosha and entered the employ of the M. H. Pettit Malting company. For seven years he occupied the position of their general agent in New York city, and in 1892 was promoted to the superintendency of the works in Kenosha. This position he occupied for three years. He then resigned to take up the study of law. He graduated from the Chicago College of Law, a branch of the Lake Forest University, in 1897, and very soon after took up the practice of his profession here. Scarcely had he hung his shingle out in its bid for business than he was made city attorney of the city of Kenosha by vote of the Common Council, and almost at the same time was engaged as one of the counsel for the defense in the famous murder trial of Adolph L. Luetgert. In this case he had charge of one of the most important branches of the testimony.

In politics Mr. Bohmrich is a Democrat and has taken prominent and active part in several of the state conventions of that party. He made the nominating speech at the time the Democratic party renominated Gov. Peck, and played a prominent part in the state convention of 1896.

Besides his other work Mr. Bohmrich has written many scientific reports on the culture of grain for diastatic purposes, and has contributed somewhat to the political discussions of the day, both through the newspapers and from the stump. He is considered a very effective orator by the managers of his party.

In 1896 when a movement was set afoot looking toward a celebration of the semi-centennial of the state in 1898 Mr. Bohmrich was made committeeman for the First Congressional district, but owing to the fact that sufficient funds were not guaranteed for the enterprise it was not carried out.

The hardware business of C. A. Dewey was established in Kenosha in 1868, and from the start has been one of the leading merchantile houses. Mr. Dewey owns the large brick building he now occupies. It is a two-story and basement brick building 21x120 feet in size, with an L running out to Park street 40x40 feet. The capacity of this building is tested to the utmost to accommodate the immense stock of goods always kept on hand. A full line of stoves and ranges of all kinds forms a very important feature of the business, and particular attention is paid to the quality of the goods offered for sale. Another very important part of the business is the trade in agricultural implements A specialty is made of builders hardware. Their tin working department is supplied with the latest and best appliances for jobbing work.

INTERIOR VIEW C. A. DEWEY'S HARDWARE STORE.

Mr. Dewey has interested with him in the business his son, C. E. Dewey, who has charge of a large part of the work and is an enterprising and energetic young man.

Mr. Dewey is a native of Vermont. He came to Kenosha County with his parents at an early date and settled in Paris, this county. He went into his present business in 1868, and has followed it ever since. He has won a reputation as a reliable, enterprising and public spirited business man and is known as a man of ability and integrity He has held various offices of trust and responsibility which he has filled with great satisfaction. He is always loyal to Kenosha and its welfare, and is always found among the foremost in work for the city.

C. J. GRONQUIST.

C. J. Gronquist is one of the leading dealers in boots and shoes in the city. His stock is large and carefully selected, and he has a large and lucrative trade. Mr. Gronquist is one of the solid business men of Kenosha and his store is one of the neatest and most attractive in this line anywhere.

He has made a success of business since he came to Kenosha, and has built an elegant residence at the corner of Park and Congress streets, the cut of which we herewith produce.

RESIDENCE OF C. J. GRONQUIST.

CHARLES A. DICKHAUT, Architect

He also owns the fine store building where he conducts his prosperous business. In 1897 Mr. Gronquist visited his old home in Sweden, and greatly enjoyed a well earned vacation.

Mr. Gronquist belongs to the secret order of Free Masons and is also an I. O. O. F., and has held high offices in both fraternities. He has also been one of the leading Republicans of the city, always willing to give his time and influence (which is considerable), for the success of the party and has never asked anything in return for his services.

The second floor of his new store building has lately been fitted up to make the finest middle-sized halls in the city.

Pitts & De Berge are dealers in paints, wall paper, awnings, bicycles, sporting goods and jobbers of wrapping paper, twine, etc., and have been in the business here for the past eight years. They are by far the largest dealers of these goods in the city. They are both pushing young business men and being such large dealers always buy their stock direct from the factories and give their patrons the benefit in reduced prices They occupy the large

INTERIOR OF PITTS & DE BERGE'S STORE.

store next to the post office. They also control the large hall immediately over this store and post office, known as Simmons' Hall, which they have fixed up in elegant style, thus giving to the people of Kenosha a fine, large hall for public meetings, fairs, dances, etc., which is greatly appreciated. This popular firm is particularly crowded with business during the Christmas holidays, at which time they have an immense trade.

J. E. KRICHBAUM.

Joseph E. Krichbaum is the latest rival in the field bidding for undertaking honors in Kenosha, but during the short time he has been here he has made himself known in almost every quarter of the city by his quiet, gentlemanly manners and his genial good humor. Notwithstanding the fact that he has been here only a short time, he has had some of the most notable funerals in the city under his direction. Mr. Krichbaum is a regular graduate funeral director and embalmer, having graduated from the Chicago College of Embalming in 1895. He came to Kenosha in July of 1896 and immediately went into business at 261 Market Square. Mrs. Krichbaum, his wife, assists him with lady calls when desired, she being also a practical embalmer.

Mr. Krichbaum was born in Campbellstown, Ohio, in 1860. His father enlisted in the Union cause in the war, and was one of those who were able to pay the price of his devotion to his country with his life. After the father was killed the family moved to Bloomington, Illinois, at which place the family resided and Joseph grew to manhood's estate and lived until he came to Kenosha at the date mentioned.

Mr. Krichbaum belongs to several of the popular and insurance organizations, among them being the Free Masons, Knights of Pythias, National Union and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

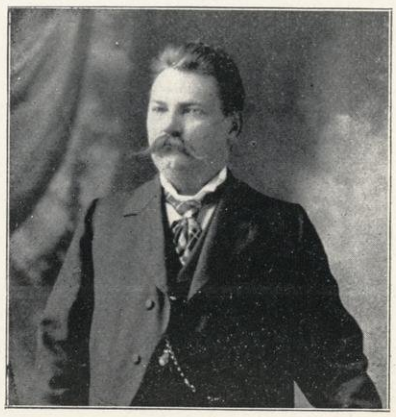
Among the most solid and substantial of Kenosha's business men Ernst Franke deserves high rank. He is a German, having been born in August of 1843, in Riosa, Saxony, Germany. He came to America in 1854, after he had attended the schools of his native place but five years. He was still young when he reached Kenosha and he finished all the education he was able to get from the schools by attending six months at a country school. The necessities of life forced themselves upon the boy at this time and he was obliged to support himself. Accordingly in 1859 or 1860 he went into the fishing business on Lake Michigan. He remained in this business until 1876, when he retired to establish himself in the butcher and meat business. He has followed this business from that time to this. The place of business is in a two story frame building at No. 105 Union street, at the corner of Pine street.

ERNST FRANKE.

Mr. Franke is one of the Aldermen of the Fourth ward, in which capacity he is serving his second term. He was elected to this position the first time in 1887 and was elected president of the board. His last election dates from the spring of 1897. Besides his other interests in the city Mr. Franke owned until recently a large farm about four miles from the city on the Burlington road, in the town of Somers. This he sold in December of 1896. He is well known for his straightforward business dealings and integrity of character.

Notwithstanding the fact that the "Brassville Bakery" is not located in the business street, where it can catch the eye of sight seers, it is nevertheless one of the most important of Kenosha's business houses. It is conducted by George Richter, and its trade reaches to every section of the city, with as much enterprise and push as though it occupied a two or three story front on Main street. The building in which its business is done would not detract from some of the Main street buildings, since it is a very substantial structure of 40x241 feet in dimensions. The business was first established in 1891 and it has rapidly increased and built up since that time.

George Richter was born in Germany, Feb. 22, 1855. He learned the baker and confectionery business when a young man and has followed it ever since Mr. Richter's goods are highly esteemed by all who have tried them. He personally superintends the baking of all the goods which go into his ovens. Mr. Richter is a popular member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the German Workingmen's society.

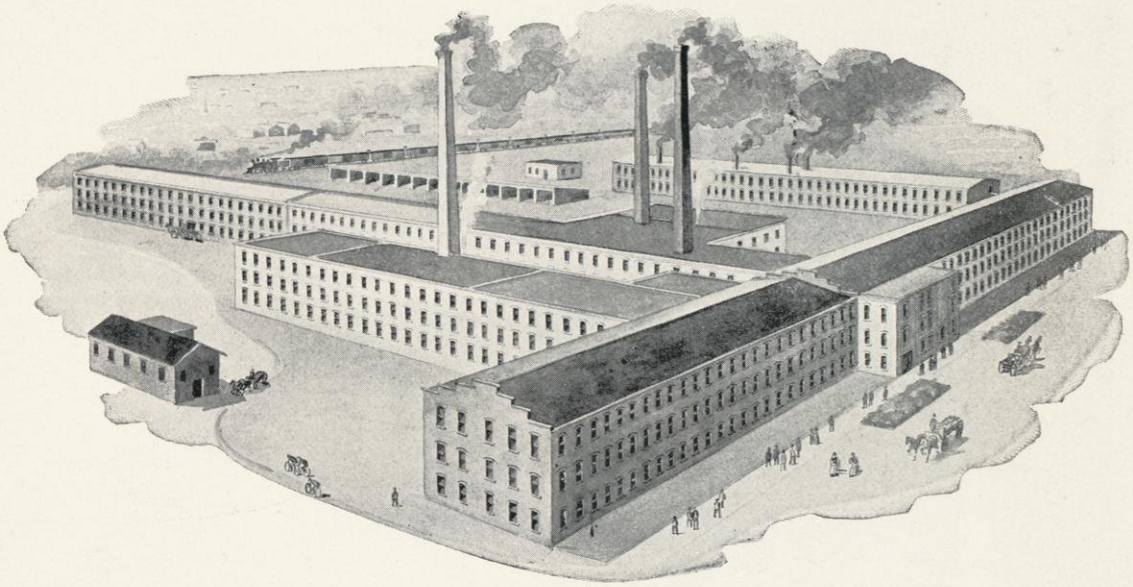


GEORGE RICHTER.

CHAS. H. SIEG MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

There is no concern in the United States which has shown more forcibility, by its enormous growth, the results of energy, perseverance and sticktoitiveness when applied to a conservative, careful business policy. This great establishment started in a modest way five years ago, and has taken each round up the ladder of fame with a firmness of footing that meant no slipping.

Today it has an international reputation which is second to none, and a reputation which has been gained by honest construction of bicycles, at prices which are in keeping with the true value of the product. This great establishment is now the chief source of supply for

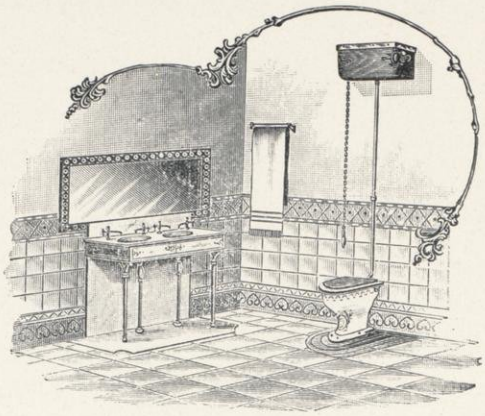


FACTORY OF CHAS. H. SIEG MANUFACTURING CO.

the twelve largest bicycle dealers in the world, and bicycles manufactured by the Chas. H. Sieg Manufacturing Co. are being ridden in every civilized country on the globe. The annual output of this factory is equal to the combined products of any other three largest bicycle manufacturies in this country. Kenosha is proud of this great industry, and points to this great factory as one of the chief objects of commercial interest.

This plant employs a large force of men, and is running full force all day and half the night. Good wages are paid, and many of the employees have settled in Kenosha, becoming permanent citizens, buying homes and thus building up the city. Spending their earnings with our home merchants, the value of this factory to Kenosha and her citizens is inestimable.

Sanitary Plumbing



Stands in closer relationship with the health of a community than any other business, trade or profession.

Steam and Hot Water ...Heating...

No home is comfortable unless properly heated. Steam or Hot Water are acknowledged by physicians and architects to be the best methods.

GAS FITTING.

Though but a small item in the cost of your building, should always be included. It should be well done as leaks are dangerous

Charles H. Goodman

212 WISCONSIN STREET.

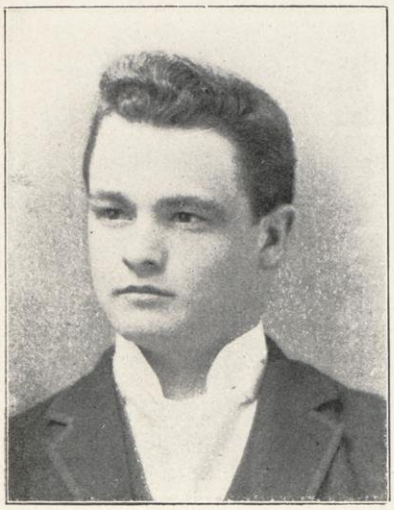
Lentz & Funck are dealers in groceries, crockery, glassware, etc. Started in business in 1876 and in 1893 bought the large three-story double store building on the northwest corner of Main and Park streets, where they are now located.

Mr. Philip Lentz is a native of Germany, has been in America a number of years, most of the time in Kenosha. He was employed for ten years as bookkeeper with the firm of William Ernst, and by strict attention to his duties and economy he accumulated sufficient capital to enable him to join business with Mr. Funck.

LENTZ & FUNCK BUILDING.

Mr. Morris Funck, the other member of the firm, was born at Lurenburg, Germany Sept. 22, 1846, where he was educated. He was for a time in the employ of Marshall Field & Co., where he completed his business education. He has been in Kenosha for a number of years, and the two gentlemen form the largest grocery firm doing business in the city.

Both understand the grocery business thoroughly and that their customers appreciate this fact is shown by their large and constantly increasing business. Strict attention to business has made the name of Lentz & Funck stand for good groceries, straight dealing and right treatment in Kenosha, and a bright business future is evidently before them.



JAMES A. KENNARD.

Kenosha is a city of young men. Young men start the wheels in her factory and young men largely control her mercantile interests. Among the latter none are better known than James A. Kennard, the Main street baker and confectioner, and his establishment is one of the most popular on the street.

Mr. Kennard was born in Ford county, Illinois, on Dec. 6, 1870, and spent the early years of his life learning his trade as a baker. During the World's Fair Mr. Kennard was married to Miss Nora Erb, and in April, 1897, Mr. and Mrs. Kennard came to Kenosha and began the bakery and restaurant business in the stand which had been occupied for years by Henry Halberstadt.

The new proprietors of the bakery were not known in Kenosha, but by steady attention to business they not only held the customers of his predecessor but added many new ones to the list, until his business now is a most successful one. Good home dinners and lunches served in the pleasantly arranged dining room soon gave Mr. Kennard's restaurant a warm place among the business men of the city, many of whom have become regular boarders at this modern cafe.

Beginning business on a small scale and with a small equipment, but during the short time he has been in business he has added to his stock and equipment until now it is modern in every feature.

James Pennefeather, the subject of this brief sketch, is a Kenosha boy from the ground up, and while he engages in the real estate, loans and insurance business at this time, he has always been closely allied with the political history of Kenosha city and county.

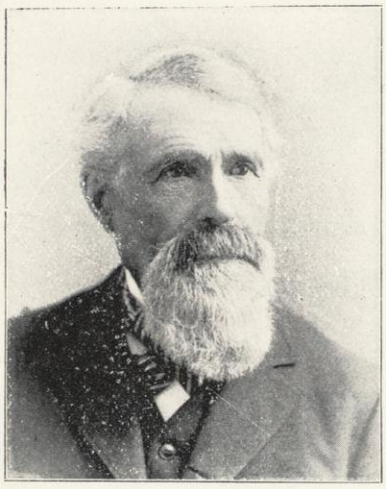
JAMES PENNEFEATHER.

Mr. Pennefeather was born in the town of Wheatland, Kenosha county, on Feb. 22, 1857. His early education was received from the district schools after which he went to the high school and the seminary at Rochester, Wis. When his education had been completed he turned his attention to teaching, beginning his work in the educational line when he was eighteen years of age, and for seven years he taught in Racine and Kenosha counties. In April, 1881, Mr. Pennefeather made his entrance into politics by being elected town clerk in his native town, which office he held until the fall of 1882, when he was elected register of deeds on the democratic ticket. This office he held for eight years,

and during this time he won the respect and confidence of all by his gentlemanly ways and the manner in which he performed the duties of his office. After his service as registrar he was elected school commissioner and in the spring of 1893 he was chosen superintendent of the schools of the city. In 1896 he was elected justice of the peace and served two years.

Mr. Pennefeather has also been well known in state democratic politics and in 1891 he held the position of clerk in the Wisconsin legislature. In politics Mr. Pennefeather was always a democrat and he has rendered valliant service to his party in many a hard fought campaign.

On June 6, 1889, Mr. Pennefeather was married to Miss Celia Rafferty of this city, and of this union five children were born.



JASON LOTHROP.

Jason Lothrop, the present county surveyor, is one of the landmarks of Kenosha county, and has been very influential in the development of Kenosha as she is today.

Mr. Lothrop was one of the pioneer settlers in Kenosha county. Born in Newport, Herkimer county, New York, on January 23, 1820, of good old Puritan parentage his early life laid a foundation for his sterling manhood. Shortly after his berth his father, Rev. Jason Lothrop moved west and built the first frame house on the ground which later became Kenosha.

Four years later Mr. Lothrop followed his father and invested what money he had saved in land adjoining the parental homestead. However, he returned to the east and worked at his trade as a ship carpenter until 1844, when he came to Kenosha county again and took up his permanent home here.

At this time the elder Lothrop was a surveyor and the son soon drifted into this line of work. Learning the business under difficulties he learned it well and his practiced hand has been instrumental in placing nearly every boundry in the county. His merits were soon recognized and for over 40 years his fellow citizens have shown their confidence in him by making him either county surveyor or assistant in this important office.

In 1842 Mr. Lothrop was married to Miss Jane Burnsides of Orange, New York. Of this union five children were born, but only one, Charles S. Lothrop, survived. The latter is now engaged as a conductor on the St. Paul & Duluth road. While rapidly nearing four score years in age the county surveyor is hale and hearty and his eye is as steady as when he laid the first stakes in Southport over fifty years ago.

Foremost among the business institutions of Kenosha is the hardware firm of Redeker & English. While comparatively young the enterprise is a big and healthy infant, with a disposition to hustle and a plenty of the solidity behind it to account for its present degree of prosperity as well as to substantiate the general prediction for its future success. It was only five years ago, on the 3d of July, 1893, that Messrs. Redeker & English, located in the present building adjoining the First National Bank, threw open their doors to the business public and took position among the dealers of the city. From its incipiency the plant has grown.

INTERIOR VIEW OF REDEKER & ENGLISH'S HARDWARE STORE.

With characteristic push and ability the firm has expanded the scope of its business, enlarging stock to meet any and all possible demands and in every way filling the requirements of a first-class hardware in a flourishing city. The result is that the enterprise has grown many fold and today occupies a position of undisputed influence in this community.

G. V. Redeker, the senior member of the firm, was born in Orange county, New York, in 1842. He received his early education at the place of his birth. When but a youth of 18

years he enlisted from Ulster, New York, in Co. M, 15th Regiment of Artillery, and served with them until mustered out at the close of the war. He came west in '68 and for some time worked in the foundry of his uncle, George VanArsdale. Later he entered the hardware business under the employ of C. A. Dewey, whom he left some years afterward to travel in the interest of Hubbard, Spencer, Bartlet & Co., Chicago, and removed his family to Fond du Lac, where he resided for thirteen years. At that time he returned to Kenosha and with Mr. English began the business in which he is at present engaged.

John English, Mr. Redeker's co-partner, is a Kenosha product. He was born in this county in 1855, the son of Patrick English. His two brothers are also business men. From the ground up Mr. English has been trained for the business to which he devotes his attention. After completing his education he worked with his father, who conducted a large hardware trade in the building now occupied by Bode Bros. When his father finally sold out his stock to Bain and Dewey, John continued his work in the store of C. A. Dewey, where he remained until, with Mr. Redeker, he embarked upon his present business.

FREDERICK L. BECKER.

Among the great number of sturdy German early settlers whose influence has been so potent in the upbuilding of Kenosha and her varied interests none are better known than Frederick L. Becker, the genial wagon maker, who works early and late at his shop on Market Square, turning out the best vehicles that honest labor and honest materials can produce.

Mr. Becker was born in the Rhine province in Prussia on March 19, 1839.

When only fourteen years of age he left his German home and sailed for America, arriving at Kenosha in September, 1853. As soon as he had established himself in Kenosha he began to work at the shops of the Bain Wagon Works, and at the bench in these shops he learned the way to make wagons and to make good wagons.

In 1883 he resigned his position in the Bain shops and with the good will of his former employers opened a business of his own at the stand where he may be found today.

Mr. Becker has been twice married. In November 1862 he was married to Miss Minnie Baumann, of Waukegan. Mrs. Becker died in 1890, and in the fall of 1893 he was married to his present wife, who was formerly Miss Minnie Schumacher, a daughter of the late Gottleib Schumacher.

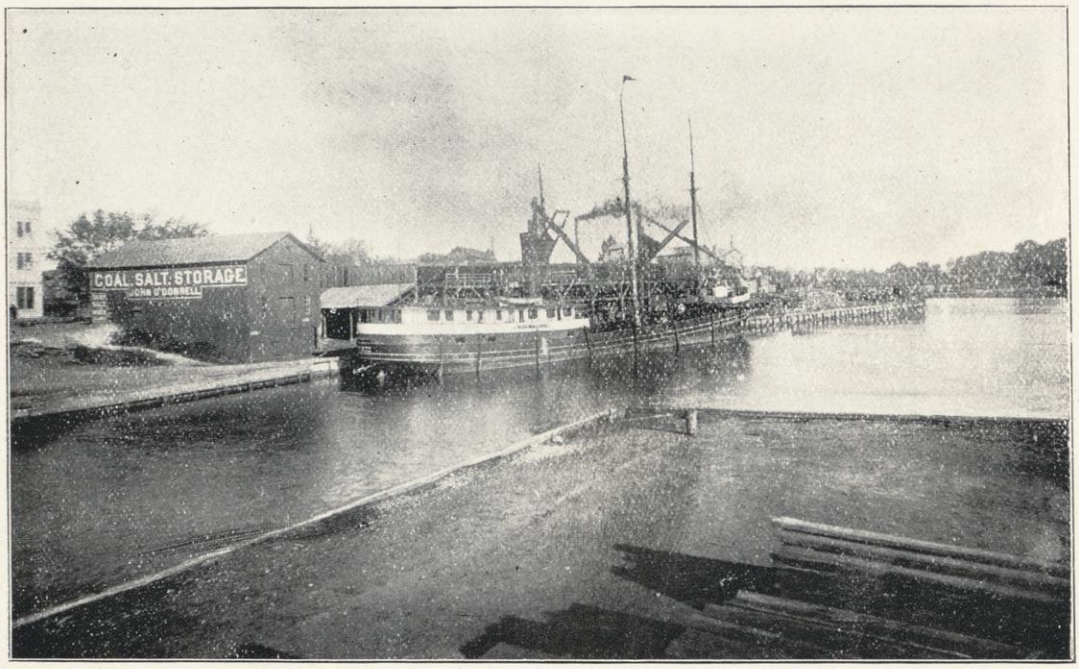
Mr. Becker is the father of four boys and one girl. They are Edward, who is an able and competent assistant of his father in the wagon making business; Fred, Frank and Charles, the latter two being engaged in business at Madison, Wis. His daughter is Mrs. Charles Henche of this city.

Mr. Becker is one of the pillers of the German Methodist church in Kenosha and is rightfully admired by his friends as an honest christian gentleman.

John O'Donnell,

DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF

Hard and Soft Coal,

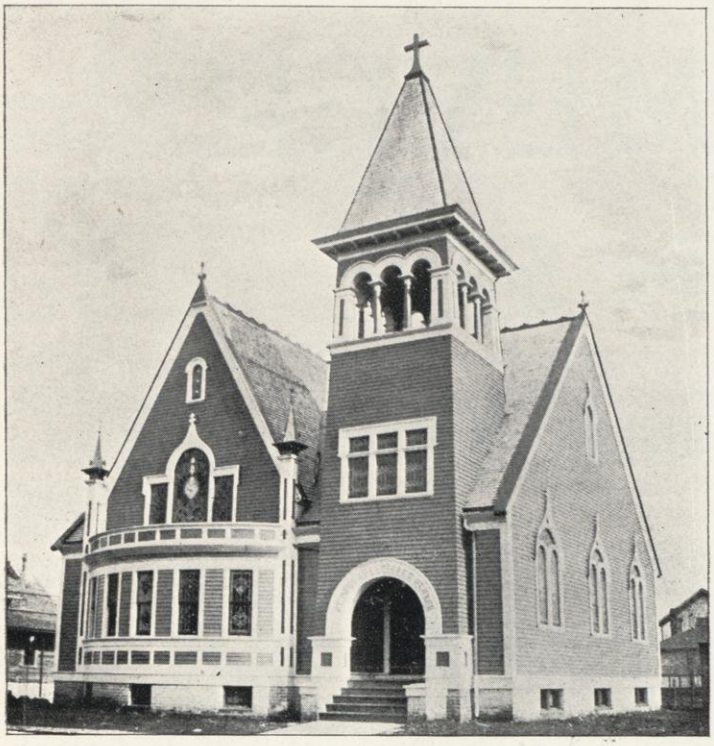


VIEW OF O'DONNELL DOCK AND COAL YARD.

Wood, Slabs and Salt.

NORTH END OF MAIN STREET BRIDGE.

TELEPHONE NO. 43



SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran St. Paul's church, which is the newest church building in the city, is located at the corner of Pearl and Third streets.

The society which worship in the church was founded in June, 1892, by Rev. G. K. Stark, the present pastor of the church. Services were held in the Unitarian church and Central Music Hall until March, 1897, when it was decided to erect an edifice. Several years before a lot had been purchased when Rev. A. Edgren was pastor of the church, and in May, 1898, the church began to raise its walls to the sky, and the completed structure was dedicated on November 27, 1898. The church numbers among its members about one hundred and twenty-five of the best Swedish families, and with their beautiful church home their future seems exceedingly bright.

The present pastor, Rev. G. K. Stark, is known as one of the most highly educated and progressive ministers in the Illinois conference of the Swedish Lutheran church. He was born in Eksjo, Sweden, on January 15, 1867, but has spent most of his life in the United States. Rev. Stark, being naturally of literary tastes, entered the Augustana College, Rock Island, where he acquired his college education. Later he decided to enter the ministry and graduated from the Theological school of the same Institution in 1894.

REV. G. K. STARK.

Finding a few, scattering Swedish families here, he organized them into a society, which gives promise of being one of the strongest church organizations in the city.

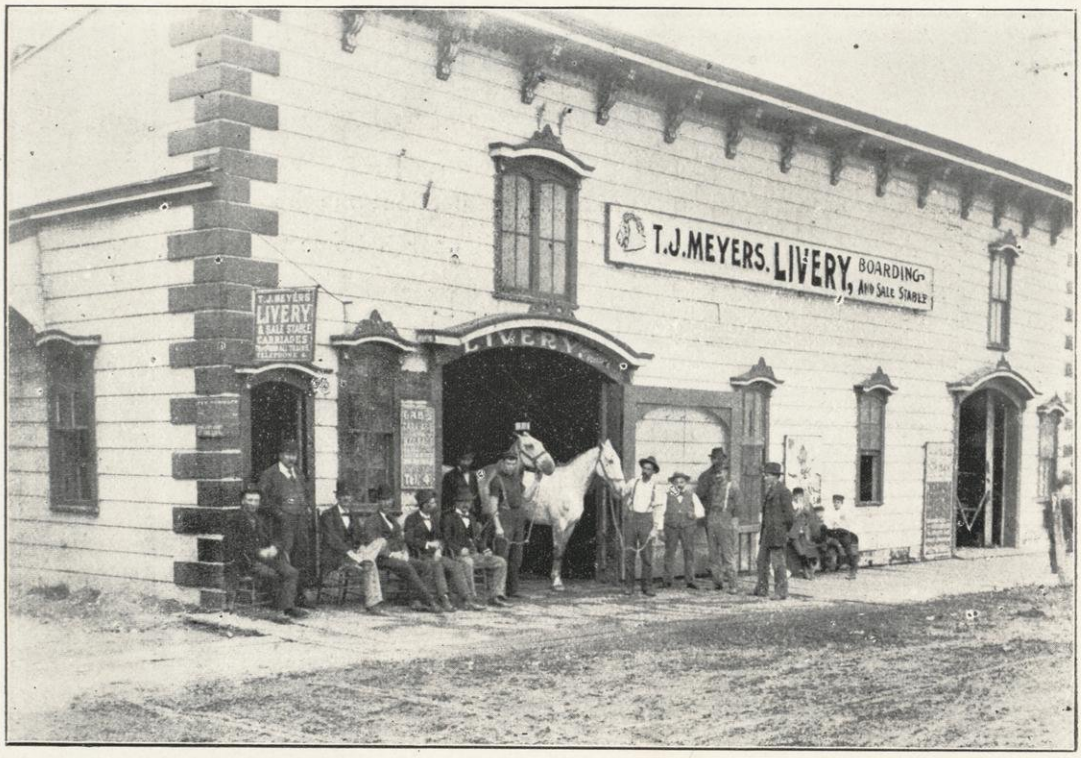
Rev. Stark was married in October, 1894, to Miss Jennie V. Peterson, of Rockford, Ill.

First Class Services. *Finest Rigs in the City.*

T. J. MEYERS,

Livery, Sale And Boarding Stable.

MARKET SQUARE. TELEPHONE No. 4.



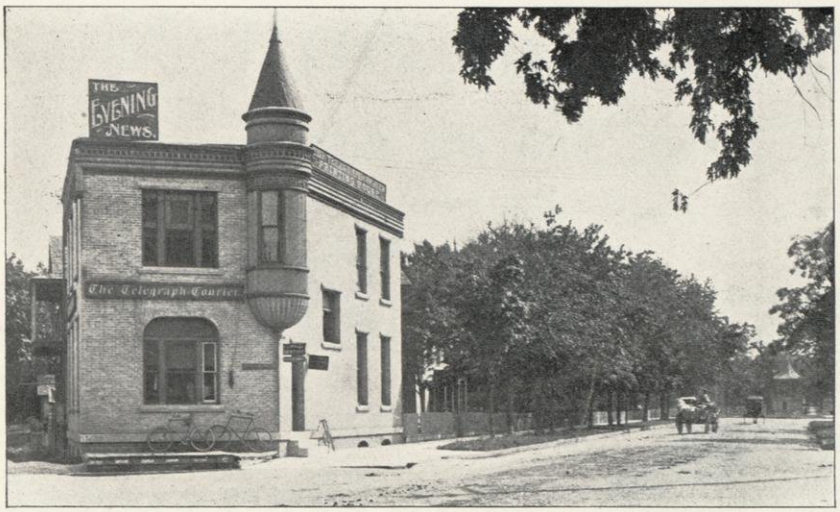
Fine Line of New Hacks, White and Black Car

Cabs or Carriages to and from all Trains.

The principal newspapers of Kenosha are the Telegraph-Courier, published every week on Thursday, and the Evening News, published every evening except Sunday.

The first number of the newspaper, now the Telegraph-Courier, was issued by C. L. Sholes June 17, 1839, making it the oldest paper published in the northwest. This publication, however, has seen many changes since that time and is now under the management of Head & Hewitt. The circulation of the Telegraph-Courier is double that of any other paper published in Kenosha county.

The Evening News is run under the same management and, although only in its fifth year, has doubled its original size and doubled its circulation within the past twelve months and is now recognized as the most progressive daily paper published in any town the size of Kenosha in the state. No pains or expense have been spared to bring the papers up to their present standard. A complete outfit of new machinery and furnishings have been added to the plant, making the job department as complete as the rest.



TELEGRAPH-COURIER AND EVENING NEWS BUILDING.

From its incipiency the Evening News has prospered. Notwithstanding the enterprise was launched when there was a universal cry of hard times its career from the first has been a successful one. It seemed to fill a want and sprung into strength and vigor with remarkable rapidity, and when Mr. Hall sold out was in a very healthy condition. From '96 to '97 it continued its growth. During the last year, however, its development has been phenomenal. A year ago the Evening News was a four page paper with a patent outside. At the time that seemed sufficient for all the needs, but in a marvelously short time it became apparent that the old system would no longer answer. In order to accommodate the advertisers more space was imperative. Accordingly the size of the paper was doubled. From being four pages it was increased to eight with the inside printed abroad. It is now all printed at home.

H. C. SCHULZ.

Another thriving Kenosha concern is the hardware business conducted by H. C. Schulz on Park street. Years of experience have taught Mr. Schulz all the details of his line of business, and native enterprise has pushed his venture to a successful issue. He is a democrat and has been one of the leading spirits of his party in this community ever since the beginning of his career in our midst. In all things, at all times true to his party, he felt compelled by the dictates of his best judgment to take issue with his old associates when the silver question arose, and as a consequence became one of the comparatively small, but still influential party of gold Democrats in this county.

Mr. H. C. Schulz came to Kenosha in 1878, from New York City, where he had been associated with the firm of Walter G. I. Wheeler for a number of years. Starting the Farm Machinery business here on a small scale, his push and energy, and positive personal attention to the business soon increased his business to such an extent that he was rated the largest Implement Dealer in Southern Wisconsin.

In 1883 and 1884 he bought the property on Park street now occupied by him, and after re-modeling same obtained a splendid store and warehouse. He then added hardware to his stock, and afterwards a Tin and Sheet Iron shop, and lately Plumbing and Sewer Pipe, so that at the present time he has a full and complete line in all the various branches of his large business.

Mr. Schulz is identified with the growth of Kenosha, and has been associated with nearly all its improvements, and ready and willing at all times to give time and money to anything which would be of permanent benefit to the city. He resides with his son, Charles E., in his elegant new home on Exchange street.

An earnest, cautious and enthusiastic spirit has been a strong character in his make up, and by his honest and faithful work in whatever he undertook has caused himself to be honored and respected by all who have came in contact with him in a business or social way.

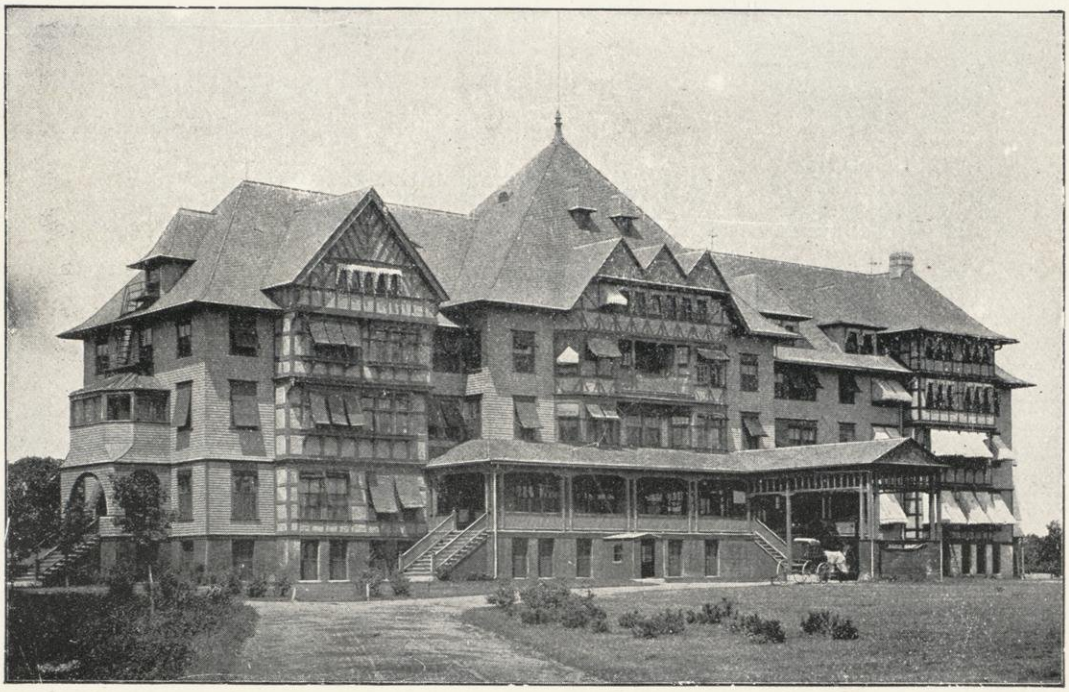
During his twenty years residence in Kenosha he has seen the city grow from a practically small and dead city to a large and flourishing one, and it is with pride that he can point to the many manufacturing industries that have been induced to locate here and make the city what it is today, as he has used his time, money and influence to that end.

Mr. Schulz has always been an enthusiastic member of Pike Woods Camp, Modern Woodmen of America, and has always worked for the success of that order.

The Pennoyer Sanitarium is the outgrowth of the old Kenosha Water Cure, founded by Mr. E. Pennoyer more than thirty years ago. But the elder Pennoyer built greater than he knew, for on the ruins of the old water cure has arisen a model modern sanitarium, which has been given the title of the "New Point Comfort."

The new sanitarium is under the management of Dr. N. A. Pennoyer, and the officers of the sanitarium are N. A. Pennoyer, M. D., President and Treasurer; G. M. Pennoyer, Vice-President, and A. Pennoyer, Secretary.

The sanitarium has become a very popular health resort, and summer and winter its halls and corridors are thronged with guests. The one thing, perhaps, which most impresses



THE PENNOYER SANITARIUM.

a visitor is the cheerful, home like air, with scarcely a suggestion of either hospital or hotel, though combining the best features of both, with an indescribable something which distinctly and pleasantly differentiates it and places the sanitarium in a class by itself. The polished wood floors; the large and tastefully furnished rooms, each with abundance of light and with an individuality of its own; the solarium where one can bask in the sun in winter or enjoy the breezes from the lake in summer; the noiseless hydraulic elevator; the home-like parlor and pleasant dining hall, with cuisine healthful and palatable and daintily enough served to tempt an epicure, are some of the things that impress one at first sight, and make him feel that invalidism under such circumstances and with such surroundings would have to be confirmed if it did not soon yield to health and elasticity of body and spirits.

Thomas Hansen, County Treasurer, is a native of Denmark, coming to Kenosha at the age of seventeen, where he has since lived. In his earlier years he was a carpenter, and twenty years ago opened his present business, the most complete and elegant undertaking establishment in Wisconsin. Mr. Hansen is a professional in his line of work, and is one of the organizers of the Wisconsin Funeral Directors Association. His fellow-workers have demonstrated their appreciation of his efforts by three times electing him president of the association.

Mr. Hansen is a practical embalmer, having graduated from several schools of embalming. He is treasurer of Kenosha county, and is a member of many societies. In most

THOMAS HANSEN.

of the societies to which he belongs he has held responsible positions, and has always been one of the foremost workers for their success and is always ready to help in time of need. He is looked upon by his brother members as one of the "stand by's."

Mr. Hansen has served the county of Kenosha as its treasurer for four years, and at the last election was known as "Old twelve hundred," he having received over twelve hundred majority for the office of County Treasurer and was one of the most popular candidates of the election, not only in the city but throughout the county, where he enjoys an extended acquaintance, and to know him is to respect him.

Mr. Hansen resides on Main street, while adjoining on South street are his undertaking parlors.