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Marr & Richards Engraving Co.
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Pam 57 - 1335

Homeseekers'

Hand Book of Information

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WIS. HISTOR. SOCIETY.

Relative to the

Advantages

... of ...

Price County, Wisconsin.

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ENGLISH

A FARM
FOR
EVERY
MAN

Choice lands, suitable for stock raising, dairying or grain producing. Timber unsurpassed. Within easy reach of railroads, schools and churches in

Northern
Wisconsin along the line of the

WISCONSIN CENTRAL RAILROAD
IN PRICE COUNTY.

We will gladly furnish general information and promptly answer all inquiries concerning them. Address for free pamphlet

FREDERICK ABBOT,
Land Commissioner, Wisconsin Central Railroad,
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Pam. 57-1335

Hand Book of Price County

PREPARED BY THE

BOARD OF IMMIGRATION,

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE COUNTY BOARD.

1896.

BOARD OF IMMIGRATION.

O. A. JOHNSON, President,
Ogema.

J. D. ROWLAND,
Secretary Business Men's Association, Phillips.

JULIUS KOEHLER, Secretary,
Phillips.

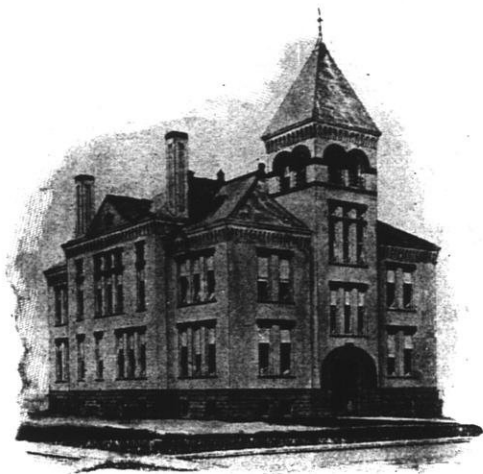
J. W. EMERSON,
Prentice.

GAVIN DAVIS,
Field.

H. J. SOETEBEER,
Georgetown.

J. F. GORMAN,
Kennan.

THE MAP PUBLISHED HEREWITH, KINDLY FURNISHED BY MR. FREDERICK ABBOT, LAND COMMISSIONER W. C. R. R.



Price County Court House.

INTRODUCTION.



RICE COUNTY sends greeting to the home-seeker, calls his attention to her broad acres of rich and productive lands and invites him to come and see.

During the past few months, and particularly since the State Board of Immigration entered upon its commendable work, there has been a remarkable increase of interest in the matter of settlement in Price County. Many have come and many are coming, while many more hesitating because of their lack of knowledge of the country and its resources, are making diligent inquiry by letter and otherwise as they find opportunity; and it is in order that such inquiries may be fully and properly answered, and the intending settler may become possessed of facts upon which he may safely base the determination of his course, this hand book is published. It is a plain unvarnished and authoritative statement, not made for the purpose of aiding in the disposition of lands regardless of their value for agricultural purposes, but that those relying upon them may find success, and the County thereby secure substantial and lasting benefit.



One of the beautiful inland lakes of Price County, of which there is such a vast number.

IN GENERAL.



Price County comprises thirty-five congressional townships, and has an area of 1,680 square miles or about 800,000 acres. It is situated near the center of the great forest region of Northern Wisconsin. Here are the head waters of many tributaries of the great rivers of Wisconsin and these, together with the many small lakes scattered over the County, afford excellent drainage.

Two trunk lines of Railroad extend across the County, one, the Wisconsin Central, from North to South, and the other, M., St. P. & Ste. M. (commonly called "The Soo Line") from East to West. These afford direct communication with all the great centers and markets of the Northwest.

The population of the County according to the last census, is 7,257, and nearly 50 per cent. of this number are living upon farms. The cities and villages are steadily growing in population and wealth, as well as the farming districts, as new and important enterprises find footing in them. Among the industries established in the several towns may be mentioned: pine and hardwood lumber mills, tanneries, paper and pulp mills, box factories, wagon and sleigh factories, etc.

Four newspapers are published in the County, viz.: *The Phillips Times*, *The Phillips Bee*, *The Prentice Calumet* and the *Park Falls Herald*, the first two published at Phillips and the latter at Prentice and Park Falls respectively. The editors of these papers will be pleased to furnish copies of their respective papers to intending settlers seeking additional information.

The location of the cities and villages of the County are shown upon the accompanying map. They are all busy and thriving centers, each having a prosperous farming community surrounding.



Home of Julius Koehler, Secretary of our Board. His barns are to the left and not shown in this view. The vegetables show what can be raised on our lightest soil.

CLIMATE.

Seasonable weather brings about the best results in the development of animal and vegetable life. Our climate is seasonable. The winters are cold, likewise steady and free from "break-ups." The atmosphere is dry, the winds light and unfrequent, while throughout the season the ground is coated with snow to an average depth of about eighteen inches. The advantages of these conditions are obvious. By its ample covering of snow the ground is protected from killing frost; by reason of the absence of winds and lack of excessive moisture, discomforts and inconvenience are not experienced; because of unchangeableness of weather, the good health of man and beast is unaffected. Splendid roads and easy hauling are additional advantages, when from the nature of things our winter season is as busy a time as any other. Enforced idleness at any season of the year is an unknown condition here. In winter the farmer, besides attending to the ordinary requirements of the farm, cuts and skids his timber, hauls up the fuel which he cut in the fall, hauls his tan bark and his railroad ties, his spruce pulp wood, basswood bolts and cedar poles, and perhaps finds it to his advantage to take his team into the logging camps and put in from six weeks to two months at good wages.

Spring and summer enter upon the performance of their functions with the steadiness and zest of their predecessor. Under a warm sun and with a rain fall which in amount exceeds by two hundred per cent. that of the prairie regions, all vegetation fairly bursts forth from the soil. Throughout the summer the days are warm, and the growth of plants can almost be seen; the nights, however, are uniformly cool. What a blessing! What workman does not appreciate this? And will it be said that brute creation fails to return silent thanks?

THE SOIL.

Although the topic of the soil is one of chiefest importance, we do not elaborate upon it for the reason that it is most thoroughly and scientifically treated in another work. Under direction of the Legislature, Prof. W. A. Henry, Dean of the Agricultural Department of the State University, assisted by eminent specialists, has prepared and written a treatise on this most important subject covering all counties of Northern Wisconsin. The book is published and is for free distribution. A few facts will here be given, however.



Oats, shoulder high, on the farm of Abe Eaton, south of Phillips. These oats threshed out eighty bushels to the acre.

There is indeed very little of the soil of Price County lands that will not produce food plants. Many persons are possessed of the belief that land upon which pine and hemlock grow is worthless for agricultural purposes. Nothing could be further from the truth. Time was when the lumber industry totally eclipsed all other business. The lumberman saw no value except in saw logs, and did not hesitate to report lands as worthless from which the pine was cut. It was worthless so far as the business of a pine lumberman was concerned, but this characterization has been taken literally, and has left an impression which is hard to overcome. Another lumberman's term which has done much to prejudice uninformed minds is "cut lands." It has naturally led men to conclude that every tree upon such land is cut down, and there is left but a wilderness of stumps. The fact is, that term here alludes to the pine cuttings only. It is also a fact that of all the timber growth, the pine comprised a comparatively small percentage, so that to one looking upon a piece of "cut land" an occasional pine stump is the only evidence that the virgin forest was ever disturbed. As a rule it will be found that the pine, the hemlock, the maple, the birch, elm and basswood stood side by side. The pine is gone, while other varieties remain, and predominate variously in different localities.

It follows therefore that our lands are not waste and worthless by any means. All concede that hardwood timber is not found growing upon poor soil.

The soil of Price County is four kinds, viz.: First, sandy loam; second, light clay; third, heavy clay and fourth, swamp. The first, sandy loam, would be called in the Southern or Eastern states, "truck soil." It is composed of from 5 to 8 per cent. clay, 1 per cent. gravel, 6 per cent. reddish sand, 40 per cent. medium reddish sand, and the balance is fine silt and humus mixed. Blue clay is found at a depth of 10 feet; so that water is near the surface. This soil is entirely free from rock and is usually found where the pine and hemlock growth predominated. It is wonderfully productive, particularly of root crops, grasses and clover and small fruits. It stands drouth better than some of the heavier soils and some of our finest farms are found upon this kind of land. The second, or light clay, is very similar to the first except it has a much larger percentage of clay soil and no gravel. Here water is reached at a depth of from 20 to 30 feet. Now and then, upon land of this kind, pieces will be found



A sample of the produce from our soil.

stony, but this is not common to all such land. The heavy clay soil is a reddish color with quite a percentage of mixed sand and gravel and has more humus in it than the other soils. It is only heavy as compared with our own soils, and probably would not be called heavy clay in other localities. It requires more care than our other soils, but it does not crack or break.

All our low lands are termed "Swamp lands" regardless of the true meaning of that term. In a great many of instances they are the best and most fertile lands we have. Only a little attention to proper drainage is required to put them in a condition of grazing and hay-raising. Many pieces of this low land are too stony to be of any value, while many are entirely free from stone and can be cleaned up at a cost of from \$5 to \$10 per acre.

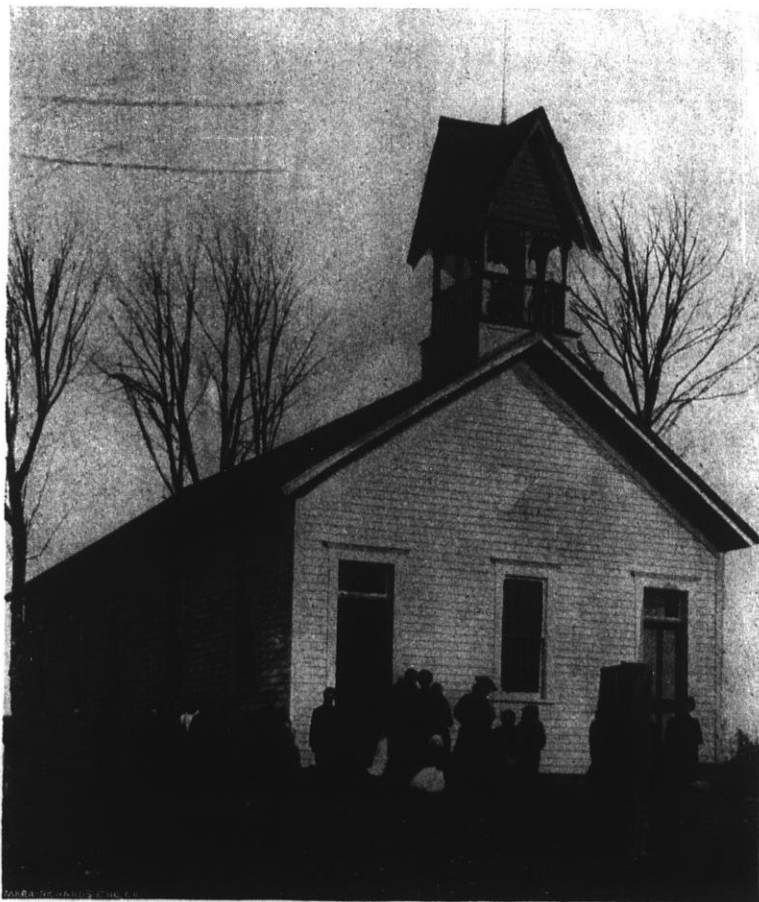
After all, results are of greater interest to the average man than theory and analysis. He wants to know what crops are actually grown and how bountifully they yield. Crop growing is not a matter of experiment here now. We have upwards of six hundred farm owners who have tilled Price County soil for from one to twelve years. We print the testimony of these men in this little book. Their statements are all true and they will demonstrate them to all who will come and see.

WHAT WE RAISE.

We have said that timber is the great natural crop of the soil, and is *the farmer's first crop*. But the farmer finds another natural growth—*grass*—in the production of which nature has not called upon him for assistance. Prof.

Henry has said: "Blue grass and white clover are as common as in the heart of the lime stone district of Kentucky." With cultivation and seeding, very large crops of fine timothy hay are raised and a little care and attention to the cleaning of land from brush, puts it in condition for excellent pasturage.

The potato crop is a wonder. Even upon new and unplowed ground, the yield is surprisingly large and quality is among the best. The average yield per acre upon cultivated land is about 300 bushels, and the average price in the fall is about 40 cents per bushel. Other root crops, such as turnips, beets, onions, carrots, cabbage, in fact all garden vegetables, yield large crops of fine quality.



A typical country district school house in Price County.

Fields of oats, under favorable conditions, yield from 60 to 70 and oftentimes 80 bushels to the acre; millet 3½ tons; Dent corn 60 bushels; barley and rye turn out well. Wheat is not much grown, but thrives in the heavier soils. The raising of small fruit is a branch of farming which has only recently been taken up here as an independent business. Of course many farmers have a small patch of strawberries and a few bushes of gooseberries, currants and the like, which bear wonderfully well. But not until the spring of 1895 did anyone undertake the raising of small fruits for profit. At that time Mr. M. A. Thayer, one of the most distinguished horticulturalists in the Northwest, having made careful study of the conditions of soil and climate, determined to experiment in berry culture upon a large scale. The venture has now practically passed the experimental stage and its success is assured. We call attention to Mr. Thayer's letter, printed on a subsequent page, likewise to a view of a portion of his farm which was taken in the fall of 1895. Many of our farmers will, during the coming season, avail themselves of the opportunities offered by Mr. Thayer to begin in a small way, the culture of small fruits. In a very few years this will be the berry shipping point of Northern Wisconsin and the fruit will command the highest price in every market.

SPLENDID WATER.

Another matter of vital importance to the agriculturists is that of water supply. In Price County there is an abundance of pure water. Besides the large streams and lakes shown by the map, there are very many spring brooks and smaller lakes, which, to say nothing of their extreme beauty, are of great advantage and utility to the farmer. Water from living springs and drilled wells is of a soft and pure quality. Good wells average in depth about 20 feet.

EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES.

The manner of school government is prescribed by the statutes of the State. They are all free schools, supported by a general tax upon all property in the districts respectively. Even books and supplies are furnished out of the public fund.

There are about fifty district schools in Price County, outside of the villages and cities, all thoroughly equipped and under charge of competent teachers. In the more thickly settled districts these schools are situated not more than two miles apart, and it is a well-established policy to establish new schools



Price County Game.

whenever the needs of children of school age require it. Elsewhere, in this book, will be found an illustration which shows a fair sample of a district school-house in Price County.

GOOD ROADS.

Each town has charge of its own schools. Likewise each town has entire control over its highways. The business of hauling timber, cross ties, tanbark, posts, poles, cordwood and the like, has called for special attention to road-building, and while our country is comparatively new, splendid roads stretch out in every direction. The absence of heavy clay soil makes the building of dry and easy roads possible.

New roads are being extended constantly wherever the need of settlers require them, and not only has the farmer the advantage of the roads themselves, but the additional advantage of employment upon them. He gets good wages for his labor and finds himself able to pay his poll tax in cash.

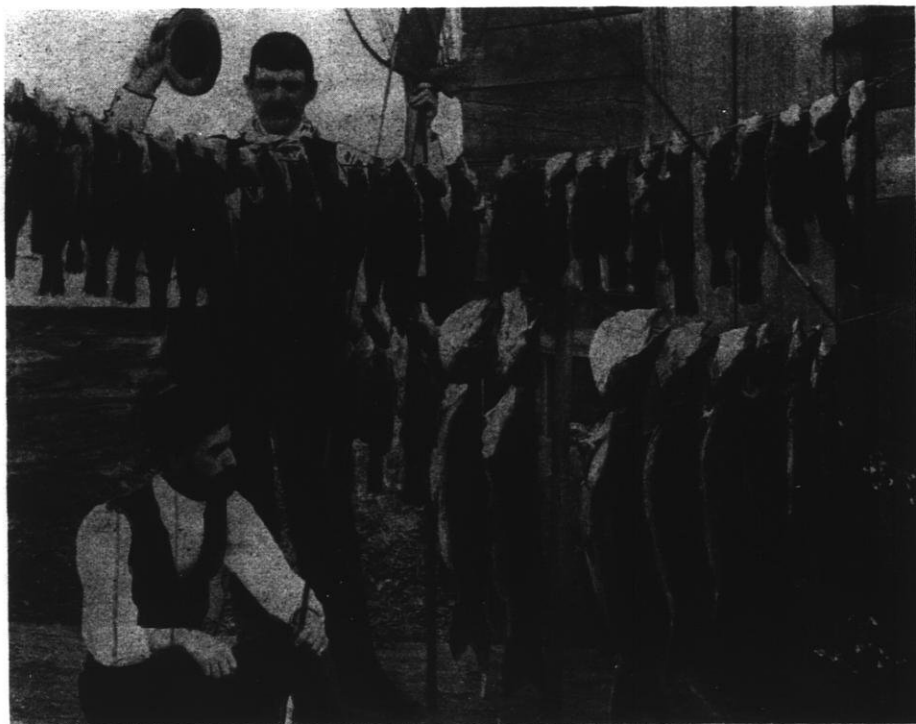
Only turnpiked town roads are shown upon the map. Aside from these there are many logging and tote roads penetrating deep into the timbered lands which are in many instances serviceable now, and at the same time furnish excellent foundation for well-kept highways. The same policy obtains with reference to roads as to schools. New roads are constructed whenever and wherever the needs of settlers require.

GAME.

Although the busy farmer has very little leisure when he may indulge in the pleasures of the hunt, yet to be able upon occasions to secure fresh meat with his rifle, and palatable fish with his rod, is a consideration of no trifling importance. In the economy of his living it is an item of consequence. For a farmer to kill a deer within the boundary of his own land is accounted a very simple thing, and upon dressing the carcass and curing the flesh, he stores away food for many a day.

Of the feathered game, partridge and wild ducks are the most plentiful.

The fishing in our lakes and streams is such as will satisfy the most ambitious sportsman. Chief among the finny creatures is the muskalonge, a delicious table fish, and one of large size and fierce nature. Besides, there are wall-eyed pike, black and silver bass, brook and rainbow trout, in great abundance.



Result of a day's fishing on Elk River.

TAXATION.

During past years, land and timber owners complained bitterly of high taxation—and justly so. In early day many unscrupulous adventurers were attracted to Price County because of the opportunity to enter pine lands from the government. These men, crowding themselves into the town and school offices, began a system of thievery which was continued until honest settlers and farmers became numerically strong enough to turn them down. Honest men are now in control, while their predecessors have gone to work new fields. Large indebtedness has been lifted and the financial interests of the towns are being placed in a normal and healthy condition, and as a consequence, taxes are getting down where they ought to be. Some of the towns have accumulated a large balance while others are this year paying up the last of outstanding obligations. The prospective settler may rest easy on the question of taxation.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The fact that Price County has a flourishing Agricultural Society will perhaps indicate something as to the present development of its farming interests. The society owns spacious grounds and buildings, and holds Fairs annually in the month of September. In 1895, many of the county exhibits were placed upon exhibition at the State Fair, held at Milwaukee. These exhibits were not in competition for the reason that they were not separately entered, but the adjudicators saw fit to make special and favorable mention of them together with the products of other northern counties.

All departments of the Fair are well conducted. Printed premium lists are prepared and issued before the first of May and suitable prizes are offered to stimulate effort in all branches of agriculture. Attention is likewise given to all such sports as are usually looked for at the Fair.



This view, taken from the garden, shows the home of John Hartman, near Phillips. Mr. Hartman settled upon this forty acres in its wild state, and although having no means to start with, was able to provide this pretty little home from the profits of his labor on the farm.

A FEW WORDS OF TESTIMONY.

It is a great pleasure to us to publish a letter written by Prof. Henry of the University of Wisconsin, regarding the agricultural advantages of Price County. Comment upon it is wholly unnecessary.

MADISON, WIS., March 28, 1896.

J. D. ROWLAND, Phillips, Wis.

Dear Sir:—Replying to yours concerning the agricultural possibilities of northern Wisconsin let me say that during the summer of 1895 the upper half of our State was carefully investigated by myself with the aid of four other Professors of this College, the amount of time spent being very considerable indeed. We visited every County in the north and carefully inspected the soil, the water, the crops in the field, the live stock, etc., our effort being a careful inquiry into the great question of whether this region could ever become a farming country, as we hoped it might be some day.

I am pleased to report to you that on the whole our investigation has proved most satisfactory, since we found nothing whatever to interfere with the rapid development of our New North. We found the country well traversed by trunk lines of railway, which affords the settler easy access to his lands and assures him of markets near and far. We found quite large cities in almost every County, these being made possible through the lumber industry. While the cities are well developed, it is strange to find such a small area yet opened up by farmers. The first settlers in any community where good cities are already established are sure of good markets, and such is the case in Northern Wisconsin.

The soil varies from rich to that of low grade, but there is so much good land yet unoccupied that there is no need of talking further about the poor districts. Good water is also abundant everywhere.

Coming to Price County, we found that it was largely unsettled though such farms as are already opened up show excellently well indeed. South of Phillips we found fields of flint corn, which would ripen the grain, and fields of oats which promised a very heavy yield. Potatoes were not only of excellent quality, but enormous in size; indeed, the largest potatoes we found in Northern Wisconsin were found in the little city of Phillips, to which they had been brought by farmers for sale. We also found Yankee pumpkins, beans, cucumbers, sweet corn and other garden vegetables ripening in the garden of the Secretary of your Board, Mr. Julius Koehler.

As soon as your County is a little more cleared up from the forest, I anticipate that dairying will become a large industry, for the grasses which the lands grow are of the finest quality. Timothy grows to a degree perfectly surprising to farmers who have only seen what timothy can do in Southern Wisconsin or further south. Blue grass also grows well in your County, and this with timothy, red and white clover assures your farmers of good pastures. While your people will be able to make good



View of cabbage and onions planted between rows of raspberries, blackberries and currants on M. A. Thayer's Fruit Farm, Phillips, Wis.

butter, the cheese which can be produced will excel anything which can be made in Southern Wisconsin or farther south. To make fine cheese it is absolutely essential that there be pure air, pure cool water, and fine fresh grasses, and the summer sun must not shine too hot. All of these conditions are met in Price County, and her farmers will be wise if they look early to the manufacture of fine cheese.

Sheep husbandry is another line of farming which will pay well, provided only the farmers keep their attention directed only to mutton sheep rather than to wool growing. Mutton produced at the south has a greasy, strong flavor; that produced at the north is of high flavor, and fine quality generally. Dairying and mutton-growing will be the leading live-stock lines, and to these should be added potato-growing and the production of root crops generally.

Of course in your County there are some lands of low fertility and others which are too swampy for present farming purposes. The settler need not buy such lands unless he wishes to, for there are plenty of good tracts of rich soil which can be had at a very reasonable price.

It is hard work to clear up a farm from the woods, but it is an undertaking in which no one need fail if only he has health. Those who settled on the plains of the West, and ventured in wheat-growing often have a sorry time of it, and quite frequently lose their farms through mortgages. These people on the western prairies have no timber for building purposes or for fuel, and very little water, and that often of impure quality. Their crops are frequently failures through summer droughts. In Northern Wisconsin there has been no such thing as a general failure of crops, and the settler is always sure of wood and water. The timber interests and the furnishing of hemlock bark to the tanneries offers a means of support to the pioneer while clearing up his farm from the forest.

I am glad to know that Price County is advertising her lands to the world, and feel quite sure that what you have to offer is sufficiently attractive to bring about your share of settlers.

Trusting that those who come to your shores will be well pleased with their venture, I am,

Very truly yours,

W. A. HENRY, Dean College of Agriculture.

The following is what Mr. M. A. Thayer has to say. It is certainly convincing, coming as it does from a man of large experience in horticulture, who has occupied the honorable and responsible position of President of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The land now occupied by Mr. Thayer was but a short time ago considered of little or no value for farming. It was timbered with pine almost to the exclusion of other kinds of timber, and just in that particular locality the soil is very light—almost sandy. He writes:

PHILLIPS, Wis., March 27, 1896.

J. D. ROWLAND, Secretary Business Men's Association, Phillips, Wis.

Dear Sir:—The development of the agricultural resources of Price County, has been a continuous surprise. I had been lead to believe that there was little of value in Price County, aside from its great forests of pine, hemlock and hardwood timber, but such is not the fact.

While there is great variety in soil, most of it is of the very best quality for all farm crops.



Field of potatoes on the farm of Oswald Scheller, in the town of Ogema. Mr. Scheller, like the majority of his neighbors, began farming in Price County without money.

I have never before seen such crops as were produced here last season. Oats on land never plowed, but simply harrowed in among the stumps produced straw 5½ feet high, and a yield of 60 bushels per acre; potatoes, 400 bushels per acre; cabbage, 25 to 30 lbs. per head; peas, 7 feet high, and all other products in same proportion.

For many years I have been growing berries and small fruits at Sparta, Wis., and we now have over 100 acres there under perfect cultivation, from which thousands of bushels of fruit and millions of plants are sent out every year.

I came to Phillips for temporary purposes only. I set out near a hundred varieties for experiment, from which I am satisfied there is no better place for growing all kinds of vegetables and small fruits.

Believing this, I have decided to make my home here and open up the largest small fruit and vegetable farms ever made so far north.

Fruit plants grown in northern latitudes are more hardy, vigorous and better in every way, and Price County soil seems to contain just the right elements for the largest and best development of all plants, fruits, vegetables, grasses and grains.

For the young energetic farmer or man with moderate means, I know of no location so promising of success as Price County.

Yours truly,

M. A. THAYER.

The snow had scarcely disappeared when in the spring of the present year several gentlemen of Indiana visited Price County to look up locations for farms. Upon their return, one of them, Mr. Wm. H. Peffley, addressed the following letter to Mr. Frederick Abbot, Land Commissioner of the Wisconsin Central Railroad, and we take the liberty to publish it.

PYRMOUNT, CARROLL COUNTY, IND., April 12th, 1896.

FREDERICK ABBOT, Land Com. W. C. R. R.

Dear Sir :—I have just returned from a trip over the Wisconsin Central Railway. The purpose of my trip was to investigate the truth of the statements made in the pamphlets that are distributed by the Wisconsin Central Railroad. So far as I was able to investigate I found them correct in every particular. I was at the home of Mr. Julius Koehler in Phillips, Price County, Wis., (whose home is pictured in the Wisconsin Central pamphlet), talked with him and his wife, found every thing as represented, and saw more flowers in Mrs. Koehler's widow than I see here in Indiana at this time of the year. Although the house appears only ordinary, Mr. Koehler tells me that nothing freezes in the house all winter, and I know it to be a fact, or they would not now have the blooming plants they have. I saw oats weighed that made 400 bushels from five acres; a level bushel would weigh 40 pounds. I saw potatoes nicer than I ever saw grown in Indiana. I saw bodies of timber, not over three miles from the railroad, that could be bought for \$5 per acre, which will pay for the land, and more too. Better wages are paid than we get here for making it ready for market. I saw small hemlock trees suitable for string ties, 40 to 60 feet high. These you can sell as fast as you can get them out. Hemlock bark sells for \$3 per cord on the ground, and I saw acres of hemlock that the bark alone would bring from \$15 to \$30 per acre. The timber stands so thick that the trees are free from branches except at the top, so that the whole tree when taken down will not cost much labor. Farm products, with the exception of potatoes, bring as good prices as in Indiana, and what a farmer buys is no higher than in Indiana, and some things are lower.



This view will doubtless dispel the idea that corn cannot be grown and ripened in Price County. This crop is ripe and ready for cutting. The tops are already cut. The building on the extreme left is a district school house.

There is some flat and low land, some is high and rolling, some is somewhat stony, and some free from stone. Water is good and plenty. I want to say this that your Mr. Hughes (traveling agent) is a pleasant man to travel with, and that anyone going with him need have no fear of his trying to hide anything that a prospective settler would want to know. He procures guides and means of conveyance, and tells you to look where you please, talk to, and ask all questions of whom you wish, and inform yourself fully. If this letter is of any benefit to others who may wish to know about Wisconsin, you are at liberty to use it.

Yours truly,

(Signed) WM. H. PEFFLEY, Pymount, Ind.

We hope that the following statement will be an encouragement to homeseekers, as it is certainly very encouraging and gratifying to us. Mr. Wallace is an agriculturalist of long experience and will come to us equipped for successful farming operations.

LOGANSPOBT, IND., May 15th, 1896.

J. D. ROWLAND, Sec'y, Phillips, Wis.

Dear Sir:—I have just returned to my home in Indiana from a trip to Price County, where I went with a view to securing land for a new home. I went to the timber country because I am convinced that a man of limited means will have less to contend with there than in the prairie region. It was not my first trip to Price County. I was there last fall and had an opportunity to examine the soil somewhat, also the water, and I think I know something of the climatic conditions. Taken all together, I am well pleased with the country and have concluded to locate upon land in the vicinity of Phillips, and will move there after finishing my work of the coming summer, should Providence permit. I believe I shall be successful.

It is quite probable that some of my neighbors will come when I do. In that event we will settle together, making a pleasant neighborhood of our own. I would not hesitate to recommend Price County to any man who is not prejudiced against a timber country. I hope my coming will be the means of causing others to locate in Price County.

Yours truly,

JOHN H. WALLACE.



The farm of Chris Klein on Section 12, Town 36, R. 1, west, showing herd of fine dairy stock. Mr. Klein's letter appears on the next page.

WHAT SOME OF OUR FARMERS SAY.

CHRIS. KLEIN. On another page we give a view of his premises.

GEORGETOWN, PRICE COUNTY, WIS., May 1st, 1896.

SECRETARY BOARD OF IMMIGRATION, Phillips, Wis.

Dear Sir:—As some of the farmers of this county are relating their experiences in making a home, and telling of how they are getting along, I thought I would write a few lines about this myself. I came to Phillips ten years ago last fall with no money to speak of, and taking up a homestead I built a shanty and chopped out about two acres. After this I went to work in a logging camp for three months, and earned money enough to buy some groceries, flour, and other necessary supplies. I now went to work clearing up my land and soon had about five acres ready for planting. I put in potatoes, corn, rutabagas and oats. I soon had feed enough to sell and with part of the proceeds bought a cow, and have kept right on raising stock, because I know from my experience while I was working in Fond du Lac County, that raising stock is about the most profitable branch of farming. Any one who is interested in live stock, and who has little means to make a start in this way should come to this county. There is plenty of good feeding grounds through the woods, and an abundance of marsh hay that costs nothing to get except the labor of cutting it. The cost of raising stock is very little. Corn can be successfully grown which is contrary to the opinion of many who are unacquainted with this country. I have raised for the past two years eighty bushels to the acre, and others can do just as well and perhaps better. Clover also grows here to perfection as well as all other kinds of grasses and roots. There is a fine market here for eggs, butter, and in fact all dairy products, and any farmer who makes a specialty of this will make large profits. So far as good and cheap lands are concerned there is plenty of it to be had cheap and on easy terms.

This month I sold three milch cows for \$125, and I still have seven left, besides eight calves and yearlings, also a good team of horses which cost me \$410. I have good buildings and fences and 65 acres of cleared land of which 15 acres are clear of stumps. I shall always be pleased to give further information to any one who will inquire of me.

Yours truly,

CHRIS. KLEIN, P. O. Address, Phillips, Wis.



A view of the farm of G. A. Andreae in the town of Brannon, Price County.

P. W. JOHNSON. How he obtained a start in the town of Ogema, Price County, Wis.

March 30th, 1896.

SECRETARY BOARD OF IMMIGRATION, Phillips, Wis.

Dear Sir:—Now when it seems so many are telling their experience as farmers, I thought I would tell mine as a farmer in the town of Ogema, Price County. The first time I saw Ogema was on the 16th day of July, 1880, and my first thought was to get money to buy a railroad ticket to some other place. I had but \$2.00 in my pocket. The first two months I worked in a saw mill and earned enough money to enter 80 acres of government land. I took up a quarter section, being SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 36, Township 34, Range 1 East. At that time I was 23 years of age and single. My first house I built of logs, 12 x 16—not very big, but big enough. I had no team and had to carry everything on my back.

It seems wonderful to me now when I look back at those times. Where then only heavy timber stood, now are fine fields which produce 250 bushels potatoes to the acre, from one to two tons of clover and timothy hay to the acre, rye up to 60 bushels and oats 80 to 100 bushels to the acre. We always have plenty of rain, and my well, which is only 10 feet deep, furnishes me with plenty of good pure water for my household and my stock, two horses and six head of cattle. I have always found plenty of good hay in the woods and never have had to use any of my improved land for pasture.

Whenever we farmers find it necessary we go out and peel our hemlock bark and sell it to the tanneries for \$4.00 per cord. The small hemlock we make into railroad cross-ties and get a fair price for them. Then we take the hardwood and cut it into cord-wood, gather up the brush and tops and burn them. After this we plant potatoes or sow grass and oats and have the beginning of a new field. In a very few years we have a large clearing and we get along first rate.

I will be glad to furnish further information and will welcome all new comers.

Yours truly,
P. W. JOHNSON.

L. M. GUSTAFSON. Another successful farmer of the town of Ogema.

OGEMA, WIS., June 1st, 1896.

SECRETARY BOARD OF IMMIGRATION, Phillips, Wis.

Dear Sir:—In company with my father I arrived in this country in the spring of 1880 and stopped in the town of Ogema, Price County. All I had and was worth was \$25; I looked around and finally came to the conclusion that the best thing for me to do was to settle down as a farmer, and I did so, cleared some land and built a house.

In the spring of 1881 the other members of our family joined us. I then bought a cow and commenced to plant among the stumps and that year's crops sold for \$150, exclusive of what was stored for winter use. Have been going onward ever since and have now, what I should call a large farm, worth about \$4,000, and besides this have personal property and real estate valued at \$1,000; this includes 160 acres which I have purchased lately.

I live comfortably and am very well satisfied in every respect. In the year 1895 I raised 300 bushels of rye on 5 acres, 125 bushels of barley on an acre, 25 bushels of peas on a quarter of an acre and 100 bushels of oats to the acre. I keep horses, swine and cattle, some years as high as 13 head and make considerable butter.

We have a grist mill connected with a saw mill and expect to have it improved. We also have good prospects for having a creamery or cheese factory, which would be a great benefit to the farmers, as the country is well adapted for keeping stock.

L. M. GUSTAFSON.



Home of Conrad Flicker, carved out of the forest. This shows what a young man of good heart and muscle can do, though not blessed with much means on the start.

AUGUST SCHOOF. Of the town of Emery.

EMERY, Wis., May 17, 1896.

J. D. ROWLAND, Esq., Phillips, Wis.

Dear Sir:—The undersigned had to foot it in company with his dog from Medford to Phillips, Price County, not having the dollars and cents to pay for a ride. I was looking for a homestead and found one in Section 26, Town 37, Range 2 East. Mr. Herman Matt, formerly agent for the W. C. R. R. Co.'s land advanced me the money to pay for locating. Now I have a lovely homestead of 80 acres and have also purchased 80 of good land so that now I have a farm of 160 acres, of which 25 acres are cleared and 10 acres stump clear, a good comfortable house, barn and outhouses, a good well, etc. A school house is located on one acre of my farm. My home I would not exchange with any wage worker in the country.

All of us homesteaders are well satisfied. We have good schools, good roads, two saw mill and planer, threshing machines. We will welcome any new comer and assist him as far as possible, to obtain a home.

Respectfully,

AUGUST SCHOOF.

IN CONCLUSION.

We want sober and industrious men to come and take up our lands. Our appeal is especially to those who, because of the high value of lands in the vicinity where they live, are unable to acquire them, and who are desirous of owning homes of their own. Those who come with willingness and determination to succeed, require very little money to make a start. A good forty of land can be purchased for \$100 and perhaps less, while the very best can be had at from \$5 to \$7 per acre. The most reasonable terms are in all instances available to the purchaser.

Any who desire further information should not hesitate to write to any of the members of the Board of Immigration of Price County.

Reader, WITHOUT doubt you have been interested in the reading of this little book. The question arises in your mind perhaps, "How shall I go about it to get a farm? Who will direct me?"

WRITE TO _____

BOGK & ROWLAND,

University Building, MILWAUKEE, WIS.

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