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WISCONSIN

AND HER

RESOURCES FOR REMUNERATING CAPITAL

AND

SUPPORTING LABOR.

BY JAMES ROSS.

State Historical Society
OF WISCONSIN.
MADISON, - WIS.

G902
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MADISON, WIS.:
ATWOOD & CULVER, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
1871.

Pam 57-2171

The Emigration to Wisconsin the past year has been larger than to either Iowa or Minnesota.

OFFICE OF THE

Northwestern Land Agency,

(Established 1850.)

MADISON, WIS., January 2, 1871.

To Capitalists and all Parties desiring
Safe and Profitable Investments:

Being thoroughly posted on all the Railroads (now running, being built or projected) in Wisconsin; also being a director and stockholder in one of the most important; I am enabled to select GOVERNMENT AND STATE LANDS on the different lines which will pay

Immense Profits.

Lands which I selected and entered one and two years since at \$1.25 per acre, I am now selling VERY RAPIDLY at \$3.00 to \$10.00 per acre. I have received the past season orders to select, for Eastern parties, nearly

One Hundred Thousand Acres

Of Farming and Pine Lands in the Central and Northern portion of Wisconsin. It is *really wonderful* how fast this part of Wisconsin is filling up with settlers, which fact, in connection with the projected building of the

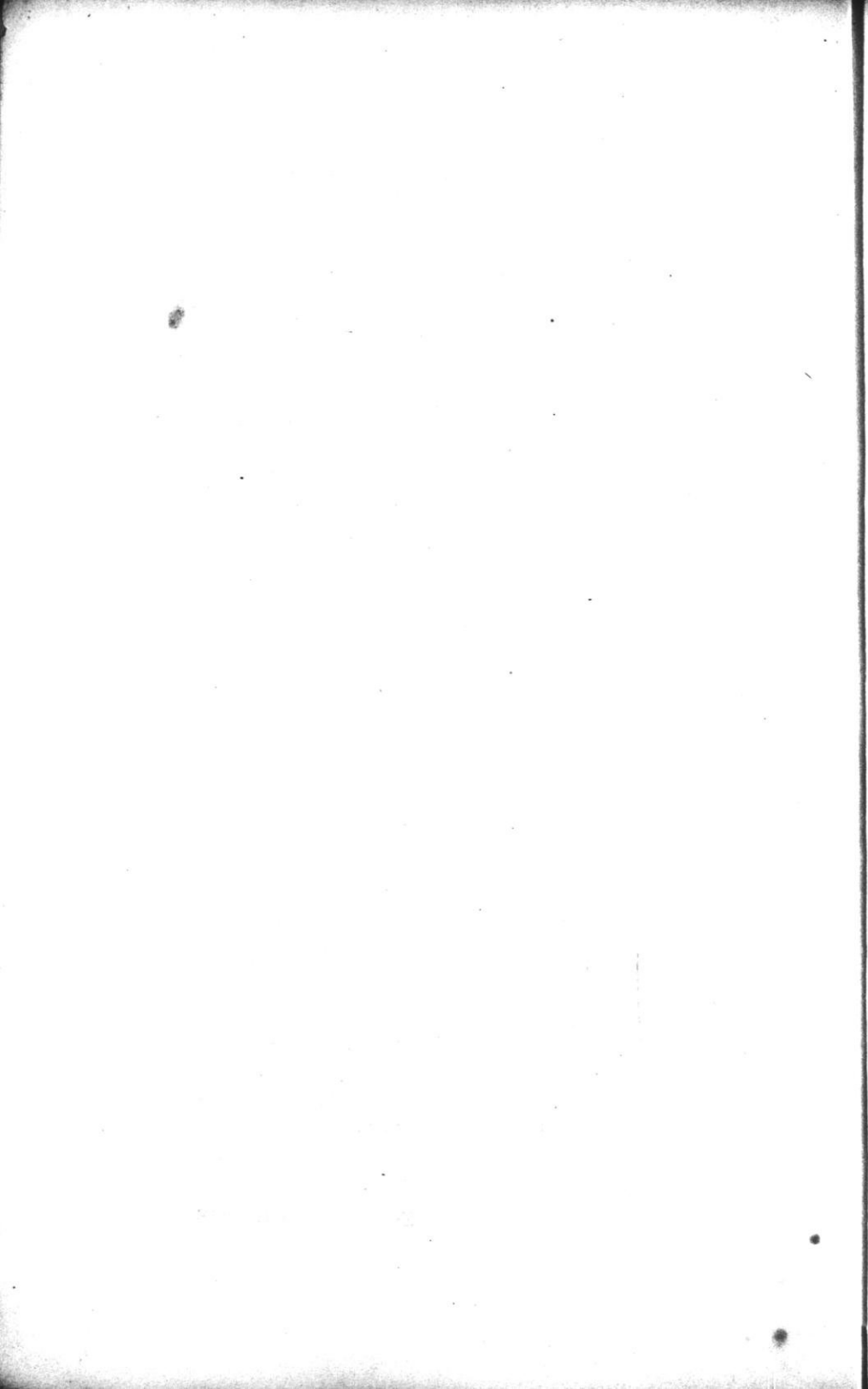
NORTHERN PACIFIC AND OTHER IMPORTANT RAILROADS,

(Wisconsin is being grid-ironed with Railroads,) has induced capitalists to invest in these lands.

This Agency was established twenty years ago, and has always made a SPECIALTY of Selecting, Entering and Selling Lands for non-residents. Government lands require all cash at the time of entry, but most of the Wisconsin State lands can be had at \$1.25 per acre—one-fourth down, balance can run ten years, at 7 per cent interest.

Information freely given, and orders promptly filled, by

GEO. B. BURROWS.



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WISCONSIN AND HER RESOURCES.

BY JAMES ROSS.

For years past, Wisconsin has been a favorite field for the investment of capital and of the means and labor of immigrants, and as a result, the lately taken census shows her occupying a substantial and conspicuous position among her sister States.

Before endeavoring to show this, by facts and figures from the late census reports and other reliable sources, I may as well, for the information of those only acquainted with the State by reputation, give the following information about it.

Wisconsin is one of the Northwestern States of the American Union, situated between latitude $42^{\circ} 30'$ and 47° north of equator, and longitude $87^{\circ} 30'$ and $92^{\circ} 30'$ west of Greenwich, near London, England. For its northern border, Wisconsin has the largest body of fresh water in the World, Lake Superior; Lake Michigan, a body of fresh water, almost equal in size, forms its eastern border, and the Mississippi river, the largest river in the World, but one, flows on its western boundary. The State of Michigan lies on the east, Illinois on the south, and Iowa and Minnesota on the west of Wisconsin. It has an average length of about 260 miles, breadth 215 miles, and an area of 56,000 square miles. Deducting from this the surface occupied by lakes, rivers, &c., there remains 53,924 square miles or 34,511,360 acres of land. Madison is the capital of the State, and Milwaukee the chief commercial city, both places being connected with two lines of railroads and also by lines with the other chief cities of the State and Chicago. Though there are no mountains in Wisconsin, there are many prominent "mounds," so called, among them the Blue Mounds in Iowa and Dane counties, 1,729 feet above the sea; the Platte Mounds 1,281 feet, and the Sinsinewa Mound 1,169 feet, in Grant county. There is a promi-

ment ridge or elevation of land along the sources of the tributaries of Lake Superior, which, near the Montreal river, is 1,700 or 1,800 feet above the sea level, gradually diminishing to about 1,100 feet at the west line of the State. The calcareous cliffs along the east shore of Green Bay and of Lake Winnebago, extend south through Dodge county, and form in many places bold escarpments; some of the higher points are 1,400 feet above the sea. A series of still more prominent "bluffs" extend along the banks of the Mississippi river, forming some of the grandest and most picturesque scenery in the country. With the exceptions above named, nearly the whole surface of the state may be regarded as one vast, slightly undulated plain, having an elevation of from 600 to 1,500 feet above the ocean. This great plain is cut in every direction by the currents of rivers and streams, that have made for themselves often deep and narrow valleys in the yielding soil and rocks. The dividing grounds, between these valleys (watersheds) usually attain but a slight elevation above the surrounding country, the waters of a lake or marsh, being often drained in opposite directions to reach the ocean at widely different points. Canoes often pass from the head of one stream to another without difficulty. At Portage City the Fox and Wisconsin rivers approach so nearly that their waters are often commingled; they are connected by a short canal, from which there is a descent of 195 feet to Green Bay, and 171 feet to the Mississippi, at Prairie du Chien. The greatest depressions in the State are the surface of Lake Michigan (578 feet,) and the valley of the Mississippi, in which the low water at the mouth of the Platte river near the south boundary of the State is 591 feet above the sea; at Prairie du Chien 602; at La Crosse 632; and at the mouth of the St. Croix, where it enters the State, 677 feet; this great river having in this portion of its course a descent of four-tenths of a foot per mile.

The annual general average fall of rain is about thirty inches, which is the quantity falling on the counties bordering upon Lake Michigan. About one-half this water is returned directly to the atmosphere by evaporation from the surface; one-fourth is consumed, and mostly evaporated, in the processes of vegetable growth; while the remaining one-fourth flows along the river

beds from the highlands of the interior, towards the ocean. The elevation of this interior is such that the rivers have usually a rapid descent, thus affording, under favorable circumstances, an immense amount of water power, but very little of which has yet been made available for the propulsion of machinery for manufacturing or other purposes. The rivers running from the north into the Wisconsin and Mississippi also afford ample navigation for the logs and rafts of lumber that are seasonably floated to the marts of commerce requiring them, where they are always in demand, and frequently at such prices as to profitably remunerate the log and mill owners to a remarkable extent. These tributary streams to the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers, flow through a section of country thickly covered with pine and other valuable timber, which notwithstanding the immense quantity already used in Wisconsin and floated from it, yet remains comparatively untouched, presenting such an opportunity for the reliable and profitable investment of capital as cannot easily be equalled in the known world. To make this in some degree apparent, I will first give the rivers, with pertinent particulars, as follows:

NAME.	Length miles.	Area drained square miles.	Rain, inches.	Descent, feet.	Outlet.
Wisconsin	370	11,000	30	950	Mississippi.
Chippewa	220	9,000	28	900	Mississippi.
Fox	225	6,700	32	400	Green Bay.
Rock	125	5,500	34	260	Mississippi.
Menomonee	150	4,000	29	.....	Green Bay.
Wolf	165	3,900	32	.....	Fox.
St. Croix	170	3,600	25	325	Mississippi.
Red Cedar	95	2,000	28	.....	Chippewa.
Black	145	2,200	30	.....	Mississippi.
La Crosse	45	500	30	550	Mississippi.
Lemonweir	55	690	32	500	Wisconsin.
Manitowoc	45	400	31	225	Lake Michigan.
Milwaukee	75	750	31	450	Lake Michigan.
Sheboygan	50	380	31	450	Lake Michigan.
Montreal	34	420	23	804	Lake Superior.
Kickapoo	76	775	31	700	Wisconsin.
Mississippi	212	.....	.....	86	Gulf of Mexico.

The State Legislature has apportioned some of the above rivers into lumber districts, as follows:

“For the purpose of inspecting and regulating the survey and measurement of logs, timber and lumber in this State, the Wisconsin river and its tributaries are hereby constituted and created a lumber district, to be known and called lumber district No. 1; the Black river and its tributaries as district No. 2; the Chippewa and its tributaries, as far up as the northern boundary line of Eau Claire county, excepting the Eau Claire river and its tributaries, district No. 3; the St. Croix river and its tributaries, as district No. 4; Green Bay and such of its tributaries as are within this State, save and except Lake Winnebago and its tributaries, as district No. 5; so much of the Chippewa river as lies above the northern boundary line of the county of Eau Claire, together with the tributaries emptying into said portion of the Chippewa river, as district No. 6; the Eau Claire river and its tributaries, as district No. 7; the Red Cedar river and its tributaries, within the county of Dallas, as district No. 8; and the Chippewa river below the village of Durand, and Beef Slough from the Chippewa river to the Mississippi river, and thence along the Mississippi river to the mouth of Trempeleau river, as district No. 9.”

The following reports of the lumber inspectors that reported for the season of 1869, to the Legislature of 1870, show the productions of all of these districts, except four.

Second District.

Amount of logs scaled at mouth of Black river, 167,573,890; amount of lumber from upper Black river, 8,000,000; amount of square timber from upper Black river, 2,000,000. Total feet, 177,573,890.

There has been of lumber manufactured on Black river, in my district, 29,500,000 feet, of which 19,500,000 feet were manufactured at the mouth, and 10,000,000 on upper Black river, of which last item 2,000,000 was square timber.

There has been of shingles manufactured in my district, 13,000,000, of which 8,000,000 were manufactured at the mouth and 5,000,000 on upper river.

There has been of lath manufactured in this district, 8,000,000, of which 5,000,000 were manufactured at mouth and 3,000,000 on upper river.

The season of 1869 was one of an excellent stage of water during the entire season, and the winter of 1870 promises well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

TIMOTHY ATKINSON,
Lumber Inspector.

Third District.

Scaled and manufactured into lumber, lath and shingles, on the main Chippewa district, No. 3, 59,298,145. Manufactured on the Menomonic river in said district, estimated, 50,000,000. Manufactured on the Eau Galla, in said district, estimated, 10,000,000. Making the total amount manufactured, 119,298,145.

Rafted to Wilkins' Island boom, at Eau Claire, and run to market in log, 1,178,863. Rafted at Beef Slough boom, and run to market in log, 30,609,664. Total amount rafted, 31,988,527.

Making the total amount manufactured and rafted, season of 1869, district No. 3, 151,086,672.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. W. DEMING,
Lumber Inspector.

Fourth District.

The amount of logs scaled at this office during the year ending January 1st, 1870, is eight million (8,000,000) board measure; that I have surveyed no other timber or lumber at this office.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM J. VINCENT,
Lumber Inspector.

Sixth District.

Total amount of logs scaled in this district, during the year previous to the date of this report (64,813,119 feet,) sixty-four million, eight hundred and thirteen thousand, one hundred and nineteen feet board measure; the same having been manufactured into lumber.

HENRY L. GATES,
Lumber Inspector.

During the season of 1870, 433,164,19 feet of logs were scaled in Chippewa county.

Seventh District.

During the year 1869, there were scaled in lumber district No. 7, thirty-nine millions, five hundred and thirty-six thousand, four hundred and eighty-five (39,536,485) feet of pine saw logs, all of which were manufactured into lumber at Eau Claire and vicinity;

number of lath manufactured 7,860,000; number of pickets manufactured, 1,890,000.

J. G. CALLAHAN,
Lumber Inspector.

The excellent agricultural lands of Marathon and adjoining counties are as yet but slightly developed. Almost the entire western part of Marathon county, containing thousands upon thousands of acres of as fine agricultural lands as can be found anywhere in this latitude, are as yet in a state of nature, and the same also is true of the eastern portion of the county. These lands are covered with a dense growth of rock or sugar maple, beech, hickory, butternut, basswood, elm, ash and poplar, while along the streams, pine and hemlock, interspersed with cedar and fir, exist in munificent abundance. The productive capacity of these lands has been amply demonstrated by the sturdy farmers who have already settled on some portions of them, to be fully equal to any in the West, and in some very important particulars decidedly superior. In the raising of tame grass they particularly excel, both as to quality and quantity. Indeed, I confidently predict that there will be no grazing region in the entire Northwest that will excel this, when once fully and fairly developed. Many whole townships yet unsettled, are awaiting the enterprising emigrants from other States, and from other lands and climes, to develop happy homes and thriving and industrious communities.

These lands are not all confined to Marathon county, although it contains a large share of them. The eastern portion of Chippewa, nearly the whole of Clark county, the northern portion of Wood, and the western portion of Portage county, contain the same class of lands, the soil and productions being essentially alike. This region is destined to be the richest part of Wisconsin. Located as it is on the borders of the most extensive pineries this side of the Rocky Mountains, occupying that position which must inevitably become the main railroad transit from the terminus of the Northern Pacific to the great railroad thoroughfares leading to the Atlantic, its destiny ultimately, as one of the prime fertile gardens of the Northwest, is neither uncertain nor shadowy, but fixed as fate, in the brilliant and not

distant future that awaits it and the fortunate people who are to become the possessors and dwellers in this goodly land.

The pine lands of Marathon and adjoining counties are immense in extent, and furnish the best pine lumber that the country affords. Even the excellent and widely famed Saginaw pine is in no wise superior, and, I think, does not average as good as this in quality. Whole fleets of from 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 feet of lumber from the Upper Wisconsin have been run to St. Louis that have averaged as high as *forty-eight per cent.* of the upper and best grades, and it is not at all uncommon for entire fleets from this pinery to average thirty-five per cent. clear lumber. The Upper Wisconsin pine leads the market on the Mississippi, as there is no better found in the world. There are twenty-five saw mills in Marathon county for the manufacture of pine lumber, having an average sawing capacity of over 1,000,000 feet daily. There is each year about 100,000,000 feet manufactured in this county, that seeks its market at various points along the Mississippi below the mouth of the Wisconsin. Besides the amount manufactured here, a large proportion of the logs manufactured below, at Stevens Point, Conaut's, Whitney's, Biron's, Grand Rapids, and other points on the upper river, are cut in Marathon county. The lumber product of the Upper Wisconsin and its tributaries is about 200,000,000 feet per annum, of which Marathon county furnishes the raw material for full three-fourths. With railroad facilities added to the river transportation, this amount would be doubled, and perhaps quadrupled, in a very short time.

The water power in this county is almost unlimited in extent. On the Wisconsin there are many rapids, or falls, as they are termed, among which the "Bulls" largely predominate. There are "Grandfather Bull," "Jenny Bull," "Big Bull," "Little Bull," and "Bull Junior!" Bears being plenty in the forests, we have here on the border, our compliment of "bulls and bears," as well as in Wall street, New York. These rapids furnish an immense power, and are as yet but little improved. There is on this entire chain of rapids an aggregate fall of nearly one hundred feet. The principal tributaries discharging their waters into the Wisconsin within the limits of Marathon county, are,

on the West, Squirrel river, Spirit, New Wood, Big Rib, Big Eau Plaine and Little Eau Plaine rivers; on the east, Eagle, Pelican, Prairie, Trapp, Pine, Big Eau Claire and little Eau Claire rivers, all having an abundance of valuable water power.

The inducements for settlement and investment of capital here are many, and such as must strike the investigator with a force irresistible. They can mainly be inferred from the foregoing, and are decidedly superior to those of the prairies west. The tiller of the soil has here the best of home markets for every particle of stuff raised on his farm, and as it were at his very door. The pineries employ thousands of men in the woods, the mills and on the rafts annually. Besides this advantage, he has that of having plenty of timber for fencing and other purposes, which is one that every practical farmer, especially if he has worked a prairie farm, knows the importance of considering, for, if he has only scant means, he need not expend any of them for timber, which on many farms usually entails a heavy expenditure that to the needy immigrant must be sometimes distressing.

Besides the principal rivers enumerated in the above table, there are innumerable smaller streams and branches, watering almost the whole surface of the State; very few farms being without living water. The streams running into Lake Superior have the most rapid descent; those tributary to Lake Michigan and the Mississippi having more gentle and uniform slopes. Occasional rapids on the most of those streams afford opportunities for water power which are or may hereafter be used to propel mills and machinery of various kinds. The Wisconsin, below Portage City, has a descent of two-thirds of a foot per mile, runs at the rate of two miles an hour, and has an average discharge estimated at about 10,000 cubic feet per second.

The Mississippi is navigable for steamboats along the whole border of the State; the Wolf and Fox rivers are also navigable by small steamboats, the latter having been artificially improved by the construction of locks and dams between Lake Winnebago and Green Bay for that purpose. Several other rivers are navigated down stream by rafts of lumber and logs. Wisconsin, Chippewa, Wolf and Black rivers are also navigable for steamers.

Some of the smaller streams, alluded to above, such as the Peshtigo, Oconto, and Shawano, in Oconto and Shawano counties, flow through lands rich with pine and other timber, into Green Bay, and bear their freights that are largely found in all the channels of commerce. In Marathon county, the Wisconsin river flows through valuable timbered land, and affords convenient transit of its products to certain markets; and Chippewa, Barron, Polk, Burnett, Clark, Ashland, Bayfield and Douglas counties are similarly favored by other rivers. But besides these water advantages, railroad facilities are now in progress, which will render the vast timber, agricultural and mineral resources of these counties completely accessible. The Portage, Winnebago and Superior road, is a land grant road, running westwardly from Manitowoc, on Lake Michigan, to Stevens Point, in Portage county, and from thence taking a northerly course through lands magnificently rich in all the resources of natural advantages, such as timber and farming lands unrivalled in the world for quality and fertility, until the northeastern border of Clark county is reached, it then proceeds north on the fourth principal meridian, dividing the counties of Chippewa and Marathon, until Ashland county is reached, then bearing northwesterly to Lake Superior.

This road, destined to be a section of the great national thoroughfare between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, already makes a show for speedy completion, the whole route in Wisconsin of nearly four hundred miles having been already surveyed and a portion graded, and the enthusiastic continuation of the work being insured by the excitement on the subject amongst the heaviest capitalists in this and other countries; several of whom have already backed the enterprise by solid investments of money and positive opinions as to its certain success; undoubtedly sustained in these last by the knowledge, from official and other sources, that the road west from Lake Superior to the Pacific coast will pass through a wooded, fertile and watered country, amply capable of sustaining it by overflowing freights of all the staple productions and by a passenger traffic, that in such a favored climate and country must be ample and substantial.

The Northern Pacific road having commenced active opera-

tions with a capital of millions backing it, insuring its speedy completion, the great thoroughfares of the South and East are already seeking connection with its eastern terminus. The Illinois Central, the Chicago and Northwestern, the Milwaukee and St. Paul, the Michigan Central, the Grand Trunk, and many other railways, are ready to stretch their iron arms in this direction. To reach the eastern terminus of the Northern Pacific, they must pass through this region. The location, resources and advantages of Marathon and of all Central and Northern Wisconsin are such that they will necessarily reap vast benefits from any of these lines, when they penetrate this region on their way to join the great northern artery of commerce. The mineral regions north contain the richest deposits of iron, silver and copper, while the magnificent hard timber, such as oak, butternut, ash and maple, will induce the establishment of manufactories like those of Appleton and the cities of the lakes.

The water powers on all the rivers and streams are plenty and available, but few are more important than that of the Fox river, between Lake Winnebago and Green Bay, where there is a fall of 170 feet, easily improved, in a distance of thirty-eight miles. The discharge of water, when the river is at a low stage is 23,206 cubic feet per second, equivalent in the aggregate fall to the power of 448,300 horses. This water power is already much improved, especially at Menasha, Appleton and Depere.

There are lakes from twenty to thirty miles in extent in the interior of the State; the greatest number of the small ones being near the sources of the Chippewa and St. Croix rivers.

The unrivaled timber wealth of the extreme northern counties is not their only resource. They possess another resource, that recent developments conclusively prove will be even more valuable than the timber or agricultural one. This is found in the immense deposits of iron ore that have been discovered. One of these, partly in Ashland and partly in Marathon county, is judged by experts to be the largest and most valuable in the world and as being calculated to supply an exhaustless quantity of the best charcoal iron, which, in the various operations of iron manufacture, ranks first in quality and essential charac-

teristics. Iron ores are now worked only at Iron Ridge, in Dodge county, and at Ironton, in Sauk county, though very extensive beds are known to exist, and of the very best quality, as at the Penokee Iron Range, in Ashland county, the Black River Falls, in Jackson county, as well as at other localities. In the counties of Grant, Iowa, La Fayette, and portions of Dane and Green, are found extensive deposits of lead and zinc, and some copper ores. The annual yield of lead is over half a million dollars in value, and is about one-eighth of all the lead produced in the world. As many as 24,000 tons have been shipped in one year. The shipment of lead from Mineral Point, in Iowa county, for the year 1868, was 2,954,000 pounds, Grant and La Fayette counties supplying the remainder. This lead-producing region being within the limestone district affords one of those few instances where both mining and farming can be carried on together. Quite recently, works have been erected for the reduction of the ores of zinc, which exist in large quantities, and heretofore thrown away among the rubbish of the mines; thus another productive source of wealth is opened to capital and industry. The shipment from Mineral Point, in Iowa county, for the year 1868, was: Zinc ore, 4,484,000 pounds; Oxide of Zinc, 10,214,000 pounds; Zinc Spelter, 630,580 pounds.

The character of the climate may be judged of from the official report of the meteorological officers in the United States War Department, for the following places. On the first day of December, 1870, the thermometer stood:

POINTS.	7 A. M.	4 P. M.	11 P. M.
St. Paul.....	35	52	43
Chicago.....	36	50	41
Cleveland.....	32	48	40
Washington.....	27	49	36
New York City.....	36	47	38
Boston.....	35	48	40

The successful result of the operations of capitalists is proved by the manufactories which dot the State even to the borders of civilization, and by the railroads which gridiron it even to the verge of wilds, where only a few hardy immigrants are cheered

by the whistle of the locomotive as it comes as the welcome pioneer of enterprise, industry and development.

There are now extensive rolling mills at Milwaukee; where large quantities of iron ore worked in the State are used in producing the railroad iron for which there is a constant and increasing demand.

The following figures from the U. S. Census taken during the year ending June 1, 1870, also give encouraging evidence of the substantial resources and prosperity of Wisconsin.

The total population is 1,055,559, being a total net gain since 1860, of 279,678. There are 5,795,538 acres of improved lands, and the estimated value of all farm productions, including betterments and additions to stock, is \$77,507,261. According to the census of 1860, there were 3,064 manufacturing establishments, employing 15,414 persons, and producing manufactures to the value of \$27,849,467. There are now 7,136 establishments manufacturing more than \$500 value annually; employing 39,055 persons and producing manufactures to the value of \$85,624,966. The public debt is \$3,738,965; the total tax levied in each county \$4,753,815; the number of libraries 2,857, and the number of volumes they circulate 880,508. There are 1,396 church edifices valued at \$4,749,883, and 173 newspapers with a total circulation of 281,685.

During the year ending October 1, 1870, the State sold 175,410 acres of school and other lands. If the returns of sales at the United States land offices in the State and by the railroad and grant and other corporations could be given, the figures would show a great and constant demand for the unimproved lands in the State.

The official reports of the Wisconsin State Board of Immigration, also show that the number of immigrants arriving to settle in Wisconsin, has for years past been larger than the number locating in Iowa or Minnesota.

From the foregoing unvarnished statement, a correct idea can be got of the facilities for the safe and profitable investment of capital in the described portions of Wisconsin; where a healthy and invigorating climate favors labor and unrivalled timber, agricultural and mineral wealth attracts and remunerates the operations of capitalists.

RESOURCES, ADVANTAGES AND PRODUCTIONS

OF

SHAWANO COUNTY.

Prepared by a resident of Shawano village, the county seat.

HEALTHY CLIMATE.

As good physical health is the first advantage to be secured in any country, so does the climate of this constitute its principal charm. The atmosphere is dry and pure, and the weather remarkably uniform. No devastating epidemics have ever visited our county. There is no ague and fever, and bilious and pulmonary diseases are very rare. Our summers are as delightful as can be wished for, and the winters, though cold, are not so severe that one accustomed to any climate in the temperate zones is compelled to abandon out-door avocations. The atmosphere being dry, the same degree of cold is not felt so keenly as in damp climates. Cattle, sheep and horses are less subject to disease, and winter more easily than in the chilly damps found further south. During the winter we have uniform and pleasant weather, and good sleighing, while the farmer can work every day hauling produce to the lumber camps, getting fencing or wood, (which only costs the labor of getting it out) hauling out manure or preparing for the spring's work, which can be commenced as soon as the frost is out of the ground, which gives a decided advantage over those sections where the farmer is compelled to wait three or four weeks for the low, wet, heavy soil to dry before he is able to commence operations.

THE LOG HOUSE.

The first great object of the emigrant is to provide a home for his wife and children, and in no place can this be done more

cheaply, quickly, and at the same time more substantially than in Shawano county. Our forest trees gently waving before the breeze in summer, and braving the sleet and cold of winter, offer at once the material for house, barn, sheds and fences. The immigrant bargains for his land, and then with his axe fells the trees for his house—his neighbors gather, and with a cordial welcome, roll up the logs, and before night the house is completed, and the homeless emigrant, with scarce the outlay of a dollar, has a good substantial home. His axe has split the “shakes” from the durable straight-grained cedar, for the roof, and the basswood, fashioned by the same tool, has made the floor. When cold weather comes the house is made warm and comfortable by filling all openings with mortar made of cut straw and clay. Such is the house our county affords at once to the poor immigrant; the materials are convenient and abundant, and need not cost a dollar, his own work makes them ready, and the kind-hearted neighbors put them together for him, and he is then ready to commence the work of clearing his land.

PERSONAL EXAMPLES.

Many and many an immigrant both from the Old World and the Eastern States, move into the woods, throw up a little log house without windows or doors, a few split stakes for a table, blocks for chairs and hemlock or pine boughs for beds, and there live while they are clearing their land for the first crop of wheat or corn, and the history of our western country shows that thousands of this class of immigrants have risen to wealth and power—and even the county of Shawano, which is yet in its infancy, can show many instances of the same character—among which we might mention the following: Charles Sumuicht, of the town of Hartland, in this county, came poor, and lived for several years in a log shanty. He now owns six hundred and forty acres of land and has forty-five under the plow, and holds the office of Register of Deeds and Town Treasurer. Eentry Lucke, of the same town, came here quite poor and now owns five hundred acres of land with forty-five acres under the plow, and fills the offices of County Supervisor and Town Clerk. The Retzlaff brothers of the town of Belle Plain, own large and handsome

farms. John Klickman of the same town, has a large farm and handsome house in the place of the log house first built. The Semple brothers have exchanged the primitive log house for the more comfortable, large and handsome farm-house, and have superior farms on the banks of the Wolf river, and raise large quantities of grain and hay and count their wealth by tens of thousands. G. Hikman, a Hollander, was the first settler in the southwestern portion of the county, who with his sons, William and Jack, are the owners of nearly a section of land, and have seventy-five acres cleared and under cultivation. C. R. Klibersadel, in the same town with the Hikmans, owns a section of land and has about forty acres cleared. August Koeppen has two large farms and is chairman of his town. William Wolf has a large farm and is town clerk. Frederick Mallow has a beautiful farm and with his son-in-law, A. Morika, A. Shopker, and F. Fruze, constitute a quartette that would do much to develop any town. Julius Schilling, once a poor German emigrant, now owns a handsome farm and is chairman of Pella. Joseph Maurer has cleared up a beautiful farm and erected good farm buildings, and owns a large quantity of land, and is a man remarkable for his integrity and honesty of purpose—has filled the responsible position of county judge. John Holm, a Norwegian, has a handsome and productive farm in Waukeehon where quite a number of the same nationality have settled.

HOUSES AND BUILDING MATERIAL.

After a few years residence in this county, the immigrant becomes comparatively wealthy and builds a more costly house, the old log house gives way to a more pretentious building, and in the cheapness of lumber, the abundance of stone and gravel, while the beds of clay furnish the best material for brick, which can be manufactured at comparatively small cost in every neighborhood, and the many ledges of limestone show that the building material is abundant, easily accessible and cheap, and by the addition of labor can be easily manufactured into comfortable, complete and beautiful houses.

PRICE OF LANDS.

Shawano county has about 655,000 acres of land, a very large portion of which is unimproved. The improved lands are held at an average price of twenty dollars per acre. Some of them are worth fifty dollars per acre. The unimproved lands can be purchased by settlers at prices ranging from fifty cents per acre to six dollars. The lowest priced lands are those from which the pine timber has been taken. There is quite a quantity of Government land in the western part of the county, which the actual settlers can take under the "Homestead Act," on the payment of about twelve dollars for a quarter section. There are about one hundred thousand acres of State land in the county which is sold at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre; in most cases, a few dollars on each forty acres is required to be paid down and on the balance the purchaser gets two years time, by paying annually seven per cent. interest on the amount unpaid, which enables a poor man to obtain a farm at a mere nominal sum. Many of our German farmers have purchased their lands of the State in this manner and are now in prosperous circumstances. There is also quite a quantity of railroad land here that can be purchased at from two to five dollars per acre. The "Fox River Improvement Co." own a large quantity of land in this county, scattered through the several towns; these lands were selected years ago with care, regard being paid to nearness to market, &c., and they comprise some of the best lands in the county, and there will be found to be some of the best oak openings, heavy timbered and pine lands in this section of the State. The company sell these lands at prices varying from two to six dollars per acre, and give the purchaser time on part of the purchase money.

RAILROADS.

A railway is already in progress from Green Bay to the Mississippi, and will pass near the southern boundary of the county. There is also a prospect in the future of a railway along the Wolf river valley, passing through the county north and south, as it is by far the best, and in fact the only feasible route to the rich copper regions in the Ontonagon districts, by far the most valuable in the United States.

ROADS.

Roads have been opened into every settlement, and the public roads leading to market are well worked and liberal appropriations made to keep them in repair. The United States military road, leading from Green Bay to Lake Superior, passes through the county nearly east and west. Another road passes through the county north and south, opening up communication with Oshkosh. There are seven main roads leading from the village of Shawano to all parts of the county, thus affording to the emigrant excellent facilities to locate at any point and at the same be able to get his crops to market.

RIVERS AND LAKES.

The Wolf river, emptying into the Fox, is a large and steady stream suitable for navigation as far as the village of Shawano, while above the village its fall furnishes abundant water power for mills, &c. It runs through the county from north to south, and furnishes a channel for carrying off our immense bodies of pine timber. The Embarrass river is a large stream emptying into the Wolf and running westerly through the county. Red river is a stream containing a large number of valuable mill sites, and at present is used for running logs to Wolf river. Mill creek is a stream emptying into the Embarrass river. It runs through a rich agricultural district, and contains several good mill sites, and would furnish abundant power to run them. Shawano outlet is a stream connecting Lake Shawano with the Wolf river. Lake Shawano is a handsome body of water about ten miles long by six wide, bordered by handsome, thrifty pine lands. White Clay lake and Loon lake connect with Lake Shawano, and their surplus waters empty into the Wolf river, thus affording a direct communication between the pine lands which surround them and the lumber market at Oshkosh.

HEAD OF NAVIGATION.

Shawano is the head of navigation on the Wolf river, and is, and must of necessity, remain the terminus of the river carrying trade. All heavy freight is now brought by steamboat and barge from the Lakes or Mississippi river to our village without

breaking bulk, and goods purchased in New York and shipped by way of the Lakes reach us by water and are landed within the village, thus enabling our merchants to sell heavy freights at a low price as compared with the markets of other inland towns where such goods are carried over rough roads. This means of communication will furnish a cheap and reliable avenue for carrying off our surplus products, and when the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers is completed, as it shortly will be, we shall find a ready market on the Mississippi for our timber of all kinds, whether manufactured or cut ready for the manufactories of the large cities.

WATER POWER.

In water powers, Shawano county has more than almost any other county in this section of the State, and what adds to their value, is the fact that they are so equally distributed through almost the entire county, and can be made available in nearly every town. The Embarrass river affords valuable sites for mills in the towns of Bell Plain, Pella and Grant, several of which are already in use. The stream is unvarying and the water abundant. Red river has power enough to run a hundred first class mills and manufactories. Wolf river can easily and without any heavy outlay be made available for a dozen or more mills and machine shops. Mill Creek, in township twenty-six and twenty-seven of range fourteen, has several good sites for mills. Shawano lake and its outlet give a good power at a little expense. The outlet between Lake Shawano and White Clay lake will furnish a good power for a grist or saw-mill. These sites can now be purchased at reasonable prices; in fact some of the best of them can be purchased of the State at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre.

MANUFACTURES.

Our county has as yet made but little advance in the direction of manufactories, although there is considerable talk of starting various branches. The county affords advantages in water powers and material second to none. At present we have two grist-mills, three saw-mills run by water power, and four by steam; one wagon shop, six blacksmith shops and a Potash establishment.

LUMBERING.

The most important branch of our business for the past twenty-four years, has been lumbering. During the winter seasons our citizens have been engrossed in felling the majestic monumental pine that has borne aloft its unfading coronal of green for centuries, and whose solemn strains of music have been heard by all who have visited our lumber camps; the summer is devoted to running the same logs out of the Embarrass and Red rivers and Shawano Lake into the Wolf river and thence to market. Our lumber camps have been the best kind of a market for all surplus farm products. Hay is seldom below twenty dollars per ton and often as high as thirty dollars, while oats, corn and wheat bring from twenty-five to fifty cents per bushel more than at other parts of the State. The yield of lumber has reached as high as one hundred and twenty-five million feet per year and seldom falls below eighty million, which for the past few years has been worth from eight to ten dollars per thousand feet. The heaviest resident lumberman is Myron H. McCord, the present County Treasurer, who came into the county when a mere boy, and has grown up, "as we might say," in a lumber camp, and from a poor boy, at work by the month, has worked his way up until he is now a heavy operator in the pine market, respected by his fellow citizens for his manliness of character and strict integrity in business matters; Philetus Sawyer, Member of Congress from this Congressional District, and George R. Andrews, ex-M. C. from New York, both residents of Oshkosh, under the firm name of "Sawyer & Andrews," own large tracts of pine lands in the county, and every winter operate several camps and employ a large number of men and teams—in fact their operations are so heavy that they have nearly or quite controlled the lumbering interest of the county for years. C. D. Wescott may be called the pioneer lumberman of the county. He came into the county in 1844, and has been employed in the woods every winter for the past twenty-six years; when he first came he worked for fifteen dollars per month, and is now the owner of a section of land and has a large farm on Wolf river, about one mile from Shawano village, has been Chairman of his town for many years and Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors nine years; John

A. Winans and Charles Magee are also numbered among our best lumbering firms.

PRODUCTIONS.

Shawano county is well adapted to the raising of winter wheat; the winters are uniform and the snow covers the ground and protects the grain, the result being a yield of from twenty-five to thirty-five bushels per acre of very plump, bright wheat, that produces the very best brand of flour. Oats, barley and rye grow well and produce heavy crops. Corn is raised in considerable quantities, but the ground is more profitable for winter wheat. The soil is well adapted to hops. Broom corn yields a good crop and furnishes work for the winter—the farmer manufacturing it into brooms. Potatoes yield bountifully, and are of a most excellent quality. Onions, beets, carrots, parsnips and all other root crops are grown with success. Grass lands yield from one to three tons, of hay per acre, which finds a ready market among the lumbermen. Other lumber camps afford the best kind of a market for all surplus farm products. Hay is seldom below twenty dollars per ton and often as high as thirty dollars, while oats, corn and wheat bring from twenty-five to fifty cents per bushel more than at other parts of the State.

The cultivation of the soil is successful and profitable; even a casual observer cannot fail to acknowledge it. Nearly all the settlers who came into the county from three to six years ago, many of them penniless, are now worth from ten to fifteen thousand dollars. Let those who doubt, look at the handsome farms in the towns of Grant, Pella, Hartland, Angelica, or either of the other towns, the substantial houses, horses, cattle, sheep, and swine around them, the fields of wheat, oats and rye looking over the fences, a sight that should gladden the heart of every despondent farmer; let them see a property that would in Europe be valued at tens of thousands, and then consider all this is the product of less than six years' work without capital, and the most dubious must confess that farming is exceedingly profitable.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

The climate is unusually healthy for sheep, and there is always a lively demand for mutton at good prices. The pasture lands

are extensive and cheap, and produce a variety of grasses, herbs and shrubbery, part of which remains green and nutritious until snow falls, so that sheep can run until that time, and thus reduce the expense of wintering them. The steady uniform temperature of our climate must always make sheep and wool raising profitable, as the sheep are not so liable to disease, and the yield of wool is greater than in the southern portion of the State.

PORK RAISING.

Pork raising is not carried on here so extensively as in the corn-growing districts, but on a small scale is more profitable, as hogs fatten easily on the products of the forest, such as hazel and beech nuts, acorns, and the nutritious roots and herbs that cover the ground. Pork is thus cheaply raised and brings a higher price here than in other places, as it is the staple food for lumbermen.

FRUITS AND BERRIES.

Experiments with cultivated fruits have been successful, but the county is yet too young to have fruit trees in full bearing, although many farmers have fine, thrifty trees that already begin to yield.

Berries of all kinds abound in large quantities and continue through the season, one variety following another. Strawberries first, then red and black raspberries, followed by blue and whortleberries, which give way to the palatable, nourishing and healthy blackberry; the season ending with cranberries, which last until strawberries ripen again.

SUGAR MAPLE.

The large forests of sugar maple enable the emigrant, by a few days' work in the early spring, while the snow is melting off, to obtain his year's supply of sugar, and often he is able to sell from \$25 to \$100 worth of the first quality of sugar that brings from twelve to fifteen cents per pound. And all this is done without the outlay of any amount of capital. The emigrant's ax makes the buckets, and the boiler and kettle furnish suitable facilities for boiling away the sap. Of course, as the settlers' means

increase, he is able to buy larger kettles and pans, and thus extend the business.

RELIGIOUS.

Owing to the large number of German settlers, the German Lutheran Society numbers more than any other. They are under the charge of Rev. P. H. Dicke, a devout and christian clergyman, who labors faithfully and conscientiously to advance the interests of the church. The society has a handsome frame church in Bell Plain, and comfortable log churches in Grant, Pella and Hartland, and adjoining towns. The Evangelical church, under charge of that denomination, has good churches in the towns of Grant and Hartland and among their number will be found some of our best German farmers. The Methodist Episcopal church has an organization in Shawano Village, and a comfortable, well built church nearly ready to occupy. The society has no regular preacher at the present time, but the pulpit is supplied by Dr. E. W. Stevens, formerly chaplain in the army, who is now practicing medicine at Shawano Village. The Roman Catholics have a mission church at Keshena, under charge of a Rev. Father of that denomination. They have also a comfortable, cozy little church nearly completed in the village of Shawano. The Presbyterians have a mission church at Red Spring (Stockbridge) in this county, under the charge of Rev. Jeremiah Slingerland, a full blooded Stockbridge Indian, who has received a liberal education, and is respected by all classes for his christian and moral character. He also preaches at Shawano when circumstances permit.

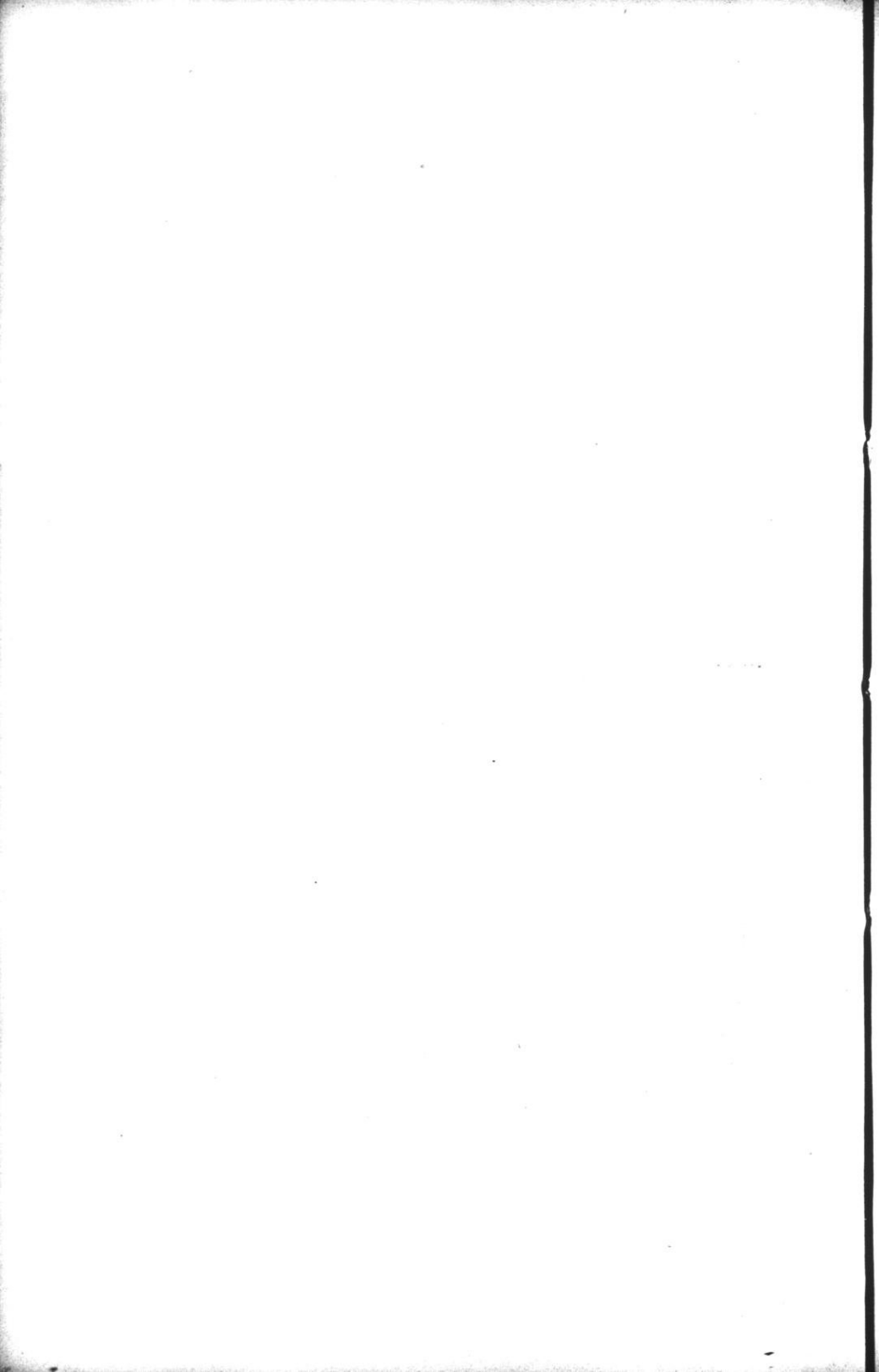
EDUCATIONAL.

There is a system of free schools in every town in the county, that affords an excellent opportunity for educating the children of the emigrant. The common schools are supported, in the main, by the proceeds of the sale of school lands, and also by taxes levied upon the county, town and school district, and are under the supervision of the county superintendent of schools, who is elected by the people every second year. In many districts among the Germans, German teachers are employed, and the schools are therefore made beneficial to the German emigrants at once. As the county becomes more settled, new districts will

be organized, so as to accommodate every neighborhood with educational advantages.

WELCOME TO EMIGRANTS.

Unlike some other localities, the emigrant from foreign countries is received with a cordial welcome, not only by his own countrymen, but also by the native born citizens, the majority of whom are singularly free from native and religious prejudices; as they are well aware that honest and industrious immigrants add to the wealth, greatness and welfare of their country, which every European will love as well as the native born, when he owns a portion of its rich soil and calls it Home.



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References.

Wisconsin State Officers.	Second National Bank, Chicago, Ill.
First National Bank, Madison, Wisconsin.	W. C. Browning & Co., 326 Broadway, N. Y.
Bank of Madison, " "	Thompson & Towne, 47 Wall street, "
H. W. & D. K. Tenney, " "	Burrage & Reed, 133 Pearl street, Boston.
Francis Palms, Detroit, Michigan.	Marshall & Hsley, Bankers, Milwaukee.

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