**Town of Cicero.—** The first attempted settlement in this town, it is said, was when John T. Pierce, his son Silas and Lloyd G. Walker pre-empted lands along the Shioe river in section 30 about the middle of September, 1865. They built shanties, into which they moved about Christmas time, and intended making homestead entry as soon as their pre-emption rights expired. The following spring the lowlands along the Shioe were flooded; four feet of water stood above their cabin floors; fearing worse, they rafted their effects down river to Shioe. Some of their claims were transferred to Herman Eberhard, who, with E. C. Stannard, came in the summer, Eberhard settling west of the river and Stannard on the State road in southwest section 32. John Sorrell appeared not long afterward. Charles Briggs came about 1866. Harry Shepherd about a year later, lived on section 28. Wright, Peter and James Sherman came about a year or two later. William LeMerl lived in section 30, lot 5, which he homesteaded in 1868. Karl Bleek, with his family, came in the fall of that year to section 28. At this time there was no bridge across Black creek at the site of the village; settlers had to go around by the State road to get into Cicero. Stephen B. Salter, in September, 1870, took a homestead in northeast 30. Lorenzo Daniels came the same year to 29, later living in 19. C. Herman came next year to 29, and about December Elisha Baxter came to the same section. Gottlieb Giesberger lived in section 33 about 1870. James Bradley and John Rice in western 34, Anton Zulinger, Franz Klauer and Franz Schnabel in 32, came about the same time. Walch and Kuchenbecker were settlers in the early '70s, the latter in section 12. William Schroeder, Charles Wussow, Edward Jaeger and Charles Court lived in section 26 in 1871. In the same year Arthur McKee lived in section 33, Andreas Barth in 36, Ernst Neuft in northeast 33, William Ladds in northwest 32, John Larson in southwest 20, George Glaser on the county road in southwest 29; all were settled before April, 1871. About 1872 Christian Roepke lived in section 1. In 1873, John Machinsky settled in 28 and about the same time Fred and Christian Koehn in section 9, and John Burmeister, followed about a year later by Fred and Henry Burmeister. William Piehl and John Bubolz about that time settled in section 1. Ezra Butter lived in southeast 36. Jacob Anderes, his son Gottlieb and Fred, and his son-in-law, Peter Groff, lived in the school section about 1877-8.

Township 24, range 17 (now Cicero), composed the northern half of the town Black Creek at the organization of that town. At its January session, 1871, the county board of supervisors received a petition, praying a division of the town of Black Creek. The committee to whom the petition was referred reported: “In our opinion the town cannot be divided. The town issued bonds in aid of the Green Bay & Lake Pepin Railroad, which are still outstanding. The General Laws of 1870 expressly declare it shall not be lawful to strike from any town so issuing bonds any part of its territory while such bonds are unpaid.” After accepting this report, a petition was signed by all the members of the board asking the Legislature to
pass an act dividing the town, and such act was passed, the division being made possible by apportioning the bonded debt of $5,000 to the town of Cicero and $7,000 to the town of Black Creek.

At the first annual meeting of Cicero, held April 4, 1871, the following were elected: Stephen B. Salter, chairman; John Rice and William Schrader, supervisors; Harry Shepherd, town clerk; Charles Briggs, assessor; John Sorrell, treasurer; Reuben Goddard, Asa Price, Gottlieb Geisberger and Stephen B. Salter, justices of the peace; Charles Wussow, William Bleek and G. A. Glaser, constables.

In June, 1871, three school districts were formed, No. 1 to include the twelve sections on the west side of town, No. 2 the twelve lying next east through the middle, and No. 3 to include the remaining twelve sections. That year a schoolhouse was built in district 1, in which Lucretia Brainerd taught the first school. Houses were built and schools started in the other districts soon afterward.

Lawson & Webster were among the first having logging crews in Cicero in the '60s. Daniels of Oshkosh also run logs down the Shioc. The Brush boys cut logs along Load creek, where was the finest pine mixed with giant hardwood. Jim and Tom Gaynor of Fond du Lac lumbered in the northern part about 1870 to 1876. Some of their logs were landed on the Shioc and some on Herman Brook. Others who logged in Cicero were John Park, Hiram Grigg, Tom Shepherd and Nathan Dodge. Dodge took out cedar timber. Sewell Shepherd one season lumbered with Dodge.

The Evangelical Lutheran congregation in North Cicero was started by Rev. Wuebben during his pastorate at Seymour. A church was built and Rev. F. Proehl has since been the pastor. The Lutheran Church of South Cicero is served by a minister from Black Creek.

**Town of Maine.**—The first settlers in the territory of Maine were David Stinson, his son-in-law, George Speers, Paul Greeley and Mr. Whitmore, in 1854. They were from Chilton, “State of Maine,” and came by boat up Wolf river, landing just below where Andrew Allen now lives in section 9, on the Shawano road. Andrew Allen, who was probably the next settler, came from Canada in 1862, locating in section 9. Thomas Jacobs came shortly after Allen, and settled on the school section. Thomas W. Allen and Sylvester Boody were probably next. Boody, too, came from Maine, and located in 16. Claud Hurlbert came from New York state three or four years after Andrew Allen, settling in section 4. Ezra Ryder was in the same section, and an old Vermonter, Thomas Allen, settled in section 21. All these families had arrived before Matt. D. Leeman, in 1867.

In 1867, David H., Jerry, Jacob J. and G. D. Carpenter came in, David and Jerry to section 12, Jacob to 16. Moses S. Curtis came in the fall, living at first in section 3, afterward in 11. Marcellus and James Spaulding came also that year, lived in section 16, Charles S. Spaulding in section 4 the year preceding. Eben Pushor settled in 16 in 1867; D. W. Fuller arrived about the close of the war. H. S. and George Leeman came in 1866. A. H. Atwater, in
1870, was the first settler west of Wolf river, in section 4; Elmer Strong next on No. 5; Richard Strong about the same time; Diemal, Jersey and Ball came early in the '70s; Jim and Cal Sawyer about 1873. At this time there was no bridge across the river. A flatboat was used as an accommodation ferry. No tolls were charged, as it was a neighborhood boat provided for general use, every man being his own ferryman, though if help were needed "he had only to holler" and someone would come to his assistance. A corduroy through the swamp and a wooden bridge was built in the winter of 1881-2, which was used until 1888, when it was replaced by the present steel structure.

The town of Maine, more than any other in the county, has an English speaking population. Most of the earlier settlers were American born, the exceptions being generally Canadians. In the later '70s and the first half of the eighth decade a number of Scandinavian families, principally Norwegians, came in, among them Andrew Skogskrom and Andrew Lind, who arrived about 1876, both settling in section 3. Nels Nelson three years later in the same section. John and Martin Larson came about the same time. Ole Arenson, about 1880; Christian Olsen, Gust. Erickson and Alfred Nelson, '80 or '81; William and Charley Dorn in 1881; Lars Johnson, Eric Jones and Nels Johnson, 1882.

The first schoolhouse was a log shanty in section 9, the next in section 16, "a shanty of boards nailed to posts stuck in the ground." Both were on the old Shawano road, then the only thoroughfare. This road, said to have been cut through by the Government for a military road before settlement began, afterward worked out by the settlers, followed the course of Wolf river, and was for many years the route traversed by lumbermen and supply teams going to logging camps in Shawano, and as it extended through to Lake Superior, it was early a thoroughfare of great importance and heavy travel until the railroads were extended through its territory. David Stinson's cabin was early made a stopping place by travelers along this road, as was Andrew Allen's, and in fact any of the settlers who could furnish accommodations, but Stinson and Allen made special provision for the entertainment of travelers and care of teams, the latter building a hotel in 1871 and continuing nearly forty years.

The first store was started by H. S. Leeman and Andrew Allen, and not long afterward another was opened by Fuller and Greeley. M. D. Leeman's was the third mercantile venture, opening with a small stock in 1880 and continuing to the present. A postoffice was established at Stinson and at Leeman's, the latter still in commission, though the town has rural service from Shiocton. A rural route extending into Shawano county starts from Leeman postoffice.

The choicest timber along the Wolf had been logged and run down the river by the middle '60s, but for many years logging was the greatest industry, and for the settlers almost the only source of revenue. Beach and Conley were big lumbermen who operated very extensively in Maine, owning most of section 10, all of 11 and
The Town of Maine was created November, 1868, and the first annual town meeting ordered held at the schoolhouse in District 1 in section 9 of the next town the following April. At this town election eighteen votes were cast, electing P. A. Greeley, chairman; A. Allen and M. Spaulding, supervisors; James E. Spaulding, clerk; H. S. Leeman, treasurer; William L. Hurlbert and J. C. Spaulding, justices; T. Jacobs, constable; P. A. Greeley and H. S. Leeman, assessors.

Town of Liberty.—Alvin Burnell was probably the first white man settled in Liberty. The date of his coming, while uncertain, was probably about 1850, since it is said he was here when Joseph Turney and family came, about 1851, and settled in section 4 in what is now Liberty. Another early comer was a Mr. Yeomans, who, according to the Wisconsin Historical Society's collectors for 1856, had been living “at the foot of Wolf Peak, commonly called Mosquito Hill, four years,” and who may have preceded Burnell. Samuel Reynolds came that summer or the next after the Turneys and lived in southeast section 15. Leroy Turner came 1853 or early 1854 and settled in southwest 6, where the fair grounds are now located. Henry Olin, who came about the same time, lived just beyond in the same section. Simeon Kegg lived alone in a little shanty on the Embarrass river. He was a Frenchman, somewhat eccentric and excitable. When he was elected sealer of weights and measures he jumped up and shouted: “By grass, I go right down an’ mek Zhon Breidenstein’s pint measure hold a quart!” Breidenstein kept tavern.

John Evritt lived in northeast and Charles Evritt in northwest 4; came about 1855, and together owned the island formed by the cutoff and Embarrass river. Ireland came a little later and joined farms with Olin. John and Charles Abbott came to South Liberty about 1854-5, but only stayed a few years. John R. Nickel about this time moved over from Maple Creek, bought land in section 4. Andrew Farrand came about 1855 and lived on the Shiocton road; after a few years sold to John Emery and moved to New London. Emery, it is said, devised the knotter for twine binders.

Thomas R. Torrey and one son came to Liberty December, 1855, and settled in section 13, township 23, but five years later removed to Shiocton. Samuel Torrey, who came at the same time, settled some years later in 14. Sargent Jewell came soon after the Torreys to northeast 1. Godfrey Dix and Michael Emerick also settled in section 1. Alexander Reeke, on the Shiocton road, near the corner of sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, came about 1856, and following him came James Pine, on same road. Pine’s son-in-law, Harvey Hook, at the same time settled in South Liberty. Matthias, Fred and Christ Siegel came in 1856, followed the next year by their part of 12, besides large areas of “stumpage” in other tracts. Buckstaff and Chase operated west of the Wolf river and put in most of the timber on that side. Beach afterward cleared and operated a farm on three quarters of section 11.
mother and father, Jacob F. Siegel, all settling beyond Mosquito Hill on the South Liberty road, though at the time Mr. M. Siegel says there were no roads in that vicinity except those used by the lumbermen who were then putting logs into the Wolf river. Jones of Oshkosh and a firm from Fond du Lac each had a camp. John Morack and his brother, Fred Kanter, John Stake and Hahn came a year or so later, all settling in a bunch beyond the Siegels in South Liberty. S. T. Cottrell, Ireland and his son-in-law, John Sanborn, lived on the Shiocton road, but moved out in the later '50s. Godfrey Dix lived on the Gruppmann place, was there in 1856, and a man named Ferkinson lived near him. William Rase and Kuppernuss in northeast 7, and Frederick Strake came early in 1858. John Grupmann came about a year later. B. F. Stimson kept a little store in New London and lived in the Third ward. Peter Thorn came 1857 and settled in section 14. C. A. Holz came the next year and lived near the Siegels, in South Liberty. The Dexters lived near New London a few years, but by exchange got land in Liberty about 1858. F. Eager came about the same time. William Rohan lived with his brothers in Lebanon, but came to Liberty about 1857. Dickinson settled in 4 the same time. Ripley J. Richards about 1858 to 5. Andrew Nitke about the same time came to northwest 3, James Franklin to southwest 6 in 1857. Nathaniel Wright owned land in section 13, 1858, and was elected justice of the peace, but since old residents fail to recall him, it is probable his stay was brief. Alonzo Quackenbush is not remembered as a settler, though elected constable 1858. Henry Ketcham came in the early '60s. McFarland and his brother-in-law, Jack Anson, came before the war. Anson worked in the woods in winters and in summer on the boats which ran regularly to Oshkosh. Augustus Wellman lived in northeast 8. Matthias Siegel brought the first team of horses into Liberty.

An ordinance, effective March 1, 1858, provided that all that part of the town of Embarrass, lying in township 22 north, range 15 east, be set off from the town of Embarrass, and constitute a new town to be called Liberty. An amendment to the creative ordinance provided that the boundaries of the towns of Embarrass and Liberty be changed so the town of Liberty should embrace all that part of township 22 north, range 15 east, lying north of Wolf river and the two south tiers of sections in township 23 north, range 15 east. The ordinance was still further amended January 13, 1859, and the boundaries so fixed, that Liberty included that part of township 22 north, range 15 east, lying north of Wolf river and sections 1, 2, 12, 13, 14, the east ½ of section 22, section 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, the east ½ of 33, and section 34, 35 and 36 township 23 north, range 15 east, and so as to embrace in Embarrass, the remainder of townships 23 and 24 north, range 15 east.

By ordinance January 12, 1871, the boundaries between Maple Creek and Liberty were changed, so that the portion of Maple Creek described as the east half of the southwest quarter of section 33, township 23 north, be detached from Maple Creek, and made a part of
Liberty; and that part of Liberty described as the northwest half of the northeast quarter of section 33, township 23, range 15, be detached from Liberty and made a part of Maple Creek.


The first annual meeting of Liberty was held April 6, 1858, and organized by appointing Ripley J. Richards, chairman; Augustus Wellman and Leroy Turner inspectors; and S. W. Cottrell, clerk. Road improvement was here as in other towns the first consideration. While yet included in Embarrass the matter had received attention and various roads had been laid, notably the New London and Shioc road traversing the northern part of township 22, and another traversing the town in the direction of Stephensville, which seems to have been called the Reynolds road, now known as the south Liberty road. These roads traversed ridges on either side of a swamp which seems to have made a natural division of the town into north and south Liberty. A special road fund of a thousand dollars had been raised and after separation from Embarrass $350 reverted to Liberty and $150 was "applied on a bridge across the Embarrass leading to town of Liberty," which was the first across the Embarrass. It was determined to expend the $350 as follows: $100 to bridge the cedar swamp on section 2, $100 to bridge a swamp on 8 on the Reynolds road, $100 on the New London and Shioc road between the east line of section 4 and the south line of sections 5, $25 to be expended on the cedar swamp on section 2, $25 on the New London and Shioc between end of outlet bridge and west line of town. It was further voted at this meeting, that a special road tax of seven mills be levied, to be expended in the districts where raised. Voted also $150 for current expenses and $50 for schools. Twenty-seven (27) votes were polled electing Ripley J. Richards, chairman; Joseph Turney and Samuel Reynolds, supervisors; Samuel W. Turney, clerk; Alexander Reeke, treasurer; John R. Nickel, superintendent of schools; Hobart S. Dickinson, William Raase, Leroy Turner and Nathaniel Wright, justices; Augustus Wellman, assessor; Alonzo Quackenbush, James B. Franklin and Sargent Jewell, constables.

While yet a part of Embarrass, school district Number 1 was formed but September 2, 1858, it was made to include all of township 23, range 15 in Liberty, the southeast quarter of section 32 and south half of 33 in Embarrass, and all that part of township 22 in Liberty except sections 1, 6 and 7.

Settlement of the town progressed steadily until the early '70s, the best tracts by this time being already occupied, the town has never been thickly populated and in the last decade has fallen off
about fifteen per cent, the census of 1910 showing 521 inhabitants, or about sixteen and one-third per square mile in Liberty with southeast quarter section 32 and south half of 33 in town of Embarrass and all that part of township 22 in Liberty except sections 1, 6 and 7. The records are silent as to the date of the building of this schoolhouse.

The early settlement of the town was rapid until the war period by which time the best of its territory was occupied, its population per square mile of area being but sixteen and one-third the last decade showing a falling off of nearly 15 per cent the last census showing 521 inhabitants.

Churches in New London afforded opportunity for residents of Liberty to worship each according to his faith and it was not until the later '90s a church was built in North Liberty and in 1899 a frame building was erected in South Liberty, both congregations are Germans of the Evangelical Lutheran denomination. Rev. Walker was the first pastor and had four churches under his care. Before the church was built, services were held in the South Liberty schoolhouse.

_Town of Embarrass._—On the last day of December, 1852, by the Board of Supervisors the following resolution was adopted: "That so much of the territory of Outagamie county as lies north and west of the Wolf river be, and the same is hereby organized into a separate town and the legal voters therein are duly authorized to elect town officers and transact town business, and the first town meeting be held at the house of Washington Law on the first Tuesday of April next; the polls to be opened at the hour specified by law for annual elections; said town to be known by the name of Embarrass. And be it further resolved that Norman Nash be and is hereby authorized to post up in said territory three or more copies of the above resolution, said resolution to be furnished him by the clerk of the Board."

Prior to this time, though included in Outagamie county, it does not appear that this territory possessed any political significance. By the settlers of Ellington, Hortonia and Bovina it was known as "The Indian land beyond the Wolf," and does not appear to have been included as an out district of any town already organized. A few settlers had located there before the survey was made. The first settler of record within the present boundary of Maple Creek, was the venerable George W. Law, whose house was appointed the first annual meeting place, who now resides in New London. The date of his coming is fixed by Thomas C. Nickel, who a boy of eighteen came with him, as the first week in May, 1850. This trip was undertaken with Mr. Turney to procure tan bark for which they had a contract. On this they were engaged until November, when they returned to the settlements, but each it seems selected tracts and made locations to which they returned the following year, Mr. Law in section 29, Maple Creek, Mr. Turney in Liberty.
A few settlers followed Mr. Law probably the same year though he says it seemed nearly a year before his wife saw a white woman. There were plenty of Indians, however, but while never troublesome, they could never be companions nor associates of the pioneer mothers. Viewing it after a lapse of sixty years it was not long, however, it seemed to them, until others came, probably Jeremiah Merricle coming next after Law to section 18 and George Lutsey, Alvin and Lewis Holcomb and a man named Geer who lived on the creek.

On the records of the old town Embarrass we find the following: "Failed to hold town meeting on the day specified in foregoing resolution; for want of an officer to qualify the board. It was therefore deemed necessary to call a meeting for the purpose of organizing said town."

It does not appear when this conclusion was reached but this entry is followed by a declaration as follows: "We the undersigned qualified voters of the town of Embarrass, and county of Outagamie, do believe it is for the common interest of said town to organize ourselves into a body politic, for the purpose of choosing officers and transacting such other business as may (be) deemed proper and necessary." Dated, "Embarrass, Wis., Oct. 25, 1853" and signed by Jer. Merricle, George Lutsey, George W. Law, Alvin C. Holcomb, Augustus Busch and Lewis M. Holcomb. Then under same date is the notice of meeting and election. At this election thirteen votes were cast and the following officers elected, each of whom received the total vote: Jeremiah Merricle, George Lutsey and Alvin Burnell, supervisors; Alvin C. Holcomb, town clerk; George W. Law, treasurer; Alvin C. Holcomb, superintendent of schools; Alvin Burnell, Alvin C. Holcomb, George Lutsey and Joseph Turney, justices of peace; Lewis M. Holcomb, Fordyce Worth, constables; Lewis M. Holcomb, assessor; George Lutsey, sealer of weights and measures; Andrew A. Dakin, overseer of highways. No poll list is recorded and the five voters who were not elected to office remain unidentified. The settlers located rapidly in 1851-2 and 3 and it is believed a full poll would show nearly double the number appearing of record though some had not "gained residence." Among those mentioned, Augustus Busch settled on what is now the Kickhofer place in section 17; Andrew A. Dakin came about 1851 to section 29; Alvin Burnell was about as early as Law but settled in Liberty, was a bachelor and probably the first white man in Liberty. Joseph Turney also settled in Liberty. Fordyce Worth came to Maple Creek about 1852. Some not mentioned in the records but known to have settled before November, 1853, were: Thomas Nickel, father of Thomas C., Levi and John Nickel, who came to Maple Creek and located in section 29, in February, 1852, and died the following April. John Wheeler came to the same section about the same time or possibly earlier, Mrs. Wheeler died in March, 1852, and hers was probably the first death in the settlement. There was no cemetery and both she and Mr. Nickel, and later, a little child of Wm. McDonald, were buried in the woods on the section where they lived, resting there until a cemetery was established. McDonald joined the settlement in
1852. James Payton came in the fall of the same year. Sam and
John Payton about that time. Joseph N. Owen, unmarried, came
with his brother-in-law, Gordon House, both locating in 32, in 1853.
Porter Bowen in the same year on the same section near the Em-
barrass river, afterward removing to section 13, Deer Creek. Norman
Gerard lived near Lutsey in section 15, Maple Creek. Alexander
Cuthbertson and Robert Hutchison, both of Scotch ancestry, bought
land in 1854 on Maple Creek in section 17. Lyman Woodward came
about 1853 to section 31. Joseph N. Owen in the same year bought
section 29, and Giesbert Stechtman in 30. The
Ruckdashels, Lawrence and his parents, came about 1854 and were the
first in what later became Sugar Bush. Thomas C. Nickel, who came
with Law 1850, settled in 29 in 1855. Michael Flannagan about a
year later settled in 19. Fred Fuerst came 1856 to 28. Walter
Housten lived on Shawano road in Maple Creek about 1856, kept a
tavern and had the first bar in the town. Isaac Krake came 1856,
stopped at New London where by this time there was a little settle-
ment, until he could prepare a home in section 32, Maple Creek. His
sons Levi and Ephriam lived in same section. They were of the
"Mohawk Dutch" and with the energy characteristic of that people
engaged in the development of the settlement. Warren Jepson
from the same region in New York came the same year, removing in
1860 to section 31 in Deer Creek, being one of the earliest to locate in
that town.

By 1857 daily steamers from Fond du Lac and Oshkosh reached
the village of New London on the south line of Embarrass and a
rapid growth of population was predicted at an early date. The Em-
barrass pine lands were very valuable and a large capital was em-
ployed in 1857 to getting out logs for the upper Fox river and Lake
Winnebago markets. Much of the pine used at Appleton in 1857
was obtained on the Embarrass.

John Spence came to section 19 in 1857. Gottlieb Krueger
about the same time, to 8, later removing to Liberty. Daniel Bratts
in 32, that, or the year following. Fred Roloft, William, August and
John Pribbeno and Fred Quietben about 1858, all in section 29.
Darby McGlone settled on town line in section 6. "Old Doctor" J. E.
Breed settled where August Kempf now lives in 8 and was the first
and only doctor in Maple Creek. A. W. Wilmarth came at the same
time and lived with the doctor. William Kickhoefer came about
1858, settling in 17 and is still living on the old place with his
son Charles, who came at the same time. Calvin C. Walker built a
hotel on the Shewano Road about 1859, William, Henry and Plum-
mer Walker were brothers and all lived together in section 7. About
1860 Martin Glass came to section 29 and William Merricle and
Charles Labe, a gunsmith, who lived at the mouth of Maple Creek.
Fred Ebert lived near him on the same creek. John Bubolz in 17,
Thomas Madden in the northern part, Fred Corthbein in 29, James
and George Hutchison in 20, George later lived in 19, all about 1860.
Godfried Finger settled a part of August Kemp's place, Sam Price
on the John Flannagan place, later at mouth of Maple Creek. Fred
and George Weisuer lived in northern part of town. The Knaaks, Levi and Isaac, were residents in 1863, Ludwig Kanthook and John Knapp in 1865.

Town of Maple Creek.—For the most part this town is adapted to farming; it owed much of its early development to the magnificent pine timber with which its slopes were covered. As before stated, the first comers gathered tan bark from the hemlock trees which grew in profusion in some sections and furnished occasional employment for a number of years. It was logging the great pines, however, that gave the early settlers employment by which to subsist until their farms could produce a sufficiency. Some of those who logged extensively in the Maple Creek region, were Drew, Campbell, Smith, Gainor and Garland. One season as high as seven million feet of logs were put in, most of them being landed on Maple and Bear creeks, two dams to assist the drive being put in Maple creek. After the war the logging operation included the hardwood timber of which there was a vast amount, both maple and oak, and until the middle '70s there was a wealth of timber. During this time the settlers were enlarging their clearings, and as the timber was removed, tracts held by lumber companies were thrown into market for settlement and by the time the Green Bay and Lake Pepin Railroad established a market at New London, farms of considerable extent were prepared to send their produce. After the coming of the M., L. S. & W. R. R., now the Northwestern, a station was established in section 7 and called Sugar Bush, after the post office which had been established in the vicinity some years previously. The first sawmill was located near there and was operated for a time by Ruckdashel as a custom mill, and later by Henry Kickhoefer, by whom it was enlarged and shingle machinery added.

The first road through the territory of Maple Creek was the old Shawano Road which followed closely an old trail made by the Indians in their migrations to and from the upper portions of the state, this road early became an important artery of travel between New London, the practical head of navigation on the Wolf, and the great pineries of the Embarrass country for which the young city became a base of supply.

The town of Embarrass (Maple Creek) is the only one in the county in which, so far as can be learned from the records, absolutely no form of public improvements had been made at the time of its organization. A road overseer was elected at the first election, November 5, 1853. April, 1856, the voters in town meeting declared for a road fund of $600, for town expenses, $175. Seventeen voters participated in this election.

The following year the poll list bears thirty-six names. A thousand dollars was voted for roads, $100 toward a bridge across the Embarrass, $200 for town expenses. That summer contracts were let for crosswaying and planking at twenty-five cents per foot payable in cash and part in town orders, and in November authorized Porter Bowen to expend $59.86 on south branch of Embarrass known
as “the cut-off” in building a bridge. This, it is claimed, was the first bridge across the Embarrass.

At an election February 29, 1864, on the question of taxing the town to pay volunteers $200 bounty, 29 votes were cast, of which 10 were for and 16 against the tax.

The first change in the boundaries of the town of Embarrass occurred November, 1854, when the portion west of Wolf river in townships 23 and 24, range 16, was included in Bovina, and one year later that part of township 22, range 16, lying west of Wolf river was attached to the town of Ellington.

By the creation of the town of Liberty, 1858, and by boundaries established the following year, Embarrass was reduced to approximately that part of township 23, range 15, lying west of the Embarrass river, and township 24. November, 1860, the county board of supervisors ordained that the name of the town Embarrass should be changed to Maple Creek, and, by an ordinance effective March 1, 1868, divided the town, setting apart all of township 24, range 15, to form the new town Deer Creek, leaving its area substantially as at present.

The organization of Liberty deprived Embarrass of its only school save as a joint district but soon afterward District No. 1 was formed and a school opened in a log building on the Spence farm and was taught by Isabel Mills, the first schoolhouse was built on the line between Robert Hutchinson and Jerry Mericle about a mile south of the site of the present schoolhouse. At an early day religious services were held by itinerant ministers and missionaries in the homes of the settlers and in the schoolhouse. Representatives of the Baptist, Methodist, United Brethren and Congregational churches held services at various times without churches. About 1870 William Steward organized the Christian congregation which built a church on the Shawano road in northeast section 18. Lutheran congregations have churches on northwest 10 and southeast 29.

**Town of Osborn.—** The early settlement of the town of Osborn was slow and until 1858, ten years after the coming of the first family, but little in the way of development and less of public improvement had been accomplished. Duncan McNabb settled on the northeast quarter of section 30 where he established his home, cleared his farm, and resided until his death in 1892. He was joined in 1849 by his brother Robert in the same section, and in September, 1850, by his son, Peter, who was the first white child born in Osborn. Robert McNabb later removed to the town of Center living in southeast section 13. These families were Scotch. The next comers were Irish, Thaddens McCormick, who came in the early fall of 1849 to land purchased the previous year. In this family were grown sons Patrick, John and Timothy who, though coming at the same time, did not immediately make settlement. There was no industry in Osborn by which a living could be made until clearings were formed and crops produced. These young men found employment outside for several years, at intervals working in the clearing, and all acquiring
HISTORY OF OUTAGAMIE COUNTY

lands in the vicinity. Patrick after his father's death in 1856 continued the development of the homestead in which he had been interested from the beginning, on which he still resides, the only survivor of those who settled before 1850 in Osborn.

Albert Simpson came in 1852 to section 32 afterward sold to Charley Miller, who was among the first of the German settlers, and removed to the southwest quarter of 33, where his son Charles still resides. Mr. Simpson found on his first purchase, a small log house, and a clearing left by a former occupant. Several families from the "Hoosier Colony" in Freedom had extended the settlement into Osborn but after making a few improvements sold to later comers and moved away, their identity is lost. James Simpson in 1853 secured land in section 30, began clearing a farm and making a home to which two years later he brought his wife from Michigan. By reason of his exertion and influence in securing the separation of Osborn from Freedom he has been called the father of Osborn. James Daniels came in January, 1859, to southeast 18, John C. Hartman a little later to section 34, and by April of that year James Kelly. John Loucks had settled in 18, William, John and Samuel Knox in 8, F. M. Manley in 6, Watson Manley in section 18 and D. B. Stillman. Later in the year, Sewell Shepherd came to section 5 when he cleared a farm, later removing to Appleton.

George W. Shepherd came to the same section the following year making a farm upon which he resided until his death, 1872. He was a blacksmith and opened his shop across the road in what later became Seymour. This was the first shop of which there is record in either Osborn or Seymour, and was later operated by Sewell Shepherd. Allen A. Shepherd came about the same time.

There were no roads in Osborn up to 1859 except the "Appleton Road" which could be traveled as far as Duncan McNabb's in section 30, though not on the line as at present, but about 25 or 30 rods east. Settlers coming in in the fall of that year having "as good a team of horses as you could find" were stuck with a load of about five hundred weight of tools and supplies and required two yoke of oxen to help them through to the location on the town line. Settlers coming in the spring of 1860 found the road closed by fallen trees and had to go up through Oneida settlement employing Indians to cut a way from about the site of the government school to their location on the town line. In order to improve the road leading to Osborn the Appleton merchants subscribed in one day late in October $100 for that purpose, in order to secure the trade of that growing town. Among others who came before the war were L. Dallas who lived on Duncan McNabb's farm and J. L. Dyer who settled what is now the Wendt place. Alonzo Jackson and John Whyte.

Samuel Knox of Osborn said in January, 1861, that two years before there were only four families in the whole town, and that now there were about thirty and the prospects were that by March there would not be less than forty.

During the war period development of the town was seriously checked though settlement continued. The repeated calls for volun-
teers so reduced the male population that “at one time,” Herman Husman asserts, “there were but three able-bodied men remaining in Osborn, two of whom were too old for military service, the other not a citizen.”

Among those who came during the war were Martin Wandke in section 6, and John Nuremberg on the north town line, both Germans, and John Rowell, an Englishman, Arnold Carter bought in southeast section 6 but did not settle until two years later.

Nelson Carter and C. C. Wilson about the same time. Herman Husman who for five years had lived just over the line in Seymour bought and settled his present homestead in 1864 on southeast section 5. The Sharps, James, George and William, came about that time and belonged to the “Canada settlement” in the northeast part of town. John Crosswaite lived below Simpson, N. S. Conklin on the Appleton road and Lohman near the Canada settlers, among whom were Sanford, Emory, John and Carlyle Sherman, Henry Heagle of the same settlement, came about the same time with his family. His sons James, Jake, Ransom and John, and three daughters who afterward became Mrs. R. C. McIntire, Mrs. A. Stewart and Mrs. Dave Sherman, Nicholas Schaumberg came before the Canadians to northeast Osborn. Henry Peoteer directly after the war came to the northwest corner of Osborn.

From this time on the influx of German families was greater than of other nationalities. The German settlers were willing to assume the heavier obligations imposed by lands already partly improved, and early in the ’70s had a majority of the population, which has since increased to perhaps 92 per cent. Among the German people who cleared their land “from the wild” was Henry Schroeder who homesteaded in section 29, Louis and Henry Goering in section 30, Anton Bloomer in 31 on the Black Creek line. On the Freedom line were John Bobzen, John Maas and Karl Ellis. Others were Diedrick Starr, Karl Rohm, William Eick in section 8. Charles Eick in 17 settled early. August and Fred Sachs in 16 on the Reservation line and Henry Spaude in 20, Frederick Ballheim and Henry Baker. John Uecke bought out Allen A. Shepherd about 1888 and started a nursery for fruit trees, evergreen and shade trees and by the time the railroad was completed had quite a fruit farm.

In December, 1868, a farmer named Wilson, while going on foot from the town of Osborn to the town of Black Creek and when near the former, was attacked by a large and savage panther. The man took to a tree, but the panther followed and buried its teeth and claws in his leg. He had no weapon to defend himself, but finally succeeded in scaring off the animal and escaping. He managed, though badly torn, to walk a mile and a half to a lumber camp where he fell exhausted from loss of blood, which it was stated, nearly filled his boots. He was rudely taken care of until a doctor from Hortonville could be secured. As soon as the facts became known a large party turned out to settle accounts with the panther. After a time the dogs succeeded in finding its trail which they followed into a
dense, almost impenetrable swamp and there finally lost all traces of it.

A postoffice called South Osborn was established in 1869 in the southern part of the town of Osborn.

In establishing the town of Osborn, the board of supervisors set off from the town of Freedom all the territory in townships 23 and 24 north, ranges 18 and 19 east, lying west of the Oneida Reservation, embracing within its boundaries that which is now comprised in both Osborn and Seymour. The name it bears commemorates an early settler of township 24, William M. Ausbourne, who was identified with the interests and welfare of the town until its division in 1867, when he perforce resided in Seymour.

The first town meeting was held at the house of Duncan McNabb, the first settler, April, 1859, and was organized by appointing Albert Simpson chairman, James Simpson and James Daniels, inspectors, and Watson Manley, clerk.

The officers chosen at this election were, Albert Simpson, chairman; James Daniels and John Loucks, supervisors; Watson Manley, clerk; James Simpson, treasurer; James Kelly, superintendent of schools; James Simpson, sealer of weights and measures; William Ausbourne, James Simpson, John Loucks and Albert Simpson, justices of peace; John Ausbourne, James Kelly and John Hartman, constables; James Kelly and John McCormick, overseers of highway.

Highway improvement was the first consideration of the new town, and it was determined to raise forty dollars for building a bridge across Duck Creek, on the Appleton road between sections 17 and 18. A modest sum was considered sufficient to conduct the affairs of the town, eighty dollars being voted for that purpose.

The newly elected town board held their first meeting at John Louck's, April 16 and divided the town into two road districts, No. 1 embracing all the land lying west the quarter line in sections 32, 29, 17, 8 and 5 in township 23 and all of township 24. All of lands lying east of this quarter line to be included in district No. 2. It was determined also at this meeting that seven mills be the assessment for highways.

June 11, 1859, Superintendent Kelly announced the formation of School District No. 1, to include all of township 23 west of a line drawn through the centers of sections 32 and 29 to the Reservation and also including all west of the Reservation north of its southwest corner in townships 23 and 24, making the district twelve miles long, about seven and a half miles wide at the north end and one and one half at the southern.

Just where the schoolhouse was located cannot be determined from the records but probably not far from the present location in section 19.

July 9, 1859, "James Daniels, a taxable inhabitant of School district No. 1" was directed to notify every qualified voter of the district to attend the first meeting to be held therein at the home of John Loucks, July 16. On the twelfth Mr. Daniels certified that he had notified the following: Sewell Shepherd, William Knox, F. M.
Manley, Watson Manley, John Loucks and James Simpson, presumably all who had interest in the meeting. The record does not show when the schoolhouse was built but probably not long after this school meeting since it is said Scott Daniels taught the first term in 1859 and the town meeting, April 3, 1869, "adjourned to the school house."

May 12, 1860, a new school district was formed of the north halves of sections 7 to 13 inclusive and all of the town lying north. This was to provide a school for the town line settlement which filled rapidly, 1859 and 1860, though the town line road was not established until June 20, 1860.

Though District No. 2 was formed in May, 1860, the site of the school house, the southeast corner of the west half of the southwest quarter of section 32 in township 24, was not surveyed until April 13, 1861, and the school house, a low log building, it is said, was built in 1862. The first school in the district was taught by Mrs. Frank M. Manley, who held her school under shade trees, and another term of school was held in a log shanty before the school house was built.

"It is believed there is but one claim against the town, of a small amount, which has not been presented, the balance of the funds will, in the opinion of this board, be amply sufficient to liquidate all just claims, leaving the town out of debt at the end of the fiscal year.

"We have compared the report of the treasurer with his vouchers and find it all correct, and would suggest the propriety of continuing him in office another year. The experience of the past year has demonstrated the necessity of having some of our roads established by survey. We would therefore recommend that a sum be raised for that purpose, also a small sum for the support of the poor, otherwise in case of necessity it would be a charge upon the contingent fund to which it does not properly belong. During the year there have been no new roads established; from present appearances there will be a call for some during the next, if so it will call for increased expenses. In view of these we would suggest the propriety of raising the following amounts for the different funds respectively. For surveying, chaining, recording and general expenses chargeable to the contingent fund $150; for a poor fund $25. For a highway fund, seven mills, which in connection with a very respectable delinquent fund, will in the opinion of this Board not be more than necessary for the next ensuing year. All of which is respectfully submitted. Albert Simpson, John S. Loucks, James Daniels." At this annual town meeting twenty-two votes were polled. The population was about eighty or ninety. The value of personal property had reached $2,630.00 while the real estate was $35,400.53.

The town has always been able to meet its obligations without issuing bonds. In 1864 when in addition to its other expenses, six hundred dollars was voted to secure volunteers for army service, the amount was raised by a levy on the assessment of the previous year.
Osborn has now reached that period in her existence when her population instead of increasing shows a reduction, falling in the decade 1900 to 1910 from 656 to 570.

**Town of Bovina.**—This town was created by an ordinance of the county board, November 18, 1853, which decreed that that part of township 23 and 24, range 16, included in the town of Ellington, be set apart to be organized into a separate town to be called Bovina. That part of Ellington lying in those townships included only the territory east of Wolf river, the lands west having been included in Embarrass, organized but a short time before. This arrangement of the boundaries continued a year when the creative ordinance was amended to include in Bovina the entire area of townships 23 and 24, range 16, the territory now composing the towns of Bovina and Maine.

At the time of its organization, the population of Bovina embraced a settlement in the vicinity of the Shioe mill in section 16 and another about the site of Shiocton and along the state road in 28, 29, 32 and 33. The upper settlement in 16 was called Shioe the lower Jordanville, or Jordans Landing, soon acquiring the name Shiocton. There was rivalry it seems between the settlements almost from the beginning, inexplicable unless it was the intent of the founders of each settlement to form a village, taking advantage of the rivers for transportation, and the old road running up the Wolf to the Shawano Settlements which was even then an important thoroughfare, though unimproved above Stephensville. Rivalry developed into animosity; the hostility culminating in 1855 in an ordinance dividing the town on a line beginning at the northeast corner of section 24, running west to the middle of the Shioe river, down the Shioe to the middle of the Wolf, up the Wolf to the north line of township 23 and west to the northwest corner of that township. All the territory south and west of this line to be added to, and made a part of, the town of Embarrass. The instigators and promoters of this division are not of record, nor does it appear there was opposition from either settlement to the division, yet it must have been evident to all, that such division was impractical and detrimental, for better judgment prevailed, and before the ordinance became effective it was repealed. Some time later the mill dam was washed out and never restored, the mill was abandoned sold and demolished. The floating element attracted by the mill disappeared and hopes for a village at the upper settlement were unsustained but it was many years before factional feeling was obliterated. In November, 1868 township 24 was set off from Bovina to form the town of Maine, the boundaries since remaining unchanged, including the single Congressional township 23 north, of range 16 east.

While generally considered that settlement began with the advent of Jordan and Johnson, it is not improbable that the Shioe mill was built somewhat earlier, since it had twice changed hands before 1854 at which time Harris G. Curtis came there in the capacity of bookkeeper in the employ of Martin Rich. Though unable to fix a
date, Mr. Curtis thinks it improbable it was in operation in 1848 the
time fixed by H. J. Diener as the date of his first acquaintance with
it, when it was called Clarks mill. It was located near the southeast
corner of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 16,
on the Old Shawno road which crossed the river on the dam, until
the dam washed out when a float bridge was provided. The back-
water formed a lake about seven miles long and possibly afforded
more power than any other dam in the county, and was the only
dam in the Shioc. Winch and Brush appear to have been the second
owners. Whether they increased the equipment is not known, but
when operated by Rich in 1854 it had two sash saws and a gang mill,
employing about sixty men, and sent its product down the river to
the lake.

There is evidence, too, of white occupation of Bovina earlier
than the building of Clark's mill. Daniel Morris, who lived in sec-
tion 20 is said to have been a squatter on Indian land before the
government survey. His only neighbors were Menominee Indians,
with whose language and tribal customs he appeared very familiar.
No members of his family can be reached and our informant can
only estimate the date of his coming as about 1846.

The third "first occupation of Bovina" relates to the venture of
Woodford D. Jordan and Randall Johnson in 1850, and in this as
in the other instances we fail to establish a first intention to become
settlers by clearing and cultivating the land, since a published biog-
raphy of Mr. Jordan says, "in 1851 he was engaged in milling and
merchandising." While yet a young unmarried man Mr. Jordan, who
was a surveyor, had worked through the region and was probably
attracted to the place by the prospect of business afforded by the
traffic on the river and the travel on the "old tote road" which even
in that early day though wholly unimproved above Stephensville,
was much traveled by lumbermen and land seekers. Whatever their
intention in the beginning, these ventures had a beneficial influence
in the settlement and development of Bovina. Mr. Jordan may well
be called the first settler in Shiocton, locating in section 29, in 1850
and building the first house on its site which was for several years
called Jordanville, and where in 1875 he platted the village now
called Shiocton.

Milo and Harlow Cole came soon after Jordan and Johnson
and by 1854, both had farms well started. Solomon Quadlin who
came early also, lived in northwest 33, Alexander Brush lived in 16,
was one of the firm of Winch and Brush who operated the mill at
Shioc. J. I. C. Meade came before 1854, probably soon after Jordan
and Johnson, John Knight came about the same time as the Coles,
lived at first in section 29, removing to lot 3 section 9 about 1859.

David Barney bought land in 33 in 1853 but was living opposite
Shiocton, 1854, and it is probable he was a settler there two or three
years earlier. J. B. Shoemaker had built a house on the bend of the
river, where Knight lived later, before 1854, in which year Jacob W.
Rexford came to Bovina, and in 1857 had a hotel where the Congre-
gational church now stands. His father Jabez B. Rexford came 1858.
settling just across the line in Ellington, Sanford Rexford came at the same time, bought out David Barney and lived near the village, Eben E. Rexford as a small boy came with his parents in 1856. In later years removed to the village he had made famous through his literary work. Sanford Swift lived in Shiocton having bought a part of Randall Johnson tract and when D. M. Torrey came with his parents in 1856 Swift was putting up a building which was dwelling, store and warehouse, a part of which was afterward converted into a hotel. This building stood just south of the present site of the bank. At this time Nickerson was keeping hotel in the village.

Harris George Curtis to whom these pages are indebted for information, came in 1854, in the employ of Martin Rich, a lumberman who operated the mill at Shioc, about a mile and a half above Shiocton, continuing in that capacity until the dam was washed out when the mill was abandoned, purchased by Jordan and removed to Shiocton where the timber was used in building a barn. Mr. Curtis then engaged in farming and hotel keeping and upon establishing postoffice at Shioc was appointed postmaster, the appointment being unsolicited. After many arduous years spent in the development of his farm he is spending his declining years in literary pursuits near Appleton. George H. Curtis came shortly after his son and opened a hotel above Shioc. Stephen and Ben Main came soon afterward the former within a year, the latter a little later. Joseph McCane about the same time as Curtis; Jeremy Smith bought in section 33, January, 1854; Fred and Ernest Speehr and Nickolas Herman came a year or so later, all settled in section 4 and were probably the first German families in Bovina.

Late in 1855 a postoffice was established at Shiocton with M. G. Bradt as postmaster. There was needed an immediate mail service from Appleton via Greenville, Hortonia, Ellington, Shioc, Bovina and the towns of Shawno county.

D. M. Torrey recalls that when the postoffice was established at Shiocton no provision was made for regular mail carrier from Stephensville to Shiocton and volunteer carriers were sworn in before starting on each trip, until the regular carrier's route was extended to the village.

John Park came 1855, was one of eight who sculled a big barge up Wolf river from New London. He was extensively engaged in lumbering operations in Bovina and the upper Wolf. He lived north of Shioc until about 1862 when with his son-in-law, Joseph Kitchen, he removed to the southeast part of town both settling in section 25. Timothy Durkee came 1856 to southwest 33, "Bach" Brown lived west of him in 32. The sale of this tract was the first land sale recorded October 9, 1849, though it does not appear that settlement was made until two or three years later, when he made a little clearing and after living there awhile returned to Appleton. Jim and Hiel Pooler came a year or two before Durkee and lived in the same quarter while Jim Farnham lived east on the same town line, on a tract that had been bought and a cabin built by George Huse 1849. Thomas R. Torrey and one son, Samuel, came to Shiocton, 1855, and
in December settled in section 13 in Liberty where the family joined them the following year. In 1860 he returned to settle again in Shiocton. His son D. M. Torrey who was a young lad at the time of settlement now lives in the village. Samuel Girard lived west of the Wolf in section 20. His land purchase was dated October, 1853, which was as early as purchases of the Indian lands west of the Wolf could be made. His son-in-law Daniel Morris is said to have lived there several years before returning to the lower settlements where he was married. Curtis Mitchell came to Shiocton 1857 and for a time worked at carpentering, then removing to southeast 23 to which he had to cut his own road, and upon which “the trees were so thick he had to make a clearing before he could build a 12x16 foot cabin, which he roofed with shakes and floored with split basswood puncheons,” a style of architecture common enough in Bovina at that time. Settlers were not very plentiful in that vicinity, but bear and wolves were numerous in the great swamp north and west of his location. A large bear was killed in the town of Bovina late in May, 1856. It measured about seven feet in length and was estimated to weigh over six hundred pounds. “Black Bear.—On Friday Rudolph White, a German farmer living in the northern part of the town of Bovina shot a black bear which weighed 384 pounds. He was brought to town and attracted as much of a crowd as a young circus —and the exhibition was free.”—(Crescent, September 30, 1871.)

The nucleus of two villages were laid by 1857 and a large business in lumbering was carried on. There were excellent saw-mills, taverns, stores, etc., and the country around was being rapidly settled. There was a large amount of valuable pine timber in towns 23 and 24, interspersed with strips of the best quality of farming land. A large amount of capital was already invested in developing the resources of this town.

In March, 1858, two men, Robert Jordan and Harvey Downs of Bovina were drowned in Wolf river while taking a ride in a small canoe which capsized. They were unable to swim. A man named Baldwin attempted to save them, but was unable to do so. A party of Indians arrived a moment too late to help.

Silas Ovitt was also a carpenter and came about the same time as Mitchell and like him worked at Shiocton before settling in section 39 about 1858, William Strope came a little earlier, William B. Haskins bought his land in section 4 in 1857, Seely Budd though not of the first comers was an early settler, lived in the edge of the village in section 29, Jacob Thorn who lived in section 9 was another early comer, Fletcher Boynton, John and Peter Swartz came before the war and about the same time Jerry Harrington and his father who was a Baptist minister, Blanch Spencer, who had settled in 16, sold to Swartz. Kassin came before the war, John Elliott lived in northwest 33 in 1882, W. B. Allender about the close of the war settled in section 16 between the two rivers, near Allender’s Bend, C. L. Rich about 1866 secured all of section 10 which with land in other sections he devoted to stock raising, Leander Thomas a few years earlier settled on lot 4 section 16, Nelson Foster lived on lot 9 section
29 west of the Wolf, Lloyd G. Walker, Silas Pierce and his father came to Shiocto in the spring of 1866, flooded out from southwest Cicero, where they had settled the year before. The following year Silas Pierce and James Dorsey homesteaded lots 4 and 5 section 2, Wesley Williams in 1867 settled in section 28. Probably the first settlers in the northeastern part of town were Archibald Caldwell who lived in lot 1 section 1 and his son-in-law Heath who came about the same time. Caldwell, about whom many romantic tales are told never earnestly engaged in farming. He was a famous hunter and trapper and preferred a life such as the Indians lived.

In volume III of Wisconsin Historical Collection of 1856, may be found a sketch of New London and the surrounding country by A. J. Lawson from which the following relative to Shiocton is of interest.

"Shiocton or as it has been called Jordans Landing is situated on the Wolf River, some twelve miles northeast of New London by land and twenty-five by river. It is eighteen miles from Appleton with a good road except a few miles near Shiocto, which is about to be made good, and then the village will be united to the rest of mankind. It is five miles from Shiocto to Stephensville, thirty-one to Oshkosh, and two and a half (one and a half) to Shioct Mills. There are some eight or ten buildings with ten families in the village, and forty within two miles. A steam sawmill is to be put in operation this fall, when with a supply of building material, the town will rapidly increase. The river banks are excellent on both sides, not subject to overflow in the highest water, and with a landing at any stage for some half mile on either side. In low water steamboats can reach Shiocton in four hours from New London. We are encouraged to hope that a steamboat will run up to the village soon."

In respect to location, Shiocton is unusually favored. Surrounded by an extensive body of the very best of farming land, and with the pineries close at hand, and capital seeking safe investment with a sure prospect of success, the future looks bright for this village."

Daniel Morris had a dug out canoe, the "Lily Dale," with which he carried supplies from New London to Shiocton. This boat was supplied with four sets of oars and required four rowers and a steersman to navigate. It could make the trip in two days, but usually only two trips in a week. It was sixty-five feet in length and was known to carry 30,000 shingles in one load, and was not then overloaded, but was somewhat top heavy.

A steamboat called the "Outagamie" made trips to Shawano. It was not a regular passenger boat run on schedule, but was run in furtherance of Indian trade and as regularly as profitable. Bovina enterprise again undertook to develop the river commerce. At the mouth of the Shioct the construction of steamboats was already in progress in 1856. One boat built there secured its machinery at Fond du Lac. Another well under way was launched in May. Contracts at that time were let for four others, all of them to be set out by September, 1856. "Great is the Wolf river country and greater the Outagamie boys," said the Crescent.
A steamboat, "Menominee," was built at Shioe by Winch and Ransborn to ply between Oshkosh and Shiocton. It was too long to turn in the channel at Shioe and had to back down the river to turn, at its mouth, in the Wolf. After a few trips it was sold and used in the trade on the Wisconsin river.

The first mercantile establishment at Shiocton was a trading outfit whose customers were Menominees, whose village was located on the Wolf a short distance above Shiocton. It is said W. D. Jordan about the time of his coming bought out the trader (possibly Ben Harmon) and engaged in the same trade, catering also to the requirements of the settlers as they came in.

The following business houses were in Shiocton late in January, 1862: W. H. Jordan, merchant; Morris & Jordan, lumber dealers; G. H. Curtis, hotel keeper; S. H. Swift, postmaster; J. I. C. Meade, Eclectic physician; H. G. Curtis, justice of the peace; B. Banker, constable; C. B. Ment, blacksmith; Mr. Spicer, cabinetmaker; Rev. G. W. Harrington, pastor of the church, and Elder Lewis of New London, minister of this circuit. The postmaster at Shiocton stated that since December 25 the average number of letters sent out were over forty each week. In the spring of 1862, Morse and Jordan of Shiocton were sawing daily about 12,000 feet of lumber. They employed about twenty men at that date. The price of common lumber was $6 per thousand, clear lumber $9 per thousand. According to J. I. C. Meade upwards of 700 bushels of cranberries were gathered in the vicinity of Shiocton during the fall of 1861. Bovina and Liberty were the principal towns for the production of this berry. Cranberries commanded at all times high prices.

In 1870-1 Shiocton sprang into sudden prominence and importance. It was the principal distributing point for the great Wolf river pineries. The construction of the Green Bay and Lake Pepin road added much to this prominence. At this time the village contained five stores, three hotels and other establishments. A planing mill and a hub and spoke factory were probable future improvements.

The "big pine" had been taken before this time from the immediate vicinity of Shiocton. Flave George and "Log Chain" Jones took out a lot of it. The Knapps and the Clarks of Winneconne, and Leonard, Rounds & Co. lumbered extensively in Bovina. Successive operations removed the remaining pine, oak, maple and other hardwoods.

Shiocton is one of the leading villages of the county. It is located on the line of the G. B. and Minnesota Railroad, and although but a few years old, is a town of respectable size and importance. But few new buildings were erected this year, partly because of the times, partly because many buildings were erected in advance of the requirements. Some of these have been recently completed and occupied and five new ones erected. One of the heaviest lumber firms in Northern Wisconsin is Willy, Greene & Bertschy. They manufacture hard and soft lumber and employ fifty to seventy-five hands. Foster & Jenny have a handle factory employing six hands, operating about half the year. Hamlin & Son
operate a first-class flouring mill. W. D. Jordan, the leading and most enterprising citizen, deals heavily in real estate and lumber, owns large tracts of land in this and adjoining counties. A. Irwin, general merchandise. L. and J. Fisher have mammoth store of general merchandise. G. P. Dickinson, dealer in drugs and hardware. J. F. Kaufman deals in boots and shoes. W. W. Noyes for nine months has supplied the populace with groceries. I. Gregory makes and deals in boots and shoes. A. Atwood has meat market; J. P. Franklin, groceries; C. Faught, butcher, makes a specialty of packing meats for the lumber woods; P. N. Maine runs a livery stable. E. A. Kendly presides over the only hotel in the village. R. Bauman and H. D. Bennett are each separately engaged in blacksmithing and wagonmaking. The village supports one minister, one physician, one barber, one gunsmith and one photographer, and is supplied with railroad, express and telegraph facilities. Total amount of business for the year, $158,500.—(Post, December 13, 1877.)

With the transfer of the lumber industry to districts more remote, there ensued a period during which the progress of Shiocton was not so marked. With the inauguration of drainage projects came a renewal of activity which, being based on the development of a farming country, is destined to be both substantial and permanent. It was found that most of the great swamp area was separated from the channel of the Wolf by low ridges, which operated as dams or dykes, holding the flood waters in the swamps. Cutting through these ridges drained great areas, much of which has been exploited by capitalists as the "garden of Wisconsin." Prominent among these was the Garden Land Co., Boynton & Terrill and others, about 1900 to the present. The village, of course, profited much by these improvements. Good roads were extended, old businesses took on renewed activity and new ones were started. The drained land came nearly to the village and rapidly increased in value, when it was found that fine crops of onions and cabbage could be grown on land the old settlers considered worthless, and where dense tamarack swamp forbid their settling, now are fine garden lands. Successful vegetable growing on similar soils in other localities encouraged the starting of the same business here by Washburn, Lonkey and others, demonstrating the feasibility of vegetable growing and large yields of onions, cabbages, squashes and beets were reported. C. A. Kerr built a stone storage house 46x150 feet, with a capacity of a thousand tons of cabbage. Next was an onion storage with a capacity of 20,000 bushels, and many private growers are providing their own storage. The warm, sandy loam in this region seems especially adapted to the growing of vegetables and small fruits, and being underlaid with a strata of water-bearing sand or gravel at no great depth, seems able to withstand seasons of drought, destructive elsewhere. An abundant supply of good water is obtainable through wells driven to a very moderate depth, while at somewhat greater depths, varying in different localities, many continuous flowing wells
of pure, sparkling soft water have been obtained. Across the southern part of the town begins the slope of the watershed, extending into the rolling hill county of Ellington and Center. On these slopes are opportunities for growing larger fruits, particularly apples. In its situation Shiocton forcibly reminds the traveler of some of the beautiful bayou villages of the old Louisiana country, the wealth of vegetation and profusion of flowers making the illusion very complete. Here, however, the resemblance stops, for the tidy streets, well kept lawns, and houses built to withstand our winters, and the general alertness of things are characteristic of Shiocton.

Some of the business men of Shiocton about 1903 and 4 were:
The Lonkey Bros., lumber; John Morse, a pioneer in the same line; Kuehne & Krause, meat market; B. G. Pemberton, manager of Badger Drug Co.; L. H. McLeod, hardware; A. K. Dewick, house furnishing goods; Bowerman & Son, telephone exchange; Earl Williams, manager for Kuehne Bros., stock buyer and shipper; W. W. Hunter, manufacturer of Hunter's ditcher; R. D. Fisher, merchandise; E. C. O'Rourke, general merchandise and produce; H. Hamlin, vegetables, farm produce and general merchandise; F. J. Barnes, groceries, dry goods and notions, was appointed postmaster July 1, 1903, and has the office in his store building; in addition to Shiocton mail, this office received mail for three rural routes; Boynton's Store, musical instruments and supplies; F. J. Link, jewelry; D. M. Strong, barber; Huebner & Sieloff, farm implements, vehicles and blacksmith shop; E. J. Bouman, blacksmith and wagon shop; T. Durkee, groceries, clothing; Kling Bros., sample room; Charles Curry, sample room; Knapstein Bros., bar-room; Otto Schulz, harness; The Shiocton News, F. H. Colburn, publisher; O. H. Day, attorney; Harry Allender, Hotel Morse; Emil Schwandt, the Northwestern House; Nick Freeman, contractor and builder; Alvin Metz, cut stone building; William Stede, mason and plasterer; Charles Castillion and August Metz, masons; Harvey Pooler, woodworking shop; Peevie Stacks, axe helves, etc.; Jerome Jessner, manufactures and buys shaved hoops; Horton Budd, well driller; Shiocton Mills, O. C. Buchanan, manager; William O'Connell, livery; Vince Connell, house mover; A. C. Smith, real estate; W. D. Boynton and F. E. Terrill, real estate agents; Dr. Sarber, dentist; Dr. Sorenson, resident physician; E. W. Bland, business college; millinery and dressmaking, Mrs. Roate and daughter; Mrs. L. Rinehart, millinery and furnishings; Mrs. DeLong, bakery.—(Shiocton in 1904.)

Nurseries for propagation of ornamental, shade, forest and fruit trees and plants were started by W. D. Boynton in 1886, shipping mostly to the growing settlements where tree claims and other planting made great demands. After the tree claim rights were withdrawn, the trade was confined more closely to Wisconsin. Norman G. Williams became associated in the business in 1901, and in 1903 took over the whole business, and increased the planting on his lands near the village.

Bovina Lodge, No. 323, I. O. O. F., was organized November 26, 1895, with ten charter members. The first officers were: Frank
C. Terrill, N. G.; C. M. Twitchell, V. G.; Nick Freeman, F. S.; Eben E. Rexford, Rec. Sec.; Eugene Darling, treasurer. The lodge has been prosperous and now has forty-eight members. Shiocton Camp, No. 3193, M. W. A., was organized September 14, 1895, with twenty-one charter members. W. D. Boynton, V. C.; T. J. Barnes, W. A.; Joe Fisher, Banker; and L. A. Blackman, clerk, were the first officers. The Equitable Fraternal Union was chartered June 23, 1898, with fourteen members. Minneola Lodge, No. 165, Degree of Rebekah, was chartered June 8, 1898, with six members. Rexford Camp 1437 Royal Neighbors, was chartered April 7, 1899, with forty-two charter members. Fraternal Reserve Association had seven charter members at its organization August 28, 1902.

The Congregational Church of Shiocton was organized by Rev. F. M. Dexter, two or three years before the church was built in 1877. Mr. Dexter was at the time of organization a teacher in the Shiocton schools. He was afterward ordained and served as pastor here in conjunction with the church at Ellington. James Austin is present pastor, and Dr. Donaldson superintendent of Sunday-school. The church erected in 1887 was rebuilt and enlarged in 1907.

Shiocton village was incorporated January 27, 1903. Its first officers were: F. H. Washburn, president; F. H. Colburn, clerk; Eben E. Rexford, James Johnson, R. D. Fisher and F. Terrell, trustees; Nick Freeman, treasurer. Village lighting system, gasoline gas, was installed about 1895. Crushed stone is used on graded streets. Fire limits were established, good cement sidewalks and other improvements were made soon after incorporation.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Shiocton was organized, 1877, with a membership of about fourteen families, by Rev. Kansier of Ellington. For some time services were held in the Congregational Church; then purchased the old public school building, which they converted into a church. About three years after its organization the congregation called Rev. A. O. Engel, who remained until about Christmas, 1909. There was a vacancy until July 17, 1910, when Rev. M. Hensel, the present incumbent, was called. Parochial school was maintained from beginning, imparting religious instruction. The present membership is 38 families. Three Sundays each month services are in German, the fourth in English language.

The Catholic Church was built in 1898. The congregation organized by Rev. Bastian of Seymour has always been served by priests from Black Creek or Seymour. Prior to building the church, services were held in the Opera House. Starting with about twelve or fifteen families, now increased to about forty-one or forty-two, nearly all living in the country.

The grade schools of Shiocton were supplemented in 1909 by the establishment of a Union Free High school, said to have been the first under this system in the state. An addition to the school building doubled its capacity, affording space for the grade and high schools. W. J. Sizer had one assistant, while four teachers are employed to teach the grade schools.
The Shiocton News was established 1897 by C. F. Carr, and issued its first number June 11 under the management of F. H. Colburn, by whom it was purchased about six months later; under whose control it has remained since. The paper started as a seven-column folio, changed in 1906 to six column quarto. Tradition says the press first used in the News office was the one upon which Smith at Nauvoo, Illinois, printed his Mormon literature. In 1895 this was replaced by a cylinder press.

The Bank of Shiocton was started as a private concern, which after a year was organized as a state bank, with a capital of $5,000, since increased to $10,000, and has a surplus of $1,000. Its officers are: G. A. Zuehlke, president; F. N. Torrey, vice-president; F. H. Washburn, cashier.

Town of Black Creek.—More than two-thirds of the area of township 23, range 17, was voted by the government swamp land, and so forbidding was the aspect of the territory the settlement of the town did not begin for several years after Osborn and Bovina, its neighbors on either side. While Bovina was scarcely more inviting, settlers were earlier attracted by reason of the Wolf river road rendering it accessible at an earlier date. The first settler in this town, so far as we can establish identity, was George Welch, who in 1857 purchased a tract in section 32, but lived in southeast, northeast 31. This section, though evidently stub land, was, during the early period of development, more thickly populated than any other in the town. There was no road in Black Creek at this time, the first of which we have knowledge being the "state road," which was established by the town of Center, then including Black Creek, October 21, 1858, as follows: commencing eighty rods west of the southeast corner of section 10, township 22, range 17, thence northwest as nearly as best grounds will admit, to the northwest corner of section 4 in same town, thence northwesterly to the northwest corner of section 32, township 23, range 17, thence north on best ground to the northeast corner of section six. Town of Center agreed to pay only so much of the survey of road as was in township 22. The following year the Felios, John, Sr., and his sons, John, Jr., Joseph and Estis, came in, and settled just south of Welch, and June 2, 1859, application of John Felio and others was granted for a highway between section 32, township 23, range 17, and section 5, township 22, range 17, thence west on section line to town line of Ellington. Said road is located between Center and what is called Black Creek, and also the section line running north and south between sections 31 and 32, township 23, range 17. Although at this time we are unable to locate but two families in its territory, it would seem that a name had already been provided for a new town. That there may have been another family or two appears probable from the fact that in no other town of the county have we found so many changes of ownership in the early period as in this. Careful investigation, however, does not reveal their identity if there were others here. Charles W. Hopkins appears as the next settler, September 15, 1859,
and settled in section 32, on the state road. This was the first settlement on the state road above the southwest corner of section 11, township 22, range 17, long known as Battey’s Corners, and though the road was ordered in 1858, C. M. Brainerd tells us it had not been cut out through Black Creek in 1865. T. P. Bingham came a little after Hopkins and built a little saw mill north of Hopkins in section 29. George Huse was also a settler in 1859. Ten years earlier he had come, an unmarried veteran of the Mexican War, and settled in Ellington and assisted in the organization and early development of that town. On the northeast quarter of section 20 he built the first cabin in that part of the town, away beyond the sound of ax of the other settlers. School district No. 5 of the town of Center was formed the following year, May 9, 1860, which included all of townships 24, 23 and a portion of 22, range 17. This placed a school only about five miles from Mr. Huse.

The town of Black Creek in 1857 embraced town 23 north, range 17 east. At this date it was still attached to the town of Center. In the east, west and north parts it had extensive timber tracts. A wide belt of swamp land lay in the south. It had some of the best land in the state. Black Creek was about ten rods wide, with an average depth of four feet, and was a meandering stream. A ridge of land half a mile wide formed an admirable crossing and roadway through the swamp to the north line of the township on sections 6 and 7. On this crossing T. P. Bingham selected the site for the future village. A vote for a new bridge across Black Creek was taken at the last session of the legislature. The Outagamie and Shawano road was organizing, and was expected to cross Black Creek soon. That road was designed to pass northward to Osceola, then being laid out on section 7, town 25 north, range 17 east, by George H. Bacon. The timber in this town was mostly hardwood, with here and there strips of pine. Small streams of pure sparkling water were abundant. The soil was exceedingly rich, and an abundance of good farming land was yet to be had for from $3 to $6 per acre. Town 24 contained more pine and yet as a whole was as well adapted to farming as town 23. An improvement company owned nearly all of the choice and valuable tracts of land in town 24 and held them at from $2.50 to $6 per acre.

At the November session (1861) of the county board of supervisors, the following petition was received:

“The undersigned inhabitants or landowners of the town of Center, Wisconsin, respectfully petition your honorable body to divide the said town of Center, creating a new town to be called Black Creek, said new town to consist of townships 23 and 24, range 17, and the first meeting to be held at the dwelling of C. W. Hopkins. Dated at Center the 11th November, 1861. “(Signed) C. W. Hopkins, C. H. Fowle, Joseph Felio, John Berthier, Jerome D. Berthier, Frederick Packard, John Felio, Y. Felio, Wilson P. Berthier, George Welch, W. H. P. Bogan.
The committee on ordinance having reported favorably, by an ordinance of the board the prayer of the petitioners was granted, ordinance to be in force and effect from and after March 15, 1832.

Of the signers of the petition for separation, the Berthiers had come into the town about 1860 and, not remaining long, little is known of them. The same is true of Fowle. Frederick Packard was with Hopkins and did not become a settler. W. H. P. Bogan bought his land in section 20 in 1849, was a lumberman, aside from which we fail to identify him with the development of the town.

Some settlers were in the southeast corner of the town, who came in the early '60s, Michael, David and Frank Herb in section 36. Joseph Steffen, a brother-in-law of the Herbs, lived in 25, and George Zimloch, who moved out again in 1862. Hiram Jones lived in the western settlement, G. M. Davis in section 33 in 1861-2.

Some settlers were in the southeast corner of the town, who came in the early '60s, Michael, David and Frank Herb in section 36. Joseph Steffen, a brother-in-law of the Herbs, lived in 25, and George Zimloch, who moved out again in 1862. Hiram Jones lived in the western settlement, G. M. Davis in section 33 in 1861-2.

The principal object in separating from Center was to secure an adequate system of roads and schools, and to that end the settlements in the southeast and southwest corners were in harmony. As directed by the creative ordinance the organization was effected April 1, 1862, by appointing T. P. Bingham, chairman; C. W. Hopkins, clerk; George Huse and George Zimloch, inspectors. From the minutes we learn it was resolved to elect one assessor and two constables; that the sum of $150 be levied for general expenses, $500 as a special road tax, and that "each town officer shall be entitled to receive the compensation allowed by law for the several offices which he may hold." This provision was necessary, since the limited number of residents made it necessary for some to hold several offices.

A canvass of the votes at this town meeting showed that twelve electors had voted and that each of the candidates had received the total number of votes cast, and was duly elected as follows: C. W. Hopkins, chairman; George Huse and Mike Herb, supervisors; T. P. Bingham, town clerk; C. W. Hopkins, treasurer; Frank Herb, George Huse, G. M. Davis and John Felio, justices; Daniel Herb and Hiram Jones, constables; Joseph Steffen, assessor; George Welch, sealer of weights and measures.

The principal object of the town being road making, the board of supervisors met April 14, 1862, and established two road districts, No. 1 to comprise the eastern two tiers of sections, with Mike Herb overseer; and No. 2 the western four tiers, of which George Zimlock served as overseer until his removal, November 3, when George Huse was appointed in his stead. As yet no school had been held, but March 12, 1863, School district No. 1 was formed, comprising the western four tiers of sections in both townships, the clerk to give verbal notice to the inhabitants of the district of a school meeting March 19, at which to elect a director, treasurer and clerk of the district. The records are silent as to further action in school matters, and exact data is unobtainable from the few settlers of that period remaining, but by inference we take it the matter was held in abeyance for a year.

Meanwhile the second annual meeting was held April 7, 1863, at which seven votes were cast. Evidently the officers chosen at the
first election had given satisfaction, the entire list being re-elected with the exception of one or two who had removed from town. The meeting increased the amount to be raised for general fund to $200, voting another $500 for special road tax, and by a resolution ordered that "the personal tax paid last year be refunded." This latter action is explained by the following: "Town board of equalization met July 6, 1863. No one appeared with any grievance and board completed its task and adjourned 7:30 p. m., there being no personal property taxable in the town of Black Creek."

If any additions to the settlement were made in the interval they are unrecorded and forgotten, but at the election held November 3, 1863, eight votes were cast and the poll list bears three new names, viz., John W. Terwilliger, of whom we have no further information; Christian Petran, who lived on town line south of Binghamton, and John B. Berner, who lived in southeast 29. Milton Farnham, a brother-in-law of George Huse, came about this time, and a German family, Peotter, in section 1. Settlement during this war period was slow and the records of the annual town meeting give us the name of but one who identified himself as a settler. This was Joel Snyder, who was elected supervisor and who further identified himself with the town by marrying the first schoolma'am and settling in section 17.

The first saw mill in town was a water power mill, just northeast of Binghamton, built by T. P. Bingham, operated by C. W. Hopkins. The little Bull Dog creek, on which it was built, could furnish but little power and the output was largely consumed in the vicinity. The next was a steam mill on the same site owned by Randall Johnson, which after a few years was burned. On rebuilding a feed mill was attached. Shingle and lath machinery was added to work up short and refuse stock, and when timber became scarce in the vicinity the mill was sold and removed to Deer Brook, above Antigo.

The first store was a small general store opened by C. W. Hopkins about 1865 at Binghamton; another was started later by J. M. Waite. Both were discontinued after the coming of the railroad and establishing stores at the new village of Middleburg, now Black Creek.

The first school in the town was held in the house of C. W. Hopkins, probably in the spring and summer of 1864. Miss Annie Batley, daughter of one of Center's early settlers, was the teacher. Her salary was $12 per month, out of which she paid fifty cents per week for board.

The first school house was built probably in the fall of that year, since a special town election was held in it March 25, 1865, and the regular town meeting in April, after assembling as usual at the Hopkins home adjourned to the school house.

The object of the special meeting at the school house was to fill vacancies in offices of chairman and treasurer, occasioned by the absence of C. W. Hopkins in the army. Volney Simmons was elected chairman, and Gilbert Watson treasurer. Both were newcomers within the year, Simmons settling the southwest quarter of
16, which he later sold to Stutsman. Watson lived in section 31, was a man of considerable ability and was a leader among the Mormons who came about that time and settled in section 31 and vicinity. Among them were Emery Downie, who lived north of Binghamton, in 31, afterward in 33, where Herman lived later. Peter Harris, a Mormon preacher, lived in northwest 31; J. M. and George Waite. These people were said to have come from Nauvoo, Ill. Two other new names appear at about this time. M. D. Strope, who lived in 31, among the Mormons though not of their faith, and J. J. Baer, who located in section 32. Mr. Baer was a minister of the Winebrenner branch of the United Brethren Church.

At the annual meeting $250 was deemed necessary to meet the general expenses of the town, a general road tax of seven mills and a special tax to raise $300 for roads and $300 for school purposes was voted.

An appropriation of $300 for school purposes in a town only three years old was unusual in this county, but a second district was formed June 3 and other schools started. In the fall of 1865 C. M. Brainerd blazed a way to his tract in section 28, which he developed from a wilderness into a productive farm. In the fall of 1865 Capt. J. M. Baer joined his father in the settlement, and at once began an active part in the affairs of the town. Though the town was more than three years old roadmaking was yet in its infancy, due in part to the hardships imposed by the war period and in part by the physical characteristics of the town's area. One-half the area was in the beginning well nigh impenetrable swamp, much of which is even yet unfit for cultivation. Added to this was a considerable area which has since been made tillable but which in the earlier period bore a most forbidding aspect to the road maker. The first comers had made a foundation upon which others following could expend their energies in building and in the six years after the war and before the coming of the railroad settlement was more rapid and progress remarkable. Among those who came during this period were the Burdicks, who came about 1866 and lived east of George Huse in 21. John Sherman to southeast 28. P. O. Cornel about this time joined the Mormon colony in 31. John T. Pierce lived in 29. Ransom B. Hamm, northwest 29. Henry Stutsman, his brother Michael and their father, Michael, Sr., came in 1866 and bought out Volney Simmons in southwest 16. They were first of the Washington county Germans who in the later '60s and early '70s came in numbers. Joseph G. Batley came from Center about this time but was at first engaged in lumbering, later settling in the town, now living in the village. C. R. Burch lived in southwest 28. O. C. Smith lived on state road in southeast 18. O. P. Worden, though not a Mormon, settled in section 31, but did not remain long. Nathan Rideout settled in the fall of 1867 on the creek in section 8, and Kinzie about the same time came to section 10. At this time there were no houses on the present site of the village. Cyrus Widger came in 1868 to northeast 9. John Casey settled first on state road between Baer and Hopkins, afterward removing to southwest corner.

From 1870 the settlers were mostly German speaking people from Washington county, or that section of the state. Among them were the Sassmans, Henry in 18, John in 21, Louis in 20; the Kitzingers in 20 and 21; Herman Wolf in 33; the Shimmelpfenning in 35; Bartman and his sons; Nick Rettler in 16; Fred and William Mau in 22 and 27. The first comers in Black Creek were almost without exception English speaking and first improvements throughout the town may be said to have been made by them. The German settlers carrying on and expanding the work so begun, some of the German people found land in the wild, but by industry and thrift have made good farms of what had been considered waste land.

In aid of the Green Bay & Lake Pepin Railway the town of Black Creek issued $12,000 bonds.

The town of Black Creek retained its original boundaries until 1871, when the citizens of the northern half of the town asked for division and separation of that portion to organize a new town. This petition was granted by an act of legislature, 1871, and thus by the creation of the town of Cicero, Black Creek lost one-half her territory.

In November, 1879, Joseph Steffen, his son, and Charles Herb went hunting deer in the town of Black Creek. One of them wounded a deer, when, under a mistake, Mr. Herb shot and wounded both Steffen and his son, the latter dangerously. Dr. Levings attended the wounded.

On February 27, 1904, a meeting was held in the town hall of Black Creek to vote on the question of incorporating the village of Black Creek. In all 93 votes were cast, of which 88 were in favor of incorporation.

A Farmers' Institute was held at Black Creek early in December, 1896. Those taking part were George C. Hill, C. H. Everett, A. L. Hatch, Theodore Mark, Thomas McNiesh, C. P. Goodrich and others.

In July, 1899, a veritable tornade swept across Black Creek; a path 100 or more feet wide was swept clean as a floor. It moved from southwest to northeast. Damage was done at Tine's house; one timber, 24x18, was carried 60 rods. The house of Charles Saxes and the house, barn and granary of James Mullin were destroyed. Mr. Lon- den lost his barn, and Mrs. Sepler her home and barn. The tornado swept through the Oneida reservation. The farmers turned out to assist the losers to restore their property; it was marvelous that no lives were lost, though there were narrow escapes. A mild tornado
at Combined Locks soon afterward tore up trees by the roots, tipped over freight cars and sucked water from the river.

The original plat of Black Creek village, or Middleburg, as it was named, was laid out by Thomas J. Burdick about the time of the building of the G. B. & L. P. railway.

As soon as the railroad was completed a village rapidly sprung into existence. The mills having shipping facilities at hand were started and began manufacturing lumber in great quantities. Stores were at once started, a postoffice was established and Black Creek asserted itself a formidable rival of its neighbors, Seymour and Shiocton.

The first building in Black Creek village, it is said, belonged to Henry Herman. The first mill at the village was built by him about 1872. A few years later Appleton and Letter established their mill. Dietzler and Knoll started a store and hotel, 1870. The building is now used for a drug store and is the oldest building in the village.

Carl Curtis put up the next building, a saloon, still in use. The first postoffice in town was at Binghamton. C. W. Hopkins was the first postmaster and the office was at his home. After the railroad came through a postoffice was established at the village and a Mr. Herman was postmaster. Henry Peters was next. Both had stores, which were the first regular stores in the village, both carried general stocks, Peters' being most extensive. He sold to Strassburger, who in turn sold to Hunt. Gabel's stock was next, and quite large. He afterward sold to Kessler.

This is another of the thriving villages in the northern part of the county to which the building of the G. B. & M. R. R. gave life. Considering the times there has been considerable building done here during the past year. We subjoin a list of those erected: R. A. Loope, frame store; J. Mueller, cabinet shop; G. Horning, store and barn; J. Lelage, store and blacksmith shop; Burdick Bros., blacksmith and wagon shop; F. Fanchon, dwelling; H. Peters, stable in the village, also barn and stable on his farm across the creek; J. J. Curtis, frame barn; T. McNeish, dwelling one mile west; D. M. Hammond, addition to barn; H. Knoll, stable and ice house; F. Hilger, granary and work shop.

Letter and Appleton do the leading business in the manufacturing line in Black Creek. They have a saw and flouring mill with first class facilities; have ten hands steadily employed. Randall Johnson does an extensive lumber business. His mill is located near Binghamton postoffice and was established seven years ago.

H. Herman does a successful lumber business in Black Creek. He has a first class mill, steadily in operation, employs twelve hands and does custom sawing.

F. W. Fairchild manufactures broom handles, owning a planing mill in connection. During past season built a dry house, a valuable addition to his facilities. H. Peters carries a large stock of general merchandise, buys wheat and does a heavy business in both lines. H. Homrig deals in general merchandise, though started only a month, is getting extensive trade. G. H. James deals in drugs.
A. E. Burdick is engaged in wagon making and blacksmithing. J. Pube builds wagons to order. J. Breitenback has few superiors at the anvil. J. Le Sage has just opened his blacksmith shop. Peter Kamp manufactures durable harness. G. Wehver is a good shoemaker. J. Schiegel deals in stoves and general hardware. H. Jarlelow makes satisfactory shoes. F. Ingleking deals in furniture. J. Voge, shoemaker. D. M. Hammond entertains the traveling public. H. Knoll conducts a hotel, ice house and saloon. C. C. Cordes runs a hotel and saloon. Mr. Nagelstock is one of the leaders in general merchandise in the northern part of the county.

"Black Creek business for the year, $61,500."—(Post, 1877.)

The first church in Black Creek was St. Mary's Catholic Church, whose congregation organized about 1873 and erected its first church, 1874, and the pastor's residence was bought by Rev. Bastian. The first resident pastor was Rev. George Pasch, in 1903. He was succeeded by Revs. Colby and Ripp and by Rev. Francis Linder, the present pastor, in 1906. Having outgrown the old church it was sold and the present large and handsome structure erected, 1901.

Evangelical St. John's congregation was organized by Rev. Siegmann of Appleton with a membership of about nineteen families. The church, a handsome cream colored brick building, was erected in 1877. The first minister was Rev. Haag. A parsonage was built in 1885, the present minister's residence in 1892. This is the parent church of St. John's Congregation in Cicero and St. Matthew in Center, both served by Rev. W. Blasberg, present pastor of St. John's in Black Creek.

The Evangelical Lutheran Parish of Black Creek comprises three congregations, St. Peters, in town; Black Creek, about three and one-half miles southeast of the village; St. Paul's in Binghamton, and Immanuels, in the village. Of these St. Peter's is the oldest, organized about 1874. Immanuels, organized 1902, bought the church and built the parsonage about the same time, and the school house was bought and moved onto church ground in 1903. St. Paul's congregation has twelve members with their families; St. Peter's, thirty-five, and Immanuel's, forty, all served by one pastor, Rev. Herzfeldt, residing in the village.

The third church organization, the Methodist Episcopal, of which Rev. Shaw was pastor, built its church in 1878 and rebuilt in 1903. Its present pastor, Rev. Starkweather, resides in Seymour, having under his charge both congregations.

The Congregational Church of Black Creek was organized June 28, 1905, with twenty-four members. Services had been held during the preceding six months by W. H. Griffith of Seymour and prior to that occasional services by various ministers. This church is still affiliated with the church at Seymour. Rev. Griffith was succeeded by C. A. O'Neil and the present pastor is Rev. Fred Dahlberg. The Sunday school dates its existence a year earlier than the church, when it was organized by Mrs. Dr. Phillips.

The Bank of Black Creek was organized December 23, 1903, with William Strasseburger, president; Peter Ryser, vice-president,
and G. H. Peters, cashier, and directors, G. A. Zuehlke, August Strassburger, Charles Hagen, Henry Peters and B. J. Zuehlke. This directorate has since remained as at organization except G. A. Zuehlke, whose place on the board is now held by William Strassburger. The capital is $10,000 and the surplus $5,000.

The first officers of Black Creek village were C. J. Hagen, president; Ernst Bergman, supervisor; F. D. Weisenberger, clerk; J. N. Biek, treasurer; T. J. Schumacker, Silas Pierce, justices; Garrell Smith, constable; John Kessler, assessor; Peter Ryser, J. Schneider, J. G. Shaw, John Herman, Jul. Breitenbach and J. A. Koehler, trustees; John Priebe, marshal; Aaron Shaw, street commissioner. Ten bonds, in amount $2,500, were issued in 1906 and a village hall and engine house was built.

Town of Seymour.—The first settlers in Seymour were William and John Ausbourne, who, with their families, settled on section 32 in 1857, afterward removing to section 16. They had earlier settled in the western part of the county on Wolf river and came into Seymour by boats, up the Wolf and Shioc rivers and Black creek, bringing their household goods. Fallen trees across the creek made progress slow, sometimes becoming necessary to unload their goods to make portage around obstructions. There was, however, no better way, for at the time there was no road from other settlements into Seymour. There had been a road across the town, traces of which were found by later settlers and by them called "the old supply road," and believed by them to have been made by the military authorities at Fort Howard to facilitate operations in case of an Indian outbreak. It had been abandoned so long when the settlers discovered it (if it had ever been used) that brush had grown over it, entirely hiding it in places. At the point where it crossed Black creek, however, were the remains of a bridge with crib abutments and corduroy approaches. If there had ever been plank or logs on the stringers they had floated away.

For two years the Ausbournes were alone in Seymour, their neighbors being in Osborn. In 1859 Henry Becker and Herman Husman came to section 33, living together on Becker's place until 1864, when Husman moved into Osborn. The fall of 1859 Willis and Dan Munger came to build houses on their lands and the following spring the Mungers, William H., Simeon W., Daniel H., W. N. and Levi W., arrived. William H., the father of the others, settled in northeast quarter of section 32, his house being about where Dr. Hittner's now stands. Daniel's farther south, on what is now Main street in the city of Seymour. Simeon W. lived in southwest 32 on the town line road. At the time, however, there was no road there. To reach Seymour the Mungers, finding the way across Osborn impassable, came through the Oneida settlement and employed Indians to cut a way from the settlement to section 32. Erastus C. Buttles came the same spring and bought the west half of the southwest quarter of section 32, and spent the winter of '60
and '61 in the settlement, but in 1861 entered the army and did not return to improve his farm until after the war.

Settlement and development progressed but slowly during the first ten years, but in the earlier '60s Lewis Conklin settled in section 8. James Rice, William Harris and George Anderson, Porter M. Brooks settled in section 9 in 1864, D. P. Larkin in southwest 17 in 1865, and at the same time Alonzo Stevenson came to northeast 20, John Brown to section 32 the same year, Leonard Carter in section 20 about 1866, Avery Carter the same year, Charles Eichler about this time was the first German in northern Seymour, on southwest section 4. Albert Anderson, in section 4, came September, 1865. Joel Winters was in section 19, at first came to work in the woods about 1865 and 1866. Frederick Muehl and family came in 1867, bought an eighty from Lloyds, on which was a small log house roofed with split hollow logs, afterward bought the W. H. Munger place. Peter Tubbs came in December, 1867, and bought in section 17, chopped a few acres and the following September brought his wife and baby to the heavily timbered tract he has since developed into the magnificent "Woodland Farm," on which he still resides. George Anderson had a saw mill in 1868 and later built a flour mill at Lime Rock, in Osborn, near the Seymour town line.

Before the railroad was built, 1876, the south town line road was rather a stirring place. George Shepherd had located there the first blacksmith shop. The first school house was there and the first Methodist church. There was a store and a post office and finally the grist mill. The post office, called Lime Rock, was established in 1865, with S. W. Munger (Uncle Willis) postmaster, at a salary of $8 per year. The mail was brought from Appleton by John Wheeler, who made the trip afoot. The next post office in Seymour was established in 1870 at the home of Peter Tubbs, who was its first postmaster, and a carrier was secured to bring the mail from Lime Rock until the route from Appleton was extended to Seymour post office. The original supplies for this office, including stamps, was in amount less than $25.00, and though postage on papers and periodicals was paid at office of delivery the weekly receipts for the first quarter ranged from nine to twenty-six cents. After the railroad began carrying mails regularly the office was removed to Seymour Station and David Dix was appointed postmaster. Dix was the first store keeper in Seymour, early in 1872.

During the spring of 1868 the town of Seymour was one of the principal points sought by new settlers looking for homes. The lands were extremely fertile, a few roads had been laid out and graded, and settlers were welcomed by the few residing there. Several schoolhouses were already built; an excellent saw mill was in full operation, and the residents there could take their choice between Green Bay and Appleton as a place to market their products.

In 1868 there were two log houses on the site of the City of Seymour. When the railroad was built the number had increased to six, Henry Robbins, W. B. O'Haring, the station master; Dan Mungers, Aunt Sally Mungers, the hotel and barroom of Otto Broeh-
mer, and David Dix. Four more were added in 1872, Dr. Strong's, Willis Munger's, Elke's and Roloff's. At about this time the spoke and stave factory was established by Hammel & Co., and the village grew too rapidly to keep track of the buildings. House building "bees" were common, and a house that was built in a day excited no comment even though the day chanced to be Sunday. Better lumber than is procurable now could then be had for seven dollars per thousand. George Anderson started a saw mill about 1868, the first in the town, which was run mostly as a custom mill. About 1870 shingle machinery was installed. Little of the product was shipped though some was hauled out over the railroad grade before the track was laid.

Oscar Conklin built a mill in 1870 about where the grist mill now stands, was run as a custom mill. Was sold to McIntosh, Ross and Perry. McIntosh, about 1871 or 1872, sold his interest to George M. Pope and it was run by Pope, Ross and Perry until about 1876, when they sold to Northwestern Manufacturing Company of Fort Atkinson, who run it until the timber was exhausted.

The Whitney mill was built in 1871 and hauled its product to Appleton until the railroad was completed. The first freight train on the Green Bay & Lake Pepin railroad was loaded with lumber and shingles from this mill. Around the mills were dwellings and shops. New settlers were mainly from Ohio, New York and New England.

Though these mills consumed a great amount of timber the quantity was infinitesimal compared to that taken off by the logging camps, the first of which was run by John O'Shea, whose camp, says Gary Munger, was located back of where the fair grounds are now in section 29. This was the winter of 1860 and 1861. They took only clear pine. The next winter John and William Grignon logged on the Comee eighty, south half of northeast quarter of section 28, occupying O'Shea's old shanties. During the winter of 1862 and 1863 Riggs and Reynolds had their camp in the city limits, lumbering the west half of section 28 and the east half of 29. After lumbering there two winters they offered to sell the two half sections for the price of the deed.

D. H. Munger and Tom Shepherd occupied the O'Shea shanties the winter of 1862 and 1863. Riggs and Reynolds lumbered together three years, then Riggs alone the winter of 1866 and 1867 on the Max Siegel farm. The Griffiths of Fond du Lac had a camp on section 23. Fisher in 1867-68 on section 28. The same winter Allen and Burnett on northwest quarter of section 16, used John Ausbourne's house for a camp. In 1868-69 Griffith and son returned and Miles Wheeler of Neenah and Wharton, in 1871-72, with Charley and Bill Hawthorne as foremen, occupied the old Riggs camp. Paul Reynolds came in the early '70s and logged. All the logs cut by these camps were run out Black creek to the Shioe and Wolf rivers and down to the lake. It was necessary to drive out Black creek "with a head," that is, a dam was placed in the stream and the logs sluiced through, and after the logs had passed the dam, water could
be let out as required to float them over the shallows and sand bars. Two dams were required in Black creek, one in section 29, the other in 31. Efforts were made each year to get the log drives from the creeks in this vicinity into the Wolf river before the drives from the upper Wolf, Shioc and Embarrass rivers. During the height of the lumbering operations the river was full of logs from the melting of the snow and ice until September.

The German invasion of Seymour begun in 1859 was slower than that of the English speaking settlers until after the war. From that time there was a constantly increasing ratio of Germans until in the early '70s they outnumbered the "Yankee" newcomers in the farming districts. While during the rapid growth of the city of Seymour the English speaking element predominated there, this fact largely attributed to the buying out of farms upon which improvements had been made by the later Germans. Among those who took their lands "in the rough," in addition to those already mentioned, were the Kroners, Hackels and Eberts in section 3, Miller in section 4, the Nickels, Jacob in 22, Phillip in 27; Ben Liebhaber in 21; Julius, Fred and Albert Zisemer; the Carrow family; Krause before 1870, and Kailhofer, both in section 3. Wirth came about 1870. The Dioxons, Porters and Sturms, the latter coming in the '60s. Nick Trauver in the '70s; Peter Schmitt, the Nicklays, Jake in 13, John in section 12, early in the '70s; Anton Henas in the '60s, and Joe Moyer late in the '70s. Albert Brugger had a blacksmith shop in Seymour City in 1873 and is now on a farm in section 27.

The first marriage in Seymour was a German couple, Henry Becker and Tina Sinnicht, at the home of the bridegroom, on the south town line, who was probably the first German settler, in 1859.

"The first white child born in Seymour was Ada M., daughter of William and Harriet Ausbourne, March 31, 1860, and the first death was that of William Ausbourne, Sr., father of the town's first settlers, July 9, 1859. Rev. David Lewis of Oneida preached the funeral sermon."—(Outagamie Pioneer.)

The town of Seymour was created by the county board setting apart all that portion of Outagamie county in township 24, north of ranges 18 and 19 east, to be formed into a new town to be called Seymour, in honor of ex-Governor Horatio Seymour of New York, who at the time was the most extensive land owner in the town. The first town meeting was ordered held at the school house in district No. 2, the ordinance to be effective from and after March 1, 1867.

At this meeting in April organization was effected by appointing James Rice, chairman; Lewis Conklin and W. M. Ausbourne, inspectors. It has been erroneously stated that these were the officers elected to serve the first year, but the report of the election board gives the following: James Rice, chairman; Henry Becker and D. H. Munger, supervisors; C. E. McIntosh, town clerk; William M. Ausbourne, treasurer; Louis Conklin, assessor; Erastus Buttles and Louis Conklin, justices of the peace; L. B. Carter, constable. The number of votes polled was twenty-one. Other business transacted
was the appointment of James Rice, D. H. Munger, W. L. Ausbourne and Lewis Conklin, overseers of highways in the four road districts into which the town was divided. The meeting voted for school purposes, $50.00; for current expenses, $120.00. An appropriation of $75.00 was voted for bridging on the road between sections 20 and 29. May 4, 1870, at a special town meeting to vote on the proposition of the Green Bay & Lake Pepin Railway, 24 votes favored and 23 were against the proposition, which was for the town to issue bonds in aid of the railway, receiving therefor stock of the road of equal amount. December 8, 1870, the town officials, "after having proof of the grading of the Green Bay & Lake Pepin Railway, gave $4,000 in bonds of the town of Seymour and took in exchange $4,000 in stock of the railroad." The bonds were dated January 1, 1871, and bore interest at ten per centum from date, payable annually. December 31, bonds for $3,000 additional were exchanged for stock, making the total bond issue $7,000, payable, $1,000 in five years, the remainder in three biennial payments of $2,000 each.

The railway stock received for these bonds was considered worthless and when the City of Seymour was incorporated, and the board apportioned the funds and indebtedness of the city and town, no account was made of the stock, but when, in 1880, the town sold it at five per cent of its face value, the city demanded its proportion, which was refused because of a tax matter dating prior to incorporation which the city, though having the power, failed to rectify, and which the town held as an offset against the funds received for the stock. After long and expensive litigation, during which an appeal to higher courts was taken, the town was obliged to reimburse the city. No bonds have since been issued by the town, whose financial condition is excellent. In its physical contour the surface throughout the town is gently rolling, or easy slopes. Originally covered by a forest of heavy pine, interspersed with hardwood, the soil varies somewhat in different sections, but is well drained and fertile and adapted to great diversity of crops. The principal industry is dairy farming. The growing of sugar beets receives considerable attention and recently an enormous acreage has been devoted to cabbage. Fruit growing as an industry for profit has until 1910 and the present year received little consideration. Many cherry orchards of considerable extent have been planted this year, but as no crops have been harvessted no estimate of the value to the town can be made. The farms are well kept and farm buildings are substantial and pleasing in appearance. The roads throughout the town, already good, are being constantly improved, as is also true of the school buildings. The school house in No. 2, known as "The Tubbs district," is especially noticeable as a model building, and in appearance and equipment would be a credit to a village or city.

The city of Seymour was organized under an act of incorporation April 5, 1879, only seven years from the building of the railroad. Its first officers were: T. J. St. Louis, mayor; B. F. Strong, J. Brinkman and August Volk, aldermen; C. E. McIntosh, super-
visor; M. D. Newald, city clerk; C. E. McIntosh, assessor; Thomas H. Mitchell, treasurer; Dana Dix, marshal; H. Moneback, constable; A. M. Anderson, police justice; George Downer, street commissioner; Sam Howard, justice of the peace. Street improvements, sidewalk building and fire protection were immediately considered and efforts along this line have placed the little city in the front rank of cities of its size, so far as public utilities are concerned. The streets are well kept, adequate drainage afforded, concrete sidewalks and crossings are provided. A large and handsome City Hall provides accommodations for the city officers and a large council chamber on the upper floor. The ground floor houses the fire fighting apparatus. Room in the building is provided for the City Library, which was organized by a Ladies’ Library Association and turned over to the city. Cisterns in various localities of the city afford water for fire fighting. A volunteer fire company dated its organization to about the time of the city’s incorporation, which was replaced July 1, 1910, by a municipal fire department, of which C. F. Wagner is chief; John Huettl, captain of hose company; Charles Wolk, captain of hook and ladder company; F. E. Dopkins, secretary; Arthur Folk, treasurer. The department is limited to twenty-five members and maintains its full quota.

A monthly newspaper was started by George Mendell, May, 1880. Seymour, though becoming an important supply point, in 1880, was unable to hold the whole trade, since Appleton could discount Seymour prices. Some merchants thought the reason not so much a difference in prices as that customers wished to tell they had bought in Appleton. The *People’s Friend* urged the merchants to buy wholesale in New York, rather than Appleton and give the local trade the benefit of the saving. Peter Tubbs completed the census and about July 1, 1880, announced the population of the city 849, and of the town 762. In the city council, June 7, a gravel bed was ordered purchased and resolutions passed relative to sidewalk improvements.

The *Seymour Tribune* was talking cheese factory, July, 1880. L. B. Bullock was pastor of M. E. Church in 1880. The Catholic congregation again secured a pastor in Rev. Peter Scholl, but the Congregational Church needed a minister. Rev. J. E. Wuebbin was pastor of the Lutherans, and Rev. Diete was pastor of the Evangelical Association. F. R. Ditmer showed apples more than ten inches around, in August. Seymour Lodge, I. O. O. F., celebrated its third anniversary August 21.

The Northwestern Manufacturing Company had over a half million feet of logs and still buying, February, 1881. The Temple of Honor was vigorous and growing in that year. The death of Mayor Harrington left a vacancy which was filled by the election of George Droeger.

At the completion of the Green Bay & Lake Pepin Railway, about Christmas, 1871, a station was established near the northwest corner of section 33. A store was opened early in 1872 and about
the same time Seymour postoffice was removed to that point. With
the mills and shops this formed the nucleus of village.

"Few towns of northern Wisconsin," says the Appleton Post,
"have thrived as uniformly as the village of Seymour. Only five
or six years have passed since the first scar was made in a wilderness,
the site of this thriving town. It at once became the base of important
business and manufacturing enterprises, to which additions of
more or less consequence have been made every year."

The leading manufacturing firm in Seymour, 1877, is Hammel
& Parkhurst, manufacturing staves, furnishing employment to sixty
men. This firm lately acquired a hub and spoke factory, now em-
ploying fifteen hands, whose efforts the past year have been devoted
to working up stock on hand. Upham Bros. do a large business in lum-
ber. J. P. Laird & Co. are lumber dealers and manufacturers.
The Northwestern Manufacturing Company of Fort Atkinson em-
ploy twenty men in their branch here. John Brinkman & Co., hub
and spoke factory, employ twenty-eight hands. The custom work of
Shirland & Steward's flouring mill amounts to 15,000 bushels be-
sides a large merchant trade. J. J. Leish makes staves for tight
barrels. Mitchell & Steward, in general merchandise, do a thriving
business. D. Hammel & Co. require five hands to serve their cus-
tomers. Mitchelstetter & Fenrig do a constantly increasing business.
L. A. Le Meeux presides over drug headquarters. J. Dean & Sons
employ four hands in their hardware, started last April. Phillip
Muehl supplies Seymour and vicinity with furniture from a care-
fully selected stock. J. Brinkman & Co. do a very extensive merca-
tile trade. J. J. Trenam & Co. make a specialty of groceries and
provisions. Mrs. Trenam conducts a successful millinery depart-
ment. Fred Lemke, F. B. Ditmer and W. Shmirler are separately
engaged as boot and shoe makers, all successfully.

"Few towns of northern Wisconsin have thrived so uniformly
since their establishment as the village of Seymour. Indeed, only
five or six years have elapsed since the first scar was made in a wilder-
ness which now forms the site of this thriving inland town. It at
once became the base of important business and manufacturing
enterprises to which additions of greater or less consequence have
been made every year. Of course the particular cause which induced
the establishment and subsequent prosperity of Seymour was the
building of the G. B. & M. R. R., a few years ago."—(Appleton Post,
December, 1877.)

"The leading manufacturing firm in Seymour, 1877, is Hammel
& Parkhurst, manufacturing staves, furnish employment to sixty
men. This firm lately acquired a large hub and spoke factory, now
employing fifteen hands, whose efforts during the past year have
been confined to working up stock on hand."—(Appleton Post, De-
cember, 1877.)

"Upham Bros. do large business in lumber. J. P. Laird & Co.,
lumber dealers and manufacturers. J. M. Rhode is agent for both
these firms. The Northwestern Manufacturing Company, employ-
ing twenty men, is a branch of works at Fort Atkinson.  John Brinkman.

"The following are separately engaged in blacksmithing:  A. J. Hunter, William Kratzke, George Droeger and Peter Westergreen.  Wagon makers are Aug. Wolk, C. Pauley, John Zurbrigg and the firm of Peckham & O'Brien, the last mentioned having a black-smithing branch.


During the year, 1887, the following persons erected dwellings in Seymour:  August Wolk, Joel Winter, Sewell Shepherd, addition:  M. Kahn, F. Stillwater, C. Farwell, George Douner, Thomas St. Louis, Philip Muehl, Dr. George Kindress, John Kelsofall, John Kroner, Mr. Gourel, Rev. Mr. Souterman, Mr. Mail, Chris Newman, Mr. Prickerman, Fred Sacko, Chris Winestine, Henry Howard, Richard Porties, James Alexander, Martin O'Brien, Joseph Labelle, Mr. Henry, George Droeger, George Foster, Joseph Ausborne, J. J. Bowerman.  Barns also were built by John Kelsofall, John Kroner and Richard Porties, Joseph Guter and C. E. McIntosh.

May 25, 1881, the house of William Harris was seen to be on fire.  Firemen entering the attic to put out the fire found evidence of incendiarism.  Harris was arrested and committed suicide.  An old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration, 1881, with George B. Pratt of Menasha, Capt. William Zickerich of Gravesville, who speaks in German, and Rev. L. B. Bullock of Seymour, speakers of the day, was announced by the Aurora, which in the same issue, June 28, gave up the ghost, its editor, George E. Mendell, stating that after three years effort, "being a deaf mute we cannot make a local and political paper interesting to many."  Mendell's journalistic labors were resumed the following month in a magazine which was soon afterward removed to Appleton.

The Seymour Press made its first appearance July 8, 1886, under the management of H. J. Van Vuren, an independent weekly, which has continued without change of management or policy to the present.

As evidence of the prosperity of her institutions Seymour citizens may point with pride to her banks, the first of which dates its inception to 1887, when William Michelstetter began doing a private banking business. S. H. Rondeau being his cashier. On this super-
structure was erected the Seymour State Bank, which opened its doors for business in January, 1903, with a capital stock of $30,000. There has been no change in its official directory, the present officers having been the first ones elected. These are William Michelstetter, president; Frank Falck, vice-president; and Charles R. Prosser, cashier. The foregoing, with the addition of Dr. James Hittner and Charles Ploeger, constitutes the directorate. The capital stock at the present time is $80,000, with a surplus of $7,000. The prosperity of the bank is evidenced in that it has paid to its stockholders nearly 100 per cent. in dividends, and gave each share for share of stock, making the benefits to stockholders equal to hundred and fifty per cent. in eight years. The bank pays its customers four per cent. on savings and deposits, deriving its ability to do so from one and a half million dollars of mortgages in force.

In December, 1892, the First National Bank of Seymour, capitalized at $30,000, was organized and began doing business. James H. Taylor and William Larson, both of Green Bay, were the first president and vice-president, respectively. The first board of directors was composed of J. H. Taylor, William Larson, S. H. Cady, Jacob Friend, Peter Tubbs, Robert Kuehne and Francis R. Dittmer, the first three named of Green Bay, the rest of Seymour.

The bank prospered from its inception, notwithstanding the defalcation of its first cashier to the amount of $58,000. Ordinarily such a loss would have caused ruin to the average country bank, but this bank had its foundation solidly based upon men of means and integrity, and its solidity was never seriously questioned. In 1894 Francis R. Dittmer became president, Peter Tubbs vice-president, and Charles Freund cashier, this official list remaining unchanged to the present.

In the spring of 1860, relates Gary Munger, Mrs. Frank Manley gathered the children of the neighborhood and under the shade trees held a school, teaching without pay in order that a course of education might begin and the state aid for schools be secured. Of this humble beginning the justly famed Seymour city school is an outgrowth, and to Mrs. Manley should be given the credit due a pioneer educator. In the fall of that year Rosa McGann of Oneida Reservation taught school in David Benedict’s house, a log shanty on the town line.

A school district had been formed May 12, 1860, called District No. 2 of Osborn, of which Seymour was then a part, and the first school meeting held at the house of Mr. Rockfellow, but the site for a schoolhouse was not surveyed until April, 1861. A schoolhouse was built and furnished with four long benches and desks on each side, and stood about a half-mile west of the south end of Main street, Seymour, in section 32. This building was the scene of many memorable events in the history of the settlement. It was not only a schoolhouse, but Sunday school and church services, town meetings, public gatherings and Independence day celebrations were held there. At first this district included all of the town of Seymour, as well as a portion of Osborn, but in 1866 a new district was formed
of the northern four tiers of sections. After the separation of Seymour from Osborn this school was continued as a joint district until May, 1869, when it was dissolved and new districts formed. At an unrecorded date in that year the old log schoolhouse was sold to the highest cash bidder, with stove and pipe, pail, dipper and broom, dictionary, blackboard, wood and closet for $28.66, and was afterward used for a church.

To trace the history of the schools from year to year would require more space than can be allotted it. It is sufficient to say that a portion of the city of Seymour, together with portions of the towns of Osborn and Seymour, were included in a joint district until 1887, when by an act of the legislature the territory within the city limits was made one school district. Up to that time the city had employed but two teachers, but immediately more room was required to accommodate four teachers. A building was procured which was remodeled and added to, and in it the High school was established with Merritt L. Campbell principal, under the three years' course. For the promotion of the high school system in Seymour, says F. R. Ditmer, too much credit cannot be given Dr. R. H. Schmitt, a resident of the city and at the time county superintendent of schools.

In 1903 the school building was destroyed by fire and the present handsome structure was erected. Thoroughly modern in design and equipment, it contains five school rooms besides the general assembly room, three recitation rooms and an auditorium seating six hundred. In the basement is a well-equipped gymnasium, a very effective heating and ventilating apparatus, and a vacuum cleaning system. A library for the use of the students is kept in the building, which contains about twelve hundred carefully selected volumes, to which additions are constantly made. A principal, two assistants and five grade teachers comprise the corps of instructors. After the first five years the four-years' course was adopted, as at present. Twenty-one classes have graduated, there being none in 1891, the total alumnae, including the class of '11, being 163.

The Congregational Church of Seymour is the offspring of a congregation formed in town of Osborn in the '60s, and a church house erected about three miles southwest of the city. About 1872 an organization was effected in Seymour, which included most of the membership of the Osborn congregation, and services there were discontinued and the church building was converted into a residence on the farm of John Knox. A chapel was built by the organization in Seymour, which was used until sometime in the '80s, when the present church was erected and the chapel remodeled into a residence for the minister. The church, though never strong in membership or finance, has maintained its organization and its Sunday school dates from the beginning. The early history of the church is somewhat obscure, but since Elder Clinton was serving it in 1873 it is likely he was instrumental in its organization.

Zion Church of the Evangelical Association was organized in 1870 under the ministry of Rev. G. Zoellhoefer. The families of
F. Muehl, F. Peotter, Henry Baker and C. Miller were among the first of this faith in the town. Frederick Kurz from Neenah held the first services at Fred Muehl's house. Rev. Bockmuhl also preached in the homes before the church was organized, and Rev. Schelp was another early minister.

Until 1875 the congregation was a part of the Neenah Mission Field, when Rev. C. Oerth was stationed here. After him came F. Hormuth, 1877; F. Diete, 1879; John Schueller, 1882; F. Eilert, 1885; Theodor Schauer, 1887; M. Gauerke, 1889; C. W. Schuelter, 1892; J. J. Huffman, 1895; L. M. Siewart, 1899; G. J. Weiling, 1903; H. Best, 1905, and H. G. Koten, the present pastor, in 1907. The first church was erected on the town line road at the south end of Main street and used until 1902, when the present handsome building was erected in a more central part of the city. In 1882 a parsonage was bought, and used for five years when a residence was bought further south on Main street. The congregation now has one hundred and ten members and maintains a Sunday school, Young People's Alliance and Ladies' Aid Society, in which deep interest is manifest.

The first meetings of the Church of Christ, Scientist, were held about 1894 at Piehl's hall, which place is still so used. Although no regular organization has ever been effected the number of adherents to the faith increased to nearly forty, but the society has experienced losses by removals and by joining other societies, the membership fluctuating accordingly.

Immanuel's Congregation, Evangelical Lutheran Church, was organized about 1876. A church was built in 1878, prior to which for a year or two services had been held in the homes of families of that faith by a minister from Freedom. About fifteen families formed the congregation at first, who in 1879 called the Rev. J. E. Wuebbin to the pastorate, after whom came Henry Holterman, 1884; A. Horwitz, 1888; W. Bellon, 1891; after whom the present minister, Rev. F. H. Ohlrogge took charge, 1897. A schoolhouse was built in the early '90s, in which the minister instructs the children of the congregation, and in 1892 built an addition to the church. Not long after the church was built the minister's residence was acquired and remodeled in 1898. An addition to the rear of the church was built in 1902, and in 1904 a pipe organ was installed. In 1897 the membership had increased to about 78 families and has now about 160. The sum contributed by the congregation for outside work from $91 in 1897 to $324.28 in 1910. The Sunday school has nine teachers besides the minister and 120 pupils.

L. B. Bullock was the pioneer preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Seymour, holding services in the old log schoolhouse on the town line, and laid the foundation of the congregation while yet a student about 1867. The log parsonage which was built in 1873 and 1874, stood in section 20 in the town of Osborn, and was built before the church which stood on the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 5. After the railroad went through and a village sprang up around the station, a reorganization was effected
and the church was moved into the city about four lots south of the site of the present church. A residence belonging to the congregation was moved back to front on the next street east of Main, in the same block. In 1895 the parsonage was rebuilt and the following year the new church was erected and dedicated January, 1897. David Lewis was pastor about 1869 and 1870, and was followed by J. Banty, 1871; H. Yarwood, 1872; B. F. Sanford, 1874; S. H. Couch, 1875; O. B. Clark, 1877; L. B. Bullock, 1879; Rev. Hutchins, 1882; William Rowbottom, 1883; W. D. Cox, 1886; Enoch Savage, 1888; Ferdinand Binder, 1890; Rev. Fowls, 1891; E. L. Spicer, 1892; D. H. Carmichael, 1893; D. O. Sanborn, 1895; W. A. Newing, 1898; J. E. Manning, 1901; J. H. Hicks, 1906. C. M. Starkweather has been pastor since. The Sunday school has about a hundred members and about twenty-five in the Epworth League.

St. John's Catholic congregation was organized about 1872 and the first church was built in 1873. At first the congregation was served by priests from other localities. Rev. Scholter, the first resident pastor, coming a year or two later. He built a schoolhouse, in which school was held for several years, but afterward used for a parsonage. In 1900 the present handsome stone church was erected and in 1910 the old residence was torn down, which is now being replaced by a beautiful structure of hollow tile and terra cotta brick in modern design and equipment.

The organization of St. Sebastian congregation at Eiser divided the parish, both churches now being served by Rev. Roter.

On August 25, 1884, W. B. Comee, D. A. Kenyon, W. F. Cirkle, William Michelstetter, T. H. Mitchell, George Falck and J. Stewart organized and established the Seymour Fair and Driving Park Association; grounds there were purchased and a half-mile track prepared. Funds were raised and all features put in excellent condition, and the first fair was held in October, 1885, lasting three days. Among those interested were Peter Tubbs, John Uecke, S. P. Armigate, George Row, E. Sherman, John Bull, W. Greenwald, G. W. Butler, J. Dean. The races were enjoyed, though driven in a pouring rain. Sorrel Prince, Appleton Maid, Annie Lou, Jim Golden were the racers. The fair was pronounced a success.


The stock yards at Seymour, owned by Kuehne Brothers, paid out in six months $65,000; over $6,000 was paid in one day. As high as sixteen carloads of stock were shipped in one day, with two loads left over for want of cars. From three to five carloads went
every week late in 1895. The Farmers' Institute at Seymour was well conducted, well attended and instructive.

The mercury at Seymour dropped as low as forty degrees below zero about the middle of February, 1899; this was the lowest since 1872. About this time the Seymour Press was issued as a semi-weekly. The Catholics, headed by Father James Bastian, decided to build a new church in 1899.

Seymour was undoubtedly one of the best live stock, grain and dairy product markets in the state about 1899. Robert Kuehne paid out $11,000 in two days for stock late in October. In October, 1899, the old Catholic Church was taken away and work on the new building was commenced.

In a speaking contest between the Seymour High school and the Green Bay High school, held at Green Bay in May, 1899, the former won easily. Nearly 200 pupils went from Seymour to witness the contest. Six speakers were chosen from each school. Much credit was given Prof. Schmidt and Miss Silverfriend, who trained the Seymour contestants. At this time Mayor Foster favored city water works; mass meetings were called and held to consider the subject. The Seymour baseball club defeated the Green Bay club in May.

The people of Seymour early appreciated the benefits derived from intimate association and united effort, which was manifest in the early organization of schools, churches and Sunday schools already mentioned, from which to derive intellectual and spiritual benefits. To attain social and financial benefits other organizations were formed, each of which has lent its aid to the betterment of the community, among which may be mentioned Seymour Lodge, No. 273, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, John Ganzo Post, 198, G. A. R., and its affiliated organizations, the Woman's Relief Corps and Sons of Veterans, Seymour Camp Modern Woodmen of America, and its associate the camp of Royal Neighbors, Mystic Star Council, No. 1928, Royal Arcanum, Seymour Council No. 30, National Fraternal League, Fox River Council, No. 17, Fraternal Reserve Association, Sons of Herman, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

To an inestimable extent the pre-eminence of Seymour as a progressive agricultural and stock-growing community is attributable to the Seymour Fair and Driving Park Association, which was incorporated in 1885 with W. F. Circle, president; Marshall K. Snell, secretary; T. H. Mitchell, George Falk and J. A. Stewart, trustees, who bought fifteen acres and laid out a half-mile track just north of the residence district, but within the city limits of Seymour. To provide adequate space for increasing exhibition and attendance, five acres more have been added. Through the liberal premiums offered a spirit of emulation was generated and fostered, to the vast improvement of live stock and the products of garden, orchard and field, and, as well, the domestic arts and sciences. Too much credit cannot be given the promoters of this association.

The farmers' institutes and the monthly stock shows at Seymour were well attended from 1890 to 1896; on stock days from five to
ten carloads of stock were bought and shipped. The Fair and Driving Park Association was well attended and popular. In 1889 the association was in debt over $1,000. Peter Tubbs was elected president and John Uecke a trustee. Through their work largely the association was put in much better condition, $500 of the debt being paid. James Dean succeeded Tubbs and continued the good work.

Town of Oneida.—In 1854 they had several schools maintained partly by the liberality of the government and partly through the generosity of Rev. Mr. Lathrop, the Methodist minister to the Orchard or Methodist party. Several young ladies from Appleton taught school among the Oneidas at this time. Late in 1854 two of the young Indian men married school teachers—white girls. An Indian writing to the Crescent conveyed the information that they would like to have more white girls come there to teach the young men. He said: "We like the white girls, because they teach us to talk English and to live like their people. Those who have Indians for husbands are perfectly satisfied. But the white girls must be cautious in choosing a companion, because there are good and bad in all nations; therefore, when you choose get a good one or none at all. Get one who has a good home for you, and who is temperate and industrious."—(This was signed by "Oneida," Duck Creek, December 1854.)

The Oneida Reservation, occupying parts of Outagamie and Brown counties, contained much to interest the people of Appleton in early years. A road about seventeen miles in length was opened from Appleton to that reservation and was traveled over by September, 1855.

In January, 1855, a company of Oneida Indians from the reservation rendered a concert in the Methodist church, Appleton. Notwithstanding the severe storm there was a large attendance. The Oneidas sang in their own language, and the audience appeared to be well pleased. Just before the close of the concert Judge Johnston was called to the chair and the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, that the citizens of Appleton feel highly gratified with the entertainment furnished us by our neighbors, the Oneida vocalists, and we commend them to the kind attention of the people of this city, believing them worthy of a cordial reception wherever they may go." The pleasant characteristic of this concert was its novelty, and that alone was sufficient to make it enjoyable.

In June, 1856, Baird, an Oneida Indian, who had murdered another Oneida and had been confined at DePere, was released and immediately returned to the Reservation, where he killed another Indian, an enemy, without ceremony.

"A. D. Bonesteel, Indian agent, has appointed the fifth of July next as the day to investigate the sales of lands made by the Stockbridge Indians, who had the same allotted to them in conformity with the act of Congress of March 3, 1843. He will also consider the cases of lands made by said Indians between the third of
March, 1843, and the sixth of August, 1846."—(Crescent, June 12, 1858.)

In January, 1860, F. W. Brown, a Cayuga chief, addressed a large audience in Cronkhite hall on the subject of temperance. The Crescent said concerning this lecture: "We wish we had the power to speak of this lecture as in justice its merits deserve. When Mr. Brown warmed up with his subject and threw his soul into his speech his language burned with eloquence, and he delivered sledgehammer blows at intemperance. He is a man who has great control over the sympathies of his hearers and communion with every heart. He spoke over two hours and no sign of impatience was manifest. The church as well as individuals had to catch it for their shortcomings. He lectured again this evening at the Methodist Church."

"The First Indian Graduate.—Henry Cornelius, son of Chief Jacob Cornelius of the Oneida Reservation, a pure Indian, graduated at Lawrence University on Wednesday. He commenced his English education in 1855, but having everything, even the alphabet, to learn, his perseverance is truly commendable. His standing as a student and a man is first-class."—(Crescent, July 2, 1864.)

Late in August, 1865, a band of Oneida Indians of the Methodist Mission of the Reservation gave a concert in Appleton which was highly enjoyed. The house was crowded, all struck by the novelty of the proposed concert. The songs sung were mostly hymns used in their worship. Several excellent voices were noticed among the Indians. The exercises were conducted almost wholly in the Indian language. A chapter was read from the Bible and a portion of it translated sentence by sentence by the Indian interpreter. The audience enjoyed the entertainment immensely. They were asked to repeat the concert later on and did so.

In September, 1866, an Oneida Indian while attempting to cross the canal where the drawbridge formerly stood at Appleton, fell in and was drowned. It was very dark at the time, so that even if his cries were heard no one could go to his assistance. The body was recovered and taken to the reservation for burial.

In 1867 a treaty with the Stockbridge Indians was made by which they agreed to sell their lands in Shawano county for $60,000, a part of them to become citizens and a part to go to a new reservation, possibly to a portion of the Oneida reservation in Outagamie county. It was hoped by the people here that this change would not be made, because it was believed that the two tribes would conflict and cause serious troubles. At that time it was believed that each Oneida should be given his own separate tract of the reservation and that all who chose should be allowed to become citizens. They had advanced rapidly in civilization—as rapidly as they probably ever would—and it was believed by many that now would be the opportune time to absorb them as American citizens.

In October, 1877, the Oneidas were paid their annuity of $1,000 by Agent Bridgeman. The census of the tribe showed 1,405 of all ages and sexes. The total acreage of the reservation was 64,000, of which 5,000 acres were cleared and 5,000 under cultivation. In 1877
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they had 800 acres in corn, and raised 4,500 bushels of vegetables and 22,500 bushels of grain. They had 750 head of cattle and 600 hogs and sheep.

The convention of the Forest Temperance Society of the Six Nations was held at the Oneida Reservation in September, 1877; many delegates from Canada were present, and many white visitors witnessed the proceedings. The exercises were held in a temporary building erected for this purpose. Speeches were made by Jacob Cornelius, head chief of the Oneidas, Elias Sickles and others in the Oneida tongue. Brief addresses were made by Rev. Crawford and Rev. Street. On one afternoon the game of La Crosse was played. The society was first organized in 1858 and in 1877 numbered nearly 800 members.—(Post, October 4, 1877.)

Steps to open the Oneida Reservation and the Indians made citizens were taken in January, 1883. A committee of citizens went to Green Bay and there conferred with leading citizens of Brown county and also with a delegation from the reservation consisting of A. P. Cornelius, Eli Scandinaven, Joseph Silas and E. J. Cornelius. It was determined to communicate with Congress and with the secretary of the interior.

In September, 1887, a protest signed by 800 Oneida Indians against the allotment in severity of their reservation was sent to Washington; about 400 others were also opposed to the allotment. The protestants represented about two-thirds of the reservation. They claimed that because they were not to have absolute control of the lands allotted nor the rights of citizenship for twenty-five years, their present status would remain unchanged. They were willing to allotment if these objections were removed.

Dana C. Lamb allotted the Oneida Reservation lands in severity; the total number was 1,726, or 1,676 residents; about 1,200 resided within the limits of Outagamie county; in the latter were five schools. The title to the land for twenty-five years was in the United States; the land was not taxable.

In 1903 Cornelius Hill, a full-blood Oneida Indian, was duly ordained a priest of the Episcopal Church at Oneida.

Early in 1910 the county board took steps to have the Oneida Indians incorporate their town as Oneida.

At the April election, 1910, Oneida was organized into a township and thereafter the Indians were required to pay taxes and were represented on the county board. Nelson Metoxen was the first county supervisor from Oneida. The other officers of the township were James W. Cornelius and Richard Powles, supervisors; Oscar Smith, clerk; Joseph M. Smith, treasurer; Cornelius Wheelock and Lehigh Wheelock, justices; Eli B. Cornelius and Josiah Hill, constables; Josiah Charles and Janmison Metoxen, assessors.
BEYOND any reasonable doubt Hippolitus Grignon built the first house on the present site of Appleton, in 1835, having come here that year from Green Bay. His log house was a trading post and for awhile his family were the only white residents. The next year two others arrived—Ranger and Lan de Rush. Two or three years later came an Englishman, whose name is forgotten, Patrick Shields, Louis Heintz, Adam Mertes and a few others. There was no village nor attempt at a village, the families living at a considerable distance apart, though all on the present city site. Mr. Grignon died in 1850, leaving his widow and seven children, of whom Simon P. was one. They were compelled to leave and were soon lost to sight.—(Post, March 29, 1900.)

Frank Wirtz, a native of Germany, helped build the first house in Appleton in 1848. His daughter, Mary, is said to have been the first white child, or one of the first, born on the city site.

The Appleton Crescent first appeared February 10, 1853, and was issued by Ryan & Company, with Henry S. Eggleston as political editor and S. Ryan, Jr., miscellaneous editor. The editor said the paper would be devoted to the interests of Fox River valley and the development of Outagamie county. "In politics, while we shall ever express our opinion of men and measures without fear or favor, we shall always inculcate National Democratic Principles as the true basis for a free government."

The first trustees of the village of Appleton met at the Clifton House May 17, 1853; they were J. F. Johnston, C. E. Bement, George Lanphear, W. H. Sampson, Samuel Ryan, Jr., and A. B. Bowen, trustees; and James M. Phinney, clerk. Ryan, Sampson and Bowen were appointed a committee to draft by-laws for the government of the village. They passed a resolution to audit no account for services performed by the president or trustees in their official capacity during 1853. They also concluded that it was inexpedient to levy a general tax because such small expense as might arise could be paid from fines, licenses, permits, etc. They proceeded to put the cemetery in better condition; procured record books; appointed John Hart pound master; divided the village into districts; took steps to secure a title to the cemetery.

At the April election, 1854, the judges were Robert R. Bateman, Jackson Tibbits and A. B. Bowen; clerks, Alden S. Sanborn and Dr. Mark A. Mosher. Sidewalks on Lawe, Wisconsin and Lawrence streets were ordered built; walks to be four feet wide. This year the trustees were Ryan, Morrow, Gilmore, Myers, Sherwin and Brownell; W. A. Prall, clerk, and Amos Story, street commissioner. A tax of two mills on the dollar was levied for corporate purposes.
In June Laura R. Edgarton and Joseph McNeill petitioned for a drain from Edgarton hotel across College avenue to the ravine. A prohibitory ordinance was passed. John Stephens was appointed surveyor. Fire fighting apparatus was ordered and John F. Johnston was appointed chief of the fire brigade; he appointed fire wardens for the several village districts. Gambling was prohibited. The following were the first accounts paid:

1. S. B. Belding ........................................ $ 4.00
2. Ryan & Co., printing .................................. 46.00
3. Amos Story, street commissioner ..................... 3.75
4. John Stevens, surveying ................................ 6.75
5. W. A. Prall, clerk ..................................... 1.38
6. John Moodie, killing dogs .............................. 50
7. James Gilmore, streets ................................ 2.00
8. W. A. Prall, books .................................... 15.00
9. Frederick Packard ($16.50 asked) ..................... 14.50
10. Tibbits & Phelps, lumber, etc ......................... 32.10
11. H. L. Blood, assessor ................................. 6.31
12. Ryan & Co. ............................................ 34.40
13. James Gilmore, fire warden ........................... 5.25

The clerk's salary was fixed at $50. Bailey's troupe of performers were licensed—$3 for one night or $5 for two. The trustees were severely criticized for permitting the clandestine sale of liquor in the village. Particularly were the faculty of Lawrence University caustic in pointing out this evil. Finally, Sam Ryan, Jr., resigned from the village board of trustees and said that he had already done much for the village; that the vice ordinances were not well enforced; and asked why "men in the pulpits," who had stated that liquor was sold here, were to blame for not filing complaints before magistrates and producing the evidence.

He further said: "You know, too, that the men who are sustained by the institution (Lawrence University) whose anathemas were hurled at the corporation board on Sunday last, have stood aloof and shown no desire to aid in vindicating and enforcing our ordinances relative to liquor, gambling, etc., whether because they have not conceived it to be their duty as citizens or because they know full well that violations of one or more of these ordinances are countenanced by men who have held (and perhaps still hold) official connection with them, is not for me to say. As a trustee I have endeavored to study the interests of the people instead of the views of a few. You know, gentlemen, that with all their professed zeal for the good name and fame of this village; with all their avowed friendship for sobriety, temperance and good order, not a man connected with Lawrence University has had a word to offer in favor of our liquor ordinance nor a complaint to file on account of its violation. You also know that another class of our citizens, by no means few in numbers, have expressed great indignation to this board for daring to declare liquor a nuisance, and that the violators of the law..."
Jackson Tibbits was elected to fill the vacancy thus caused. The municipal election in April, 1855, was held at the Central schoolhouse. At this time the village was divided into wards.

In January, 1856, a city seal was adopted; it had the following inscription: “Village of Appleton, Wis., Incorporated, 1853. Ot Temperantia Legibus. Defend the Right.”

At the mayoralty election in April, 1857, the following votes were polled: For mayor, Amos Story, 186; Anson Ballard, 157; for assessor, Edward West, 287; scattering, 3; for treasurer, C. E. Bement, 225; J. M. Stebbins, 114; for marshal, Daniel Huntley, 198; J. H. Marston, 140.

"Twenty-one buildings (aside from barns and outhouses) have been erected within our corporate limits during the past summer; not a single vacant dwelling can be found within a mile of the postoffice. We have 2 large grist mills, 2 sash, door and blind factories, 2 turning shops, 1 edge-tool factory, 4 sawmills, 1 paper mill, 1 printing office, 1 fanning mill factory, half dozen carpenter shops, 2 tin shops, 3 blacksmith shops, 3 shoe shops, harness shop, 2 tailor shops, 1 gunshop, 1 wagon shop, 1 chair factory, 2 paint shops, etc., 2 architects, 2 surveyors, 1 dentist, 1 lumber yard, 1 bakery, 1 meat market, 1 barber shop, 2 asheries, 5 large dry goods stores, 4 grocery and provision stores, 2 hardware and stove stores.”—(Crescent, December 10, 1853.)

"On Monday morning at sunrise the mercury was 32 degrees below zero. This is the coldest in Fox River Valley since 1840, when the mercury fell to 36 degrees below and more. The ice nearly shuts up the falls at Grand Chute rapids.”—(Crescent, January 26, 1854.)

The inhabitants of Appleton in May, 1853, held a May party at Grand Chute, under the direction of the ladies and gentlemen of the Appleton High School. There were a bower, throne, May pole, flags, speeches, dancing on the green and a joyous time generally.

“Appleton Bank! $10,000 to let in small amounts from $5 to $50 each, to suit the wants and convenience of the needy, at the sign of the red flag, opposite Woodward’s store. P. White, cashier. Appleton, July 30, 1853.”
The present officers of the city of Appleton are as follows:


The year ending June 30, 1911, showed a circulation of 54,626 books in the public library, of which 19,359 were to children. The number of books in the library was 11,792, and the number of order cards in force was 4,022.

"Started after an early breakfast and went up to Augustine Grignon's, on the right bank of the river. He has two whole sections covering the best advantages at the Rappids for mills and other hydraulics, and a large share of open bottom land. They have become rich by trading with the Indians. The family are mixed blood of French and Indians. From this across the river up to the lower end of the rapids of the Grand Kakalin, where the Stockbridge tribe settlement begins, unloaded our boat and hired our load carted up over land to the head of the rapids and a little above the mission house, and sent our boat to that place. Hired five Indians, making eight hands. Stopped at __________ Gardner's, an Indian, on the bank of the river. There are seven islands in this great rappid, which falls about 30 feet. The Stockbridge tribe have a sawmill and are preparing to (build) and (put) the frame up for a grist mill on one of the branches of the river. Staid and breakfasted at the mission house. This establishment is of the Presbyterian order and conducted by Mr. Cutting Marsh and Mr. Stephens, and is in a prosperous state.

"The Little Chute is (a) perpendicular fall of one foot and a continued Rappid of more than a mile, and falls about 24 feet on the west side of which is an island of considerable size and con-
In the spring of 1910 the citizens of Little Chute nominated the following village ticket: J. A. Kilsdonk, president; Anton Jansen, clerk; John Lamers, treasurer; George Verkuilen, assessor; King Kilsdonk, supervisor; George Heesackers, Barney Heitpas, Peter Weyenberg and John Van Eyck, trustees; J. E. Verstegen, justice; Jake Weyenberg and Joseph Verstegen, constables.

On March 2, 1910, Kimberly held its first municipal election, there being but one ticket, as follows: C. G. Moes, president; James Kraus, treasurer; Victor Ziaene, clerk; John Guilfoyle, Walter Van Denetsen, Fred Kroenke, Anton Bos and Charles Werth, trustees; S. R. Stilp, supervisor; F. A. Elengreen, assessor; J. J. Falk, constable; George Rosheck and John Stuyvenberg, justices.

A white pine tree that scaled 3,640 feet was cut by W. E. Golden, of Buchanan, in February, 1911; it contained seven logs, the diameter of the butt log being 54 inches, 30 inches above ground.

During two days in December, 1897, R. Kuehne paid out for live stock at Seymour $7,000; he shipped fourteen carloads of hogs in one train. The second Tuesday of each month was the liveliest. The Farmers' Institute was a powerful means of bringing together the business men and of improving all industrial conditions. Peter Tubbs was president of the Fair and Driving Park Association; G. E. Munger, vice-president; H. J. Van Vuren, secretary, and M. Michelstetter, treasurer. Ewald Kuehne was killed accidentally in December, 1897.

"What Robert Kuehne has been to Seymour in building up a stock market that stands unparalleled in the state. G. H. Lonkev has been to Shiocton."—(Seymour Cor. Post, October 31, 1901.)

"Postoffice—The postoffice at Tayco's Point, Winnebago county, has been removed to the Grand Chute, to be called Appleton, and
J. Johnston appointed postmaster.”—(Green Bay Advocate, March 29, 1849.)

“A new postoffice has been established at Lansing in this county, and L. A. Hine, Esq., appointed postmaster.”—(Green Bay Advocate, April 12, 1849.)

The Farmers’ Club of Grand Chute in 1871 was a strong and important organization. It met regularly in the district schoolhouses. Among those active in this organization were Messrs. Bogan, Tolman, Huntley, Randall, Johnson, Adeock, Van Hooklin, Veritz, Green, Cole, Fisher, Hamlin, Werden, Vande, Bogart, May, etc. They discussed scores of subjects vitally important to the farming industry, such as fruits, seed, milk cows, draft horses. In February they held a festival to secure funds with which to purchase a town library; it was held at the hop house, one mile north of the fair ground.

In July, 1902, there occurred a destructive fire in the village of Black Creek, the loss being estimated at nearly $50,000. Among the property burned were the following: Raisler’s general store, Ballhorn’s hardware store, Lyons’ drug store, Pushor’s general store, postoffice, depot, furniture store, three barns, lumber mill, butcher shops, millinery store, either wholly or in part. This fire was of incendiary origin; the culprit was detected and punished.

The county fair at Hortonville in 1892 was highly successful. All the ordinary departments were well represented. The baby show was an attraction; little Hubert Cutter took first prize, Ruth Greeley, second, and Nellie Kuester, third. John and James Rupple took first prize for twins. John Dey was voted to be the best looking man, and Bert Rideout the meanest. The animal exhibit was never better; also the farm products.