

GEOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL

HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTY OF OLMSTED,

TOGETHER WITH A GENERAL VIEW OF THE

STATE OF MINNESOTA.

FROM ITS EARLIEST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT TIME.

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PREFACE.

In presenting this little book to the public, we have not the vanity to suppose that it is free from errors, or that there are not many items of interest that we have failed to produce. The labor of writing even a small book is not inconsiderable when we take into consideration, that the material is to be gathered from a whole county, and as the miner sifts the precious dust from the coarser rubbish, so we have endeavored to glean the particular facts and incidents connected with the settlement of Olmsted county and its early occupancy by white men.

The events here chronicled may seem unimportant and of little consequence, but having been rescued from the pool of forgetfulness, and treasured up for future reference; they will in the future, we believe, be looked upon as not wholly insignificant. We are well aware that in the limited space of so small a book, we cannot give all the incidents with that elaborate precision that might be wished, but we have endeavored to give a truthful representation of the present and prospective condition of the county, and record the incidents of pioneer civilization.

We have visited most of the towns in person, to obtain as far as possible the accurate accounts of the first settlement, and the amount and kind of business carried on in each. Where we have not visited the towns in person we have employed others to do so who were acquainted with the locations, and from them learned the facts and incidents here recorded.

We have also given a short sketch of the State at large, as we have been able to gather it from the different sketches that have come under our observation.

INTRODUCTION.

When we contemplate any lofty enterprise, any mighty work of art or any of the sublime creations of nature, the mind naturally and inevitably wanders backward through time and space in search of the origin of all the beauty, majesty and success that meets the eye or attracts the understanding; and as the reflective mind ponders over and searches through the past for the causes that produced these results, it is led to exclaim "How infinite are the mercies of God, how great and manifold are his handiworks!"

When we gaze upon the broad expanse of a mighty river, and contemplate its width and depth, and the velocity with which it makes its way to the great reservoir, the ocean, and the mighty ships that float upon its bosom, bearing their wealth of freight of Merchandise or golden grain, and the still more precious burden of human life, and high and eager hopes, the mind naturally floats upward to its source in search of the fountain whence it flows.

When we traverse, the countries of the orient and look upon the ruins of their ancient grandeur and magnificence, the labors of unrecorded time, far away in the misty past, the mind is overburdened with vague imaginings, and

"Thoughts on thoughts, a countless throng,
Rush chasing countless thoughts along."

inquiring, when, by whom, and for what purpose these prodigies of human skill were performed. We carefully trace the current of a broad river from its entrance to the sea through all its various windings upwards to its source, and far away in some mountain gorge we find issuing from a cleft rock, a tiny rivulet, no bigger than an ox might drink, which laughing and bubbling along through green mosses, and over shining pebbles, makes its way through the forest, till in its

course it meets with other rivulets no bigger than itself, which united flow on growing in importance, till their size is increased by ten thousand sister streams, and they become the mighty rushing river on whose broad bosom floats the wealth of a nation, the armies of a conqueror, the hopes of the world.

Could we but trace the history of a nation with the accuracy that we follow the river to its source, we should always find that away in some secluded dell, far from the noise and pomp and strife, of the struggling world, germinated the ideas that founded an empire, or produced a revolution. And the pioneer who first explores the vast wilderness or the unbroken prairies and erects his log cabin preparatory to breaking up the uncultivated soil, lays the foundation of future wealth and becomes the hidden spring from whence issues a stream of civilization, which joined by others soon produces cultivated fields builds towns, and cities, mills and rail-roads, and is the radiating point from which springs up a great and wealthy state.

Energy and perseverance of the highest order, are among the essential qualifications requisite for a pioneer settler. He who possesses the unconquerable spirit of enterprise to cut and hew his own way through all difficulties and surmount the thousand obstacles to be met with in a new country; to explore the secret recesses of nature's storehouse, and seek out the mines of wealth deftly hidden in the soil, in the granite rock, and in the mighty forest trees; to build bridges, and cut roads, that the more timid and cautious may pass safely and smoothly to that point of prosperity it has cost them toil and privations to win, is as true a hero and as much a conqueror, as he who seeking

"The bubble reputation, even in the cannon's mouth."

has brought home the victor's wreath from many a blood-stained field.

For a brief space of time, while they remain to repeat the story of their toils and privations, in their wild and adventurous pioneer life, do they wear the victor's wreath, but soon pass away and resign the rich conquests to a succeeding generation who are too much occupied in the blessings obtained, to engrave upon their memories, the dangers, privations and hard-ships through which their father's passed to obtain them.

To die and be forgotten, to pass from the memory of man, and as their bodies sink in the grave, so their memories are buried in the waters of oblivion, has been the fate of most of the pioneer's of civilization, especially in the busy, bustling west. No historic stone to mark their resting place, or tell the important part they acted in the building up of present greatness, and the scenes, fraught with such deep and thrilling interest of which all the beauties and blessings of the present are the sequence, sink through obscurity into the pool of forgetfulness, almost as soon as the actors pass from the sight of the living.

To erect some humble monument, in memory of the birth of civilization in Olmsted County, and mark upon the tablet the names of some of the brave pioneers who through toil and hardships and sometimes stern privations, broke in upon the solitude of the wilderness prairie, and built for themselves homes, and reduced to fruitful fields the hunting grounds of the savage; to note the progress of agriculture and the mechanic arts, the developement of its natural resources, for wealth and future greatness, and to draw a faithful picture of its natural advantages, its unequaled prosperity, and its rapid growth is the object of these pages, as well as to preserve the names of the noble heroes who laying aside their peaceful pursuits put on the "army blue," and slinging their knapsacks and rifles, bade good-bye to home and friends and all they held dear in life, save honor and country and taking their lives in their hands went forth to save the life and honor of the nation. Alas!, too many of them never to look again upon the sky-tinted waters of their beloved Minnesota.

The historian who undertakes to gather from the buried past of years long ago, has to perform a herculian task in removing the gathered rubbish of subsequent events, before he can present anything like a true or correct picture of the beginning of the scenes and incidents he wishes to portray.

The transition of Olmsted county from an unbroken wilderness, to a populous and flourishing County with thriving villages in almost every town, has been so rapid that the hardy pioneers who made the mighty changes, and the first marks of civilization, are now the enterprising business men of the various villages and bustling city; presenting so, good an opportunity to daguerrotype from the lips of the living actors

those deeply interesting incidents which attended its first settlement, and marked its present road to prosperity, that we have chosen this as the most fitting time to transcribe the most important of these events, and embody them in such form as shall be convenient for future reference.

If our efforts shall prove of benefit to the county, by laying before the people the advantages of seeking homes within her borders, and by erecting an enduring monument to those who founded and defended it, and receive the approbation of our friends, we shall rejoice that we undertook and performed the labor.

Historical Sketch of Minnesota.

But few countries, perhaps none on the face of the Globe, at so early a stage of habitation by a civilized people can boast of so rapid a growth, in industrial pursuits, the mechanic arts, manufactures and agriculture, as this garden of the west, the far-famed Minnesota; and yet the history of its first visitation by white men antedates its occupancy by that race in any considerable numbers, nearly a century and a half. As early as 1680, some fur traders accompanied by Louis Hennepin a Franciscan priest ascended the upper Mississippi as far as the falls of St. Anthony, from whom the falls received their present name. Yet not until as late as 1820, was commenced the building of Fort Snelling, at the junction of the Minnesota with the Mississippi river some eight miles above St. Paul. This was the introduction of a civilized people into the wilderness region then without a local habitation or a name, but now known as Minnesota. The first time the waters of the Mississippi were navigated thus far by steam, was in the summer of 1823, when the "Virginia," arrived at Mendota, opposite Fort Snelling. Not until the year 1832 was the first regular mail carried through to the Fort. Previous to this the soldiers stationed at this post were dependent upon the military messengers for all their news of the outside world. In the year 1826, the present capital of the State was settled by a company of Swiss immigrants, who located and commenced farming the same year, thus becoming the pioneers of agriculture in Minnesota.

Measures having been taken to purchase the land of the Indians, some adventurous pioneers commenced a settlement on the east side of the river, between St. Paul and Fort Snelling, as early as 1836, and in 1838, the title of the Indians was extinguished, and the land put into the market for white settlers.

A settlement at Stillwater on the St. Croix river was commenced in 1843, and other settlements soon came into existence in various parts along the banks of the river.

In the year 1849, a Bill was passed by Congress, creating the Territory of Minnesota, which had heretofore belonged to different Territorial organizations but having no separate government of her own. Alexander Ramsey of Pennsylvania was appointed by the President, as Territorial Governor, with the capital at St. Paul, and on the first day of June of that year Governor Ramsey proclaimed the Territory duly organized. The State is bounded on the north by the British Possessions, on the east by Lake Superior, the State of Wisconsin, and the Mississippi river, on the south by the State of Iowa, and on the west by the Territory of Dacotah, with an extent of territory reaching from, $43\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ to 49° north latitude, and from $89^{\circ} 29'$ to $97^{\circ} 51'$ of west longitude.

The name, Minnesota, is derived from the principal river in the State, which rises in Dacotah Territory, and runs in a south easterly direction until it reaches Mankato in this State, when it bends and flows north east in its main course till it empties its waters into the Mississippi at Fort Snelling. The name signifies in the liquid language of the Dacotahs, "sky-tinted waters."

In 1850 commenced the tide, and rush of emigration to the almost unbroken wilds of the territory, and scarcely had the fires in the wigwams been extinguished, and the echoes of the Indian war whoop died away, ere the white settler had his cabin erected and was turning up the virgin soil, for the culture of grain. Villages and cities were planned and surveyed, and people grew suddenly wealthy in the ownership of town lots; and the tide of speculation was only equalled by the tide of immigration. In many cases the villages were built and so great was the incoming current, of wealth and home seekers that the lucky man who owned town property soon found himself of consequence and a rich man. But this was not always the case, and in many instances where parties had ventured all they possessed, their schemes proved a failure, and when the financial crisis of 1857 came, they, with their golden visions sunk together,

The population of Minnesota in 1850, was only 5,330, but had increased in 1860 to 172,022 and in June 1865 it amounted in round numbers to 258,848, showing a growth in population never equalled or even approximated by any other State in the Union. In 1850 the whole number of acres of land plowed was 1600 ; in the year 1854, 15,000, in 1860, 433,276, and in 1865, it exceeded 600,000.

Ever memorable in the annals of history will be the year 1862, fraught as it was with the sickening horrors of the most atrocious of savage cruelties, and damning outrages that ever historic pen was made to chronicle. The season had opened auspiciously for the agricultural interests of Minnesota. The farmer had sown unusually broad acres, and the fame of the agricultural prosperity of the State having been sung in the ears of those seeking a home in some new country, had turned the tide of emigration thither-ward, and the frontier towns were being rapidly filled up, and the generous soil was laden with an abundant harvest as recompense for the labor of the husbandman, and the pioneers, in their fancied security were boasting of their fields of grain, their growing stock and their golden harvests of wheat which would bring the real gold in return; when in a moment, the war cry of the savage sounded over the prairie, and the homes which a few hours before were bright with love, happiness, peace and plenty, were laid waste, and the lives of some thousands sacrificed upon their own hearth-stones. Those who were fortunate enough to escape the savage knife or rifle, fled in dismay from their homes lately so full of promise, and the plenteous harvest was left unreaped, or ungathered, to rot upon the soil made desolate by savage treachery and barbarism. The generous hearted, noble souled citizens of the safer localities, no sooner heard the cry of danger and suffering from their frontier neighbors than, like the noble sires of the revolution, they sprang to arms, leaving the plough standing in the furrow, and rushed to the rescue. A force was soon in the field that punished and drove the enemy beyond the borders of the State, and now it is considered as safe in the frontier towns as at the city fire-side. Treaties have been entered into with the Indian tribes still left in the State by which some 10,000 square miles of fine land is relinquished to Government, and

the Indian title extinguished. The lands heretofore occupied by the hostile Sioux, is now in the hands of the government and open to settlement by the enterprising pioneer, and already settlements and even villages have been made far beyond any previous location by white men.

Peace has again dawned upon our beloved country, so long racked and tortured by a gigantic civil war, and with it, renewed indications of prosperity and rapid growth for our young State. Already Minnesota stands second to none as a bread producing state, and annually millions of bushels of the staple of life are exported to the less favored countries of the east. The earth is laden to overflowing with the elements of material wealth. Coal mines have been discovered in the southern part of the State, while from the north comes the glad news of inexhaustible mines of gold and silver, equal in value with the richest diggings of California, or the ancient mines of Ophir, while for certain recompense the teeming fruitful earth bears on her broad bosom a harvest of wealth, and only asks the hand of the husbandman to gather it in.

In an agricultural point of view, Minnesota ranks among the first States in the Union, and if it progresses in the ratio that it has since its first settlement, for even five years longer it will be far in advance of any of its older sister States. The average of wheat per acre is the largest of any according to the agricultural census reports. Few states produce on an average as high as 15 bushels per acre, yet the average of wheat in Minnesota, of the crop of 1860 was 22 bushels. while in 1865 it was 27 bushels, of Oats 60 and of Barley 35 to 40. It is not to be wondered at, that with a soil of such fertility, Minnesota should take the lead as a bread producing State. The wheat is heavier, and is generally conceded to be of a better quality than in almost any other locality, and it is a well established fact that Minnesota, No. 1 wheat will bring a higher price in the eastern market than that from any other of the western states.

In 1850 Ohio raised the largest crop ever raised in that wheat-growing State, and the yield was only seventeen and one third bushels to the acre, while the general average in that state is only twelve and a half, bushels.—In Iowa the average does not exceed fifteen bushels per

acre, and yet it is considered one of the best agricultural states in the west-

Forty eight bushels for each man, woman and child, in the State. Only think of it! Why! the storied land of Pharoah in its palmiest days, did not exceed, our glorious Minnesota. The boasted valley of the Nile must yield the Palm to the valley of the Mississippi. It was a fortuitous circumstance, that set our puritan fathers down on the rugged shores of the Atlantic ere the discovery of our beautiful western prairies, and yet we have an abundance to thank them for in the development of the arts and sciences that we turn to so good account here in the west. The East and the West are bound together by iron bands and welded by common interest.

New England with her manufactories, her curious looms and thousands of whirling spindles and flying shuttles, supplies the toiling millions all over the continent with fabrics of cotton linen and wool, which the west, in her infancy has as yet failed to produce in any sufficient quantities to supply the demand or even their necessities, and in return the fruitful prairies of the western States, yield immense crops of golden grain, and of their abundance send millions of bushels to feed the hungry, toilers in the manufactories and crowded shops of the cities of the Atlantic coast. The Railroads from the eastern cities are rapidly following the guiding Star of Empire westward, and already has Minnesota clasped hands with New York and Massachusetts, and established commercial intercourse, that combining yankee shrewdness, and western perseverance, will yield no precedence to any nation on the globe. The west is dependent upon the country of the puritans for their Broadcloths, and calicos. Their fine sheeting and their Boots and Shoes, in fact nearly all our western merchants make a semi-annual pilgrimage "down east," for their supplies of "Dry Goods and Yankee Notions," and wooden Clocks, that mark out western time. And we of the west respond with ship and car loads of the productions of the fertile soil. Thus making a commercial and financial union of interest that can never be broken.

So too, shall North and South, be united by the ties of common interest and fraternal brotherhood, that naught shall separate,

The exports of wheat from Minnesota, last year were between seven and eight millions of bushels, and the present year it will be largely increased as there yet remains on hand a large amount of the old crop, which lack of the facilities of transportasion kept at home.

The crop of wheat in Minnesota for the year 1865 ammounted to 12,000,000 Bushels ; over *forty-eight bushels for each man, woman and child in the State*. What think our eastern friends of this? A pretty good yield, considering that more than eleven thousand of our able bodied men, have been from home engaged in defence of our country, leaving our working force very much reduced, so that, as the actual figures stand, Minnesota, produced during the past year about *one thousand bushels of Wheat to each able-bodied man left at home from the war*. Saying nothing of the thousands of bushels of oats and other coarsegrains. This is considered a pretty fair yield for a new State that our neighbors over on the Atlantic coast think is away in the woods and inhabited by savages; and we sorrowfully admit that Minnesota has really been too painfully inhabited by savages, else the wheat crop of 1865 would have been, 15,000,000 instead of 12,000,000, of bushels.

WOOL GROWING.

The wool growing interest is becoming quite an important feature in the industrial and commercial pursuits of the husbandman of Minnesota. In the year 1860, the whole number of sheep in the state was only 5,941 while in 1864, there were 92,612, and in 1865 it is thought the number was not less than 150,000. These with wool bearing the price it has for the past few years are the source of an immense revenue to the farmers, and producers of this portion of the west. The soil and climate of Minnesota seem peculiarly adapted to the raising of sheep, the herbage and grasses are such as sheep seem to thrive on and grow hardy and strong.

For a state of so recent birth, it seems strange to one who is not cognizant of the facts that there should be so much material wealth, so much personal property, Cattle, Horses and Sheep. Minnesota as a State is only six years old, and yet in the assessment of 1864 the

number of Horses assessed was 41,901, valued at \$2,416,664, of Horned Cattle there were 196,448 with a valuation of \$2,407,686. Of Sheep the same year there were 92,612 with a total valuation of \$233,219, and of Hogs, there were 71,483 valued at \$140,897, which with other personal property makes up in the year 1864, the grand sum total of \$8,735,701,50 as the taxable personal property of the State. This showing, after the destruction of a vast amount of property in the Indian Outbreak of 1862, and when we consider that personal property is not accumulated to any considerable extent by the pioneers in a new country, will we doubt not compare favorably with that of any of the states of no longer existence.

FRUIT GROWING.

Fruit Growing in Minnesota has been, experimented upon but very little, as the home-seekers and farm-seekers have usually turned their attention to such pursuits as would yield a more certain and immediate recompense for their expense and labor, and the culture of wheat has absorbed nearly all the labor and care of the Minnesota farmer, yet in some instances fruit trees have been cultivated with success, and in the various reports to the Fruit Grower's Association, we find accounts of fine Apples being raised in many parts of the State, and smaller fruits such as Crab Apples, Plumbs, Grapes, Currants, Strawberries &c., grow wild in great profusion, from which fact the natural inference is that, they may be produced by cultivation, in much greater variety, and abundance, as well as greatly improved in flavor, so soon as farmers, shall take the time to try the experiment, and add those luxuries to their homes, which so materially make up the comforts of the well-to-do-farmers fireside. There is no doubt, judging from the few experiments already made, that in Minnesota, especially in the Southern portion, fruit can be raised equally as well at least as in Northern New York. We have no idea, that oranges or lemons will be cultivated in any part of Minnesota, with success, unless, in the hot-house, of some man who chooses to spend his money in trying experiments; neither do we anticipate that, except in some favored localities pears and peaches will be grown, to any considerable extent.

but that apples and all the hardy fruits and those of the choicest varieties, may be produced in Southern Minnesota, in such quantities as to make it profitable as an investment, has already been demonstrated. Tropical fruits it is not expected can be raised in so cold a climate, but such fruits as may be raised in this latitude in any country, may safely be calculated on here in Minnesota.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

The Public Improvements of the State have been probably fully proportionate, with those of a private nature. To be sure the net work of Railroads is not as perfect, nor as extensive as in the older states, yet at this time there are in active operation, and doing a flourishing and paying business, five different lines of roads, controlled and operated by separate companies, with trains running over more than two hundred miles of as nicely finished and smooth roads as any in the United States. The first Division of the St. Paul and Pacific Road was put in operation from St. Paul to St. Anthony in 1862, but now is running as far as Elk River, some forty miles from St. Paul. This road will probably be built to Red River as soon as men and means can accomplish the work.

The Winona & St. Peter road was the next put into active operation, in 1864, in which year it was completed as far as the city of Rochester, fifty miles from Winona, which was the terminus for about one year when eighteen miles more was completed, and the cars are now running over sixty-eight miles of road, several trains each day, and all the time crowded to their utmost carrying capacity. An immense amount of work was necessary, to put in operation the first twenty miles of this road, as the bluffs to be ascended required an enormous outlay to erect the magnificent trestle works over which the track is laid. In some places it is about sixty feet in height for a considerable distance, and in others the solid granite rock is cut down to an equal depth.

The road will probably be completed as far as Owatonna in Steele county, as soon as next August, where it will form a junction with the

Minnesota Central Road, which will then be completed to that city, thus giving a direct connection by railroad between Winona and St. Paul. This road runs the whole length of Olmsted County from east to west, affording excellent facilities for transportation, to the farmers and merchants of the surrounding country.

The amount of wheat and other grain shipped from the Station at Rochester during the six months ending December, 1st 1865 was as follows:

Wheat, bushels,	804,745-	Barley, bushels,	4,259.
Potatoes, "	214.	Flour. bbls.	1,684.
Hides, lbs.	86,520.	Butter, lbs.	179,280.
Wool, "	72,210.	Sundries and Md'se.	257,200.
Tonnage of Merchandise received,		21,451,256.	

This it will be noticed was not at a time, when farmers are shipping most of their produce, especially of wheat, The harvesting season occurs during this period, and probably one half of the threshing had not yet been done. This shipment from one station, shows the amount of work that the road may be expected to accomplish.

The Minnesota Central Road was not put into operation for carrying freight and passengers, until the year 1865, when it was completed from Minneapolis to Faribault, and will be extended from that town to Owatonna early the present season, making connection with the Winona & St. Peter Road. This road, like the Winona & St. Peter, has some heavy grading to overcome, and exhibits as fine a specimen of trestle work where it crosses the Minnesota River, as we ever looked upon. Upon a large share of the road already completed, the heavy continuous rail is used, over which the cars glide as smoothly as the ship sails on the placid surface of a quiet lake.

The cars on the Minnesota Valley Railroad are running as far as Shakopee, a town on the Minnesota River, about 25 miles above St. Paul, and twenty from where the Minnesota empties into the Mississippi. Like all the other roads, the Valley Road is doing a paying and flourishing business, which will increase as their facilities for transportation are increased.

The Southern Minnesota Railroad Co., has been organized for some years, though none of it was completed until 1865, in the fall of which year, some 10 or 15 miles of the track was laid, and engines and cars placed thereon, and a daily train set in operation for the purpose of carrying grain and other freight. The Company intend, the present year, to finish the road to a junction with the Winona and St. Peter road at or near Rochester, which will make a complete line of Railroad from St. Paul to any point in the East. Their charter also allows them to build a road through the Southern tier of counties, crossing the Central at Austin, in Mower Co.

Other Railroads are in contemplation, for which charters have been already given, and lands granted to aid in their construction, which when completed, will form a network that will accommodate all portions of the State.

During the season of navigation, there are several lines of steamboats plying on the Upper Mississippi as far as St. Paul, affording as good facilities for traveling as the most fastidious might require. The amount of grain shipped over this route is very large, and would surprise those who were not acquainted with the rapid growth and immense resources of this new State.

THE STAGE LINES.

In addition to, and in connection with the various Railroad and Steamboat lines, there is probably the best organized system of stage lines that was ever put in operation in the West. Without going back to the days of pioneer staging in this portion of the State, when martyrdom and traveling by stage were synonymous terms, we will speak only of the present facilities for travel as afforded by that system of conveyance. In order to give as correct an idea as possible of the accommodations for travel by way of stages, we copy an extract from the St. Paul *Pioneer* of last February, which, in speaking of Burbank & Co's line of stages, says:

"The mail contracts of the Walker Line expired, if we remember aright, mostly in 1856 and 1857, and J. C. Burbank & Co. succeeded them, finally establishing lines on the most important routes in the State. The lines were stocked with the finest coaches, and the best

horses, and careful and sober drivers employed. Stage traveling became a pleasure almost, and the old days of 'slow' coaches were utterly abolished.

In extending their lines, especially towards the Northwest, it was necessary to repair the roads greatly, and in some instances to lay out and construct new ones for long distances, bridging streams, &c., a work requiring an immense outlay of capital. On the road between St. Paul and La Crosse, several thousand dollars have been expended, and large sums are annually laid out on it and other routes. On the route to Fort Abercrombie, stations were built on the whole line, and stocked with supplies, at a heavy outlay.

LINES OF THE MINNESOTA STAGE COMPANY.

The Minnesota Stage Company now run on the following lines:

From Elk River, the present terminus of the St. Paul and Pacific Road, *two daily lines* of four-horse coaches to St. Cloud—one on each side of the river. From St. Cloud a four-horse coach runs up on the East side of the Mississippi to Fort Ripley and Crow Wing, and one on the West side to Sauk Centre Alexandria and Fort Abercrombie, D. T.

From that point they forward the mails to the Red River settlements (Pembina and Fort Garry,) by dog trains, twice a week.

From Shakopee, the terminus of the Minnesota Valley Road, they run *two daily* four-horse coach lines to Mankato, passing through all the towns in the Minnesota Valley.

From Mankato they have also *two daily lines* via Owatonna to Kasson, the terminus of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad.

Their principal La Crosse line, this winter, is run in connection with the Minnesota Central, and Winona & St. Peter Railroads. Between St. Paul and Mendota, six daily stages are run, and from Faribault to Kasson, five daily stages each way. From Winona to La Crosse, *eight* daily stages are run each way. This shows the amount of winter travel over that route.

They also run two daily stages each way to La Crosse on the old river route, through Hastings, Red Wing, Lake City, Wabasha and Minneiska. This line connects with the Winona and St. Peter Railroad for points in the interior of the State.

Their line to Superior City, via Sunrise, is to run three times per week at present. In the spring the service will be increased to daily trips, and the line be extended to the Vermillion Lake Gold Mines.

In addition to these principal lines, the Company also run a daily line from St. Paul to Stillwater, and from Hastings to Northfield. Also from Faribault to Owatonna, connecting there with a line for Austin, Osage and the McGregor Railroad to Prairie du Chien.

CAPITAL AND STOCK.

Altogether, the Company are running four-horse stages daily over 1,440 miles, and carry the United States mail over 1,714 miles. To do this, the Company employ the services of 260 men and 800 horses, and rolling stock in proportion. The entire amount of capital invested in the stock and property of this Company is \$200,000. Some idea of the magnitude of their business may be gathered from the amount of revenue taxes paid the Government, which during the past year, have amounted to \$12,134.34.

THE COMPANY.

is organized as follows: Proprietors—J. C. Burbank, R. Blakeley and J. L. Merriam; Secretary, C. W. Carpenter; General Agent, A. Allen; General Ticket Agent, C. W. McIntyre.

We look on the Stage Coach as the pioneer of Civilization. Wherever a settlement of bold and hardy pioneers is planted on the extreme outposts of the frontier, a mail becomes a necessity. Forthwith the enterprising stage proprietor starts his line of coaches. Stations and towns spring up on the route, and when the country has become sufficiently settled, the Railroad takes its place, and the bugle of the stage driver is heard "farther on," carrying the mails and passengers to still remoter settlements. We expect before the centennary of American Independence, to ride in the coaches of our friends Burbank Blakely & Merriam, on the Northern route (via Saskatchewan) to the Pacific, with the Iron Horse hard after us. Success to them."

Various other stage lines are in operation in different parts of the State, though probably not altogether traveling over one quarter as great a distance as the one line of Burbank & Co.

LAND GRANTS.

In addition to the munificent grants of land given to aid in the construction of railroads, there has been donated to the State to aid in public improvements, as follows:

1. Sections 16 and 36 in each township, to aid in sustaining public schools.
2. Seventy-two sections for the support of a State University.
3. Ten sections for the erection of public buildings at the seat of Government.
4. Twelve salt springs, with six sections of land adjacent to each.
5. Five per cent of the proceeds of all lands sold by the general Government after the admission of the State into the Union.
6. All the Swamp Lands within the State.

Making a total for each grant as follows:—

For School purposes, about	-	-	2,888,000 acres.
For State University,	-	-	46,080 "
For completing public buildings,	-	-	6,400 "
Land adjoining salt springs,	-	-	46,080 "
For Railroads,	-	-	4,399,141 "
Swamp Lands, about	-	-	5,000,000 "
Total.	-	-	12,385,701 "

In addition to the above, it has been lately decided that under a law of Congress granting to each new State 500,000 acres of land upon their admission into the Union, Minnesota is entitled to this amount additional, making her total grant of land 12,885,701 acres, making nearly one fourth of the entire territory of the State.

THE CLIMATE.

Minnesota, lying as it does in a Northern latitude, as a natural consequence has a somewhat frigid climate, and as the cold winds of winter come howling and moaning over the bleak prairies, the sojourners who have just made their first visit to the Gopher State, draw their overcoats and shawls more closely around them, and pity the residents of such a boisterous, chilling climate; yet at the same time they inhale the fresh and invigorating atmosphere, with its life-giving elements, and their lungs expand and grow strong under the influence of

such inhalation. Their nerves are braced up to healthier action, and before they are aware of it, they are admiring and enjoying what they before condemned. As a healthy State, Minnesota is not excelled by any in the Union. A person whose lungs are affected, would hardly do well to leave a warm climate and come to Minnesota in the winter season, as the atmosphere would be too powerful and invigorating to be of benefit, as the lungs would hardly be able to act well under the influence, but those who visit Minnesota in the spring months, and remain during the warm weather, will be sure to find their health improving, and their whole systems receiving new life and vigor.

THE SCENERY.

This State, being entirely destitute of lofty mountains, does not present so great a diversity of scenery as often delights the eye of the traveler in a mountainous country, yet the admirer of Nature seldom becomes more interested than when gazing upon the magnificent scenery presented along the western bank of the Upper Mississippi. The high range of bluffs that extend Northwestward from the south line of the State to the Falls of St. Anthony, furnish some of the most sublime scenes that ever inspired poetic ardor, or furnished a subject for an artist's pencil. Here high, craggy rocks, like the ruins of an embattled tower, hanging over the waters of the Mississippi, there a lovely valley stretching backward to the continuous hills in the distance, forming a natural site for a quiet village or bustling city.

Half way between Fort Snelling and the Falls of St. Anthony, are the celebrated Falls of Minne-ha-ha, or Laughing Water, which Longfellow has immortalized in song. These falls, taken in connection with Fort Snelling, and the many romantic incidents connected therewith, and the numerous beautiful lakes in the vicinity, makes St. Paul a center of attraction for pleasure seekers who visit Minnesota. Five miles from Mankato are the Falls of Minneinneopa, quite as beautiful and picturesque, though not as famous as Minne-ha-ha. Longfellow should visit this beautiful but secluded spot, and pour out his enthusiastic admiration in measures of flowing rhyme, and when once it became famous in story, it would be visited by all the pleasure

seeking pilgrims to this beautiful prairie State. There are many other places of much interest, which the traveler would delight to look upon while passing through the country, that we might mention, but we cannot enter into too lengthy a description of the State at large.

THE PROSPERITY OF MINNESOTA

is perhaps as well illustrated as could be, by the following extracts from the *American Reporter or British Emigrant's Guide*, published in New York for circulation in England, Ireland and Scotland :

"The world has never seen new States springing into a sudden existence, so full of vigor and prosperity, and so sure of steady progress and brilliant future, as the Northwestern States of the Federal Union. The names of Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, have become, and deservedly become, for millions in the Old World, symbols of an inexhaustible mine of wealth and happiness.

Of course their progress during the four terrible years of war which has now fortunately ceased, could not be what it was in that period preceding the war. There never has been a country in which a war like our late rebellion, did not prove a heavy drain. But if anything could conclusively prove to the people of the old world the indestructible vitality of the new States referred to, it is their progress during the years of war. Most of them took a census in the years 1864 and 1865, and the results of the censuses establish the astonishing fact that the increase of these States from 1860 to 1865 has been, in spite of the war, more rapid than that of the most flourishing States of Europe. So far as we have learned, the censuses held in 1864 and 1865 gave the following results :

States.	Census of 1860.	Census of 1865.	Per ct. of inc'e.
Minnesota,	172,622	248,848	40
Illinois,	1,711,951	2,163,000	27
Wisconsin,	775,871	868,847	12
Iowa,	674,048	754,501	11.16
Michigan,	749,113	805,379*	7.5

This shows an average annual increase for Minnesota of 8 per cent ; for Illinois of 5.4 per cent ; for Wisconsin of 2.4 per cent ; for Iowa of 2.1 per cent ; for Michigan of 1.9 per cent ; a result which most favorably compares with the progress of population in the most populous

States of Europe. With the population, the increase in wealth and prosperity has kept pace.

The messages which the Governors of these States sent to the several legislatures in January of the present year, unroll a picture of satisfactory progress in all departments of public life. We have no space to review them all, but take one, that of the Governor of Minnesota, as a specimen. The receipts of this State for the year 1865 were \$480,120 and the expenditures \$416,000, leaving a balance on hand of \$72,000.

The floating debt, the Governor announces, has been cancelled. Entries in the various land offices in the year amounted to 804,982, an increase of 139,232 acres over the previous year, and including railroad lands, one million acres were sold in 1865. The logs scaled reached the enormous number of 237,833,252 feet, an increase of 159,676,338 over 1864. Of school lands, 24,131,77 acres sold for \$143,955,05. The school fund already lacks less than seventeen thousand of reaching a million dollars, and if the remainder of the lands sell at the same rate, will reach sixteen millions. The railroads are in a flourishing condition, 210 miles being already completed, and 132 more partially finished. In 1860 the State had 532,315 acres in wheat, and the number of bushels harvested was 5,101,332; in 1865 the number of the former had increased to 800,000, and that of the latter to 12,000,000.

Now we may safely challenge Europe to show us any State equaling these statistics. And let our friends in Great Britain always bear in mind that the above figures show the development of this State during a war the like of which the world has rarely seen, and which in the opinion of the most famous statesmen and financiers of Europe, was infallibly to terminate in the dissolution of the Union, and the utter prostration and bankruptcy of the dissolved parts.

CENSUS OF MINNESOTA.

Population 248,847, a Gain of 77,494 in Five Years.

We publish herewith a complete, and, we believe, accurate digest of the State census of 1865:

RECAPITULATION BY COUNTIES.

County.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Families.
Anoka,	2,254	1,198	1,058	451
Benton,	503	272	231	104
Blue Earth,	9,245	5,018	4,227	1,711
Brown,	9,268	1,200	1,069	418
Carlton,	28	16	13	16
Carver,	8,704	4,558	4,146	1,700
Cass,	37	23	15	13
Chisago,	2,103	1,155	938	103
Clay,	30	18	12	17
Dakota,	12,475	6,562	5,914	2,228
Dodge,	6,220	3,256	2,964	1,186
Faribault,	4,737	2,519	2,218	926
Fillmore,	17,545	9,133	8,412	3,234
Freeborn,	5,679	2,986	2,592	1,111
Goodhue,	14,880	7,796	7,084	2,833
Hennepin,	17,016	8,811	8,205	3,055
Houston,	9,792	5,089	4,703	1,755
Isanti,	453	239	214	93
Jackson,	383	195	188	71
Lake,	154	76	78	36
Le Sueur,	7,832	4,074	3,758	1,462
Martin,	1,430	764	666	288
Manomin,	117	67	50	19
McLeod,	2,550	1,383	1,167	496
Meeker,	1,219	643	576	241
Mille Lac,	331	177	156	69
Morrison,	796	430	365	148
Mower,	5,174	2,740	2,437	1,026
Nicollet,	5,023	2,616	2,407	936
Olmsted,	15,176	8,019	7,157	2,711
Pine,	55	34	21	10
Ramsey,	15,143	7,641	7,502	2,645
Redwood,	95	63	32	18
Rice,	10,977	5,859	5,118	2,113
St. Louis,	294	168	126	61
Scott,	8,576	4,478	4,098	1,663
Sherburne,	819	438	381	158
Sibley,	4,683	2,528	2,155	932
Stearns,	7,337	3,862	3,575	1,414
Steele,	4,832	2,606	2,326	984
Todd,	117	69	48	26
Wabasha,	10,167	5,323	4,844	1,614
Waseca,	4,164	2,129	2,035	782
Watsonwan,	246	130	119	46
Washington,	6,786	3,590	3,190	1,274
Winona,	15,277	7,987	7,290	2,888
Wright,	5,028	2,707	2,321	944
Total	248,848	129,653	119,195	46,128

Soldiers in actual service, June 1st,.....	8,319
Colored persons,.....	473
Deaf and dumb,.....	114
Blind,.....	38
Insane,.....	78
Idiotic,.....	3

THE CITIES OF MINNESOTA.

St. Paul,.....	13,012
Minneapolis,.....	4,608
St. Anthony City,.....	3,492
Winona,.....	4,439
Rochester,.....	2,663
Mankato, city and town,.....	2,653
Hastings,.....	2,489
Red Wing,.....	2,360
Faribault,.....	2,339
Stillwater City,.....	2,145
St. Cloud,.....	2,065

OLMSTED COUNTY.

Persons whose minds have been somewhat educated, and who possess a reasonably active imagination, may picture to themselves a district of country comprising something like six hundred and fifty square miles of land destitute of mountains, or even of any lofty hills, yet with the surface gently undulating, or rolling and swelling, like the huge billows of old ocean, covered with rich herbage, and with the various hued flowers that are scattered in such profusion over the Western wilds, intermingled with blossoming and fruit-bearing shrubs, with here spreading out before us as far as the eye can reach, until the view is lost in the blue distance beyond, a beautiful swelling prairie, whose soil is adapted to raising the choicest of all kinds of grain, there a long stretch or glade of natural meadow land, affording great quantities of excellent hay. Then looking again, we see a broad expanse of scattering native oaks, like some old-time orchard, with wide-spreading branches and sturdy trunks, relieving the otherwise monotonous aspect of the landscape. In the northwest corner of the county there is a belt of heavy timber, composed of oaks, bass, hickory and some sugar maple. In various other portions of the county, there are small patches of timber, which make a fair supply of fuel within a reasonable distance.

Perhaps the eye of man never rested on a spot of earth which for fertility of soil, beauty of landscape and healthfulness of climate and location, was better fitted to meet his material wants, and supply the necessities of his nature, since shut out from the original Eden.

A moderate climate, exhilarating atmosphere, a fertility of soil un-

excelled by any county in this exceedingly fertile State, with a highly favored location for the commercial interests of the community, have given to Olmsted County the rapid growth and uniform prosperity which have marked its growth since its first settlement, without any check whatever. Each successive year contributes to the general development of the vast resources hidden in the soil, the timber and the granite which afford the sources of wealth and prosperity to all branches of industry. And at no time has the county presented such inducements to agriculturists, mechanics and capitalists as at the present, and it needs no prophet's eye to foretell that in the future there awaits an unsurpassed prosperity, and a rich harvest of wealth for those who assiduously labor for that development.

Looking backward for only a few short years, and we see no signs of civilization, neither of habitation, save the wigwams of the red men and their trails as they make their way to their hunting grounds farther west, their council fires, and their bark canoes gliding over the waters of the various streams, and we have a truthful picture of Olmsted County as it was previous to 1854, ere the hand of civilization had disturbed its wilderness and primitive state. To-day we look again. Twelve years have passed away, and behold what a change. The magic wand of civilization has been waved over the broad prairies and openings, and art, science and commerce, combined with the real western energy, have covered the wide expanse with cultivated fields and golden harvests; has made roads and built bridges, and dotted the prairies with pleasant dwellings and elegant school houses, and reduced the wilderness to enclosed fields, busy villages and the bustling city.

This transformation has not been made by the magic use of an Aladdin's lamp, nor by the necromancy enshrined in the purse of the millionaire who had sent his venture of wealth that it might return ten-fold while he rests at his ease in some Eastern palace, but it has been created by the indomitable and persistent energy of the bone and sinew of the nation, the laboring masses, who desirous of making homes for themselves, their children and their children's children after them, have hewed and carved their way by patient toil and ceaseless effort,

and through stern privation and want, have made Olmsted County what she is to-day, second to none in importance in the State. And yet the present importance and wealth are but the development of a very insignificant portion of its real capacity; while vast unfurrowed fields, still clad in the vestments of Nature's regal and primal beauty, invite the tillers of the soil to a closer acquaintanceship. There seems to be literally no exhaustion to the generous soil, and as the succeeding years roll around, agricultural, mechanical and commercial operations are doubled and quadrupled year by year. While thus contemplating the growth and prosperity that has thus far attended the development of the resources of this county, the mind is irresistibly driven to the conclusion that it possesses natural advantages and facilities for the promotion of the happiness of the human race seldom found, even in the most favored localities of the earth.

When we reflect that the germs of the future, in latent embryo, are contained in the bosom of the present; that "to-day" is forever giving character and color, and shaping the destinies of "to-morrow," we have only to examine the vast resources of wealth and prosperity that lie hidden in the unexplored recesses of Nature's great storehouse, the raw material with which the country is supplied, and the aptitude of the people to lay hold of these natural advantages, and convert them to the most profitable use, to form some idea of what the future of Olmsted County may realize.

Men of independent mind and effort, with hearts throbbing with cheerful hope; men of nerve and muscle, with an invincible determination, and "with a heart for any fate," and hands willing and eager to demonstrate the fact, have looked out and made their homes on the fertile prairies and beautiful openings that lie spread out in such inviting splendor before the eye of the beholder. Beneath the tough web of the sward lay one vast garden, fragrant with all the rich fruits and golden grains; a vast mine of incomparably greater wealth than the richest vein of golden ore. This capital has been brought into active use by the energies of the toiling thousands who have converted the waste wilderness into fertile fields, and turned the treasures of the earth into channels to contribute to the happiness of man. These are

here, still gathering rich harvests from the fields their hands subdued ; with motive power unabated, stored with the wisdom of past experience, with the honors of the victories achieved by past labors, and surrounded by the abundant aid which wealth brings to industry and perseverance. And with these increased facilities for the execution thereof, the problem of the future of Olmsted County is to be worked out. Who so blind that they cannot see and appreciate the result ?

Whatever road the traveller may take in passing through this county, he cannot travel far before he will have his attention arrested by a neat school house, generally nicely painted, and with pleasant surroundings, and if he enters this little seminary of learning, he will find the interior judiciously and pleasantly arranged, and a crowd of juveniles eagerly climbing up the hill of science, with maps, charts, black-boards, and the most improved apparatus for aiding them in their efforts, arranged upon the walls. The cultivation of the mind receives much attention, and keeps at least even pace with the cultivation of the soil, so that we may confidently look forward to a not far distant day when Minnesota, and Olmsted County, will take a prominent part in the educational interests of the nation.

With the light of science to illuminate and develop the progressive energies which tend to bring into action the social nature of mankind, and the vital principle, enduring strength and substantial wealth of the community, coupled with the material elements of prosperity to aid its advancement, we know of no place, no city bubbling o'er with noise, no fairy grot or deep secluded dell, or in the literary haunts of men, that may hope to so far rival this as to bear away the palm.

If the exertions and never-ceasing activities of the people of Olmsted County are wisely and judiciously directed, a brilliant future awaits them. The Great Proprietor has dealt out to them of the garnered treasures of the earth with a bountiful hand, in the fertility of the soil, the facilities of communication, the springs and streams that water the country, and afford power for turning the machinery to aid in manufactures, and the means of supplying the various necessities of mankind, and those who improve upon the advantages thus offered

will gather a golden harvest, and a yield of from ten to a hundred fold for the means and energy employed.

We have already said that whatever there may be of present improvements, but a fraction of the wealth and capacity of the county is yet developed. Each and every facility for communication with the countries either east or west of here, adds an increased per cent to the value of each acre of land, to the products of the soil, and to the agricultural, mechanical and commercial interests of the country. The construction of the Railroad from Winona westward, has opened up a source of communication and a channel of conveyance for the transportation of grain and goods that is of incalculable benefit to the commercial interests of the county. It has increased the value of the great staple, wheat, to the great satisfaction of all the farming community. If, as is now anticipated, the Southern Minnesota Railroad intersects the Winona & St. Peter within this county, it will add greatly to the facilities for transportation, by giving a direct Eastern communication, without any river communication. This will assist materially in developing the immense resources of this section of country.

ITS BOUNDARY AND ORGANIZATION.

Olmsted County is bounded on the North by Goodhue and Wabasha Counties; on the East by Wabasha and Winona, South by Fillmore and Mower, and West by Dodge County.

The county was established under the Territorial Government in 1855, but was not organized into towns till the spring of 1858. Previous to this, it was merely divided into election precincts. It now includes eighteen townships, each six miles square. Towns 108, in Ranges 11 and 12, have been attached to Wabasha County, thus preventing the symmetrical proportions Olmsted County should possess. The county seat is the city of Rochester, fifty miles west of Winona, seventy-five south-east of St. Paul, and seventy-five north-west from La Crosse.

The officers chosen at its first establishment in 1855, were:

JAMES GEORGE,	} Commissioners.
G. P. BARROWS,	
JAMES RUTAN,	

J. N. McLANE,	Register of Deeds.
MICHAEL PEARCE,	Assessor.
R. H. McREADY,	Sheriff.
ALFRED KINNEY,	Treasurer.

The first meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held at Oro-

noco, August 27th, 1855. But little business was transacted so far as the record shows, and the Board adjourned to meet at Rochester on the 13th of September following.

No business was done at this session, except to consider some petitions for the organization of School Districts and election precincts, and the meeting was adjourned till October 1st. At the October meeting, the same kind of business as at the previous meeting was the principal feature, and the Board adjourned till the 12th of November. The same sort of business predominated at the November session, and the report shows no accounts allowed or presented. This session closed the business of 1855.

In 1856, the Board of Commissioners consisted of E. B. Barrows, John Lowry and James Rutan. Their first meeting in that year was on the 7th of January, Mr. Barrows acting as Chairman. The business of this session lasted several days, and was of nearly the same character as distinguished the previous meetings, varied by the acceptance of the bonds of various county officers, among them that of J. N. McLane as Register of Deeds.

Sessions of the Board were held from time to time, throughout the year, and several more election precincts marked out, and judges of election appointed.

The first bills presented the Board for allowance, were presented at the July session of 1856, and as it may be interesting for future reference, we append them, as well as the amount of taxable property assessed that year :

Lewis Chamberlain, for viewing and locating Territorial road,....	\$18,00
Thos. Hunter, as County Surveyor,.....	25,85
John Collins, for taking assessment,.....	86,00
M. C. Van Horn, " "	77,00
" " for viewing road,.....	5,00
P. H. Durfee, for taking assessment,.....	75,00
C. H. Page, " carrying chain,.....	3,00
P. S. Curtis, " viewing roads,.....	5,00
Zebina Handerson, " "	5,00
J. H. Hartenbower, " "	4,00
John Bamber, " "	5,00
M. H. Holt, " "	3,00
Jacob McQuillan, " "	9,00
Lewis Patchin, " "	9,00
B. E. Kemp, " "	12,00
D. D. Chase, " "	12,00
E. P. Bircher, " "	13,00
Wm. Potter, Joel Ballard and David Hazleton, for viewing road, 12,50	
P. S. Curtis, for Sheriff,.....	118,08
Nelson Wait, for carrying chain,.....	3,00
John A. Burgan, for assisting County Surveyor,.....	2.25
Whole am't of taxable property for the year 1866 was,.....	\$807,58800

County Tax—7½ mills,.....	\$6,606 91
School Tax—2½ mills,.....	2,168 97
Territorial Tax—1 mill,.....	867 58

Total Tax,.....\$9,543 46

The records show that these bills were all *accepted* by the Commissioners, but nothing is recorded to show whether or not they were ever allowed.

In 1857 the Board was composed of John Lowry, H. Thompson and D. B. Coe. James A. Bucklin filed his bond as County Treasurer, backed by four sureties, viz., James Bucklin, Henry Woodard, B. S. Coe and Asa Lesuer, which considering the amount likely to come into his hands, was considered amply sufficient.

The amount of School Fund for this year, which was collected by tax, was,.....	\$631 63
Collected from Fines,.....	46 00

Total School Fund,.....\$677 63

That people may see that the sovereigns of the land, through their officers, looked well to the educational interests of the county, even at this early day, we append a Resolution which was passed by the Board of Commissioners on the 8th of January, 1857:

Resolved, That it is the duty of the Justices of the Peace, and the officers of the County, to inquire into and make report to the Board of County Commissioners, of all trespasses upon School lands within this county, and all persons who have committed trespass upon any of said lands within said county, are hereby notified to be and appear before the Board of County Commissioners, at the office of the Clerk of said Board, in the city of Rochester, on the first Monday of April next, and settle with said Commissioners for such trespass, or suits will be instituted against them to recover damages. The Clerk of this Board is instructed to cause this notice to be published in the *Oronoco Courier* and the *Olmsted Co. Journal*, for four successive weeks.

Two newspapers were published in the county at this time, and yet it was literally in its infancy, not yet three years old. This simple fact shows plainly that the natural advantages of the county

were such as at first sight to attract the attention of those seeking homes and fortunes on the Western prairies.

The Report of the County Treasurer for this year shows receipts to the amount of 2,918 07, Feb. 4th. Business of the nature that most necessarily attend the organization of a new county, such as laying out roads, organizing School Districts, &c., occupied the time of the Commissioners during each session of the year. In 1858 the Board consisted of John Lowry, H. Thompson and L. B. Bliss. This year, Emory Mapes was elected Register of Deeds, G. W. Baker Sheriff, and Wm. P. Brooks Treasurer.

April 16th, 1858, the County was organized into towns, under the new State government, as follows :

Township 105,	Range 11,	named.....	ELMIRA.
"	"	" 12,	"ORION.
"	"	" 13,	"PLEASANT GROVE.
"	"	" 14,	" (including Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, of Township 104, in said Range).....HIGH FOREST.
"	"	" 15,	" (including Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, in said Range).....ROCK DELL.
"	106,	" 11,	"Whitewater, now DOVER.
"	"	" 12,	"Springfield, now EYOTA.
"	"	" 15,	"SALEM.
"	107,	" 11,	"QUINCY.
"	"	" 12,	"Washington, now VIOLA.
"	"	" 15,	" (except Sections 1, 2 and 3) KALMAR.
"	108,	" 15,	" (and Sections 1, 2, and 3, Township 107, Range 15).....NEW HAVEN.
"	"	" 14,	"ORONOCO.
"	"	" 13,	"FARMINGTON.
"	106,	" 13,	"MARION.
"	"	" 14,	"ROCHESTER.
"	107,	" 14,	"CASCADE.
"	"	" 13,	"Zumbro, now HAVERHILL.

On the 15th of September, 1858, D. M. Evans was elected Clerk of the County Board of Supervisors. In the spring of 1859, the following named gentlemen composed the County Board of Supervisors, or, as it was called, the County Legislature; viz.: J. W. Everstine, S. Risker, C. H. Lindsley, C. H. Short, Ethan Kimball, L. B. Bliss, T. S. Cornish, M. Pearce, Abram Harkins, John Kilroy, E. Day, D. L. King, James Bucklin, G. C. Sheiks, T. T. Olds, J. A. Coffin, Cyrus Cornell, William Russell, David Whitney, A. J. Doty, O. A. Hadley, Chester Rose, J. W. Everest.

In 1859, L. B. Bliss was elected Register of Deeds; again in 1861, 1863, and 1865, and now holds the office. G. W. Baker was re-elected Sheriff, and Wm. P. Brooks as Treasurer. The bonds given by the Treasurer were \$50,000. C. C. Jones was elected Clerk of the District Court—salary \$300. J. A. Leonard, County Attorney—salary \$400.

In March, 1860, at the annual town meetings, the manner of conducting the County affairs was again changed, and five Commissioners were elected from the different commissioner districts. The first Board of Commissioners was composed as follows: Thos. Brooks, Chairman, Abram Harkins, Zebina Handerson, Richard Hull, and Wm. M. Pierce. D. M. Evans was removed from the office of County Auditor, and O. A. Hadley appointed to fill the office. Mr. Hadley was elected Auditor in 1860, and re-elected in 1862.

The following named persons have held County offices since the organization, as follows:

SHERIFFS.

R. McReady, 1855.

P. Curtis, 1856, 1857.

G. W. Baker, 1858, '59, '60, '61.

Horace Loomis, 1861, '63, '65.

REGISTERS.

J. N. McLane, 1855, '56, '57.

Emory Mapes, 1858.

L. B. Bliss, 1859, 1861, 1863,

and 1865.

AUDITORS.

D. M. Evans, 1859, till the spring of 1860.

O. A. Hadley, appointed in 1860; elected in 1860 and 1862.

Abram Harkins, 1864.

CLERKS OF COURT.

C. C. Jones, 1859.
 C. H. Lindsley, 1861; appointed.
 Reuben Reynolds, 1861, elected.
 Alfred Blanchard, 1865, elected.

COUNTY ATTORNEYS.

S. P. Jones, in 1858.
 J. A. Leonard, 1859.
 O. P. Stearns, 1861.
 L. Barber, 1862.
 O. O. Baldwin, 1863.
 O. P. Stearns, 1865.

TREASURERS.

Alfred Kinney, 1855. 1856. W. P. Brooks, 1858, '59, '60.
 James A. Bucklin, 1857. O. P. Whitcomb, 1861, '63, '65.

The last named persons are now holding the various offices to which they were elected.

JUDGES OF PROBATE.

Reuben Ottman, one year. M. W. Fay, four years.
 Hiram Thompson, six years. Reuben Reynolds, present Judge.

The following persons have represented Olmsted County in the State Legislature:

At the election in the fall of 1855, W. D. Lowry, of this city, was elected to the Council, or Senate, and J. H. Hartenbower to the House of Representatives of the Territory. Mr. Lowry held the office for two years. E. B. Barrows, of Pleasant Grove, was elected to the House of Representatives for 1857.

The Constitution of the State having been decided upon by the Convention of Delegates, was submitted to the people for their ratification at the general election in the fall of 1857. The Constitution providing for two Senators and four Representatives from each senatorial district, the people of the County proceeded in their election upon the supposition that the Constitution would be adopted, and accordingly elected the full representation thus provided for. C. H. Lindsley, of Rochester, and Emerson Hodges, of Eyota, were elected as Senators, and Sylvanus Burgess, E. A. Power, Sam'l Lord and W. K. Tattersall, to the House of Representatives.

In the fall of 1858, P. F. Lawshee, J. S. Sawyer, D. L. King, and G. I. Covell, were elected to the lower House; and Emerson Hodges,

and Dr. Hector Galloway, of Oronoco, were chosen Senators. From some cause, the Legislature was not assembled during that year, and the genuine worth of the elected members was not allowed an opportunity to enlighten and enrich the world, though the Senators held their office for two years, and came up to their work in the winter of 1860, with G. W. Green, A. J. Olds, Abram Ozmun, and J. S. Sawyer, as their colleagues in the lower branch of the Legislature. In the fall of that year S. P. Jones, of Rochester, was elected to the Senate, and Abram Harkins and W. K. Tattersall to the House of Representatives. Mr. Jones died just before election in the fall of 1861, and J. V. Daniels was elected to fill the vacancy, and F. Johnson and Thomas Harris as Representatives. Mr. Daniels has been twice re-elected, and is the present incumbent. The following named gentlemen have served the County in the Legislature: In 1863, J. P. Moulton and Z. Handerson; in 1864, J. P. Moulton and T. H. Armstrong; in 1865, Wm. Teachout and T. H. Armstrong; in 1866, B. F. Perry and R. D. Hathaway.

In the summer of 1863, Hon. James H. Baker having resigned the position of Secretary of State, David Blakely was appointed by Governor Ramsey to fill the vacancy, and in the following year he was elected to the same position, which he occupied till January of the present year. Hon. T. H. Armstrong, of High Forest, is the present Lieutenant-Governor of the State. In 1864, Lloyd Barber, of Rochester, was elected Judge of the Third Judicial District, which position he now occupies.

PRINCIPAL STREAMS.

THE principal streams that water and afford water-power to this County, consist of the various branches of the Zumbro, the Root, and Whitewater rivers, Bear, Cascade and Silver Creeks, which are the only ones affording water-power, or are of any considerable size. There are two branches of the Zumbro running through this county. One branch, rising in the county of Dodge, and running through the towns of Kalmar, New Haven and Oronoco, into Wabasha county, and run-

ning through this county, empties into the Mississippi about four miles below the city of Wabasha. The other branch of the Zumbro rises in the town of Vernon, in Dodge county, and runs in this county through the towns of Salem, Rochester, Haverhill, Cascade, and Oronoco, uniting in the town of Oronoco with the middle branch. These two streams afford considerable water-power, the east branch turning the machinery of two fine flouring mills in the city of Rochester, which manufacture a large amount of flour for shipment to eastern cities, as well as the custom work for the country round about. The other branch, which runs through the western towns, gives motive power to three saw mills in the town of New Haven, and a flouring mill and other machinery in the village of Oronoco. The Zumbro river is said to have received its name from the Jesuit priests who visited Minnesota at an early period as missionaries to the Indians. It was named by them in French, *Les Ambras*, signifying the embarrass, or river of obstructions, which name it was called by the Indians, and by the men who first settled here anglicized to Zumbro.

A flouring mill with two runs of stones is situated on Cascade Creek, near where it empties into the Zumbro, in the city of Rochester. The creek rises in the town of Cascade, and runs in a north-easterly direction through the town, winding its way through the valleys and over meadow lands till it loses itself in the more pretentious Zumbro.

Bear Creek has its origin in springs, bubbling up from the bosom of the earth among the highlands of Eyota, which form the water ledge or dividing ridge that separates the waters of the Whitewater and Root rivers, and is said to be the highest land in Olmsted County. The stream flows in nearly a westerly direction through the towns of Eyota, Marion and Rochester, affording the only water-power after it reaches within the city limits, where it has a fall of about seventeen feet in a distance of some forty rods. The creek empties into the Zumbro river near the center of the city.

Silver Creek *springs* into life among the little hills in the town of Haverhill, and glides along gurgling and rippling among the shrubbery and leaping over pebbles, dancing in the sunlight or hidden in the luxuriant grasses, till its size has become so increased as to make it a

somewhat noticeable stream. It finds its way along towards its destination, the Zumbro, which swallows up all smaller streams, and coming from the eastern side where the banks are high, it has a descent of about twenty feet in a very few rods, before it reaches the level of the river.

Root River rises in Dodge County, and runs in an easterly direction through the southern tier of towns, Rock Dell, High Forest, Pleasant Grove, Orion and Elmira, then through the counties of Fillmore and Houston, and empties into the Mississippi below La Crescent. This river supplies the power for driving a grist mill at High Forest, another at Stewartville, and a saw mill in the town of Elmira, near the village of Chatfield.

The Whitewater, or the principal branch of that stream, rises in the town of Eyota, and runs through the towns of Dover and Quincy, then enters Wabasha County and runs eastward, emptying into the Mississippi at or near Minneiska. One branch of this stream rises in a mammoth spring in the town of Dover, and running through the town of Quincy affords power to drive the machinery of a grist mill and a saw mill, which contribute much to the convenience of the people in that vicinity. Still another branch rises in the town of Viola, and running through the towns of Elgin and Plainview in Wabasha County, enters this county again in the town of Quincy, affording fine water-power at three different points in the town.

All of these streams are of a sober and orderly character, at most seasons of the year; but as the warm weather of spring comes on, unlocking the streams and swamps from their icy fetters, and melting the snows of winter, they frequently get on a great frolic, and overflow their banks, get high, and in their splurging along tear down bridges and blockade the roads, creating great inconvenience to the traveling public.

COUNTY NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper published in this County was started in the fall of 1856, only two years after the first occupancy of the County by white men, showing emphatically how closely education follows upon

the heels of civilization, and the demands of the people for information, as well as the rapidity of the improvements in a country newly settled by enterprising people.

THE ORONOCO COURIER, a seven column newspaper, was established at Oronoco in the fall of 1856, by a joint-stock company consisting of Leonard B. Hodges, John B. Clark, E. S. Collins, Reuben Ottman, and E. Allen Power. The press and other material were purchased in Dubuque, Iowa, of J. B. Cowan & Co., and John B. Flynn, of that city, was employed as foreman of the office. The company engaged the services of Dr. H. Galloway, now of Rochester, as editor in chief, and E. Allen Power as gatherer of local items. The paper was conducted with ability, and ranked among the first-class newspapers of the Territory. In 1857, when the financial crisis approached, the sun of the *Courier's* existence set, not in clouds and thick darkness, but in a blaze of glory,

“ Like a warrior taking his rest,
With his martial cloak around him.”

THE OLMSTED COUNTY JOURNAL.—In the winter of 1857, Messrs. Evans and Robbins came to Rochester from the East, and established the Olmsted County *Journal*, which was conducted upon the independent plan until the following fall, when the office was sold to John H. Hyatt and M. L. Stewart, who commenced the publication of the Rochester *Free Press* in January, 1858. These gentlemen continued the publication of the paper until the June following, when they in turn sold out to F. A. Soule, who continued to publish it on the punch-lock system, with himself as editor, and J. R. Drew as publisher, for about one year, when it was discontinued.

THE ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT, was established under Democratic patronage, in September, 1857, by Charles Cotton. This was an eight-column paper, printed on bourgeoisie type, finely executed, and in politics just what its name indicates. It was the first and only Democratic paper ever published in the county. Mr. Cotton continued the publication of the *Democrat* until November, 1859, when, finding that the income of the office was not sufficient to pay expenses and

liquidate the mortgage that he had put upon it, it was wound up, and in its death the democracy lost a faithful ally, and their only organ.

THE ROCHESTER CITY NEWS, made its first appearance about the last of October, 1859, under the management of C. W. Blaisdell, who was also proprietor. The *News* was a neutral paper, having no fixed principles about anything, but striving to accommodate itself to all; and as a consequence meeting with very poor success. The *News* survived only about one year.

THE ROCHESTER CITY POST, made its *debut* in Olmsted County society about the 1st of November, 1859, in the city of Rochester, under the control and proprietorship of Messrs. Blakeley and Bro., both of whom were practical printers and business men. The *Post* was Republican in politics, and as the majority of the people in the county were of the same political stripe, it could hardly fail of success. County patronage, State patronage, and private patronage, flowed in upon them, and the *Post* soon became one of the institutions of the city and county, and so prosperous was the business that it still flourishes, and is in the seventh year of its progression. After conducting the paper for six years, Messrs. Blakeley sold their entire interest to Messrs. Leonard and Booth, who materially enlarged it, and changed it from folio to quarto form, with six columns to the page, making it a forty-eight column paper as it is now published.

THE ROCHESTER REPUBLICAN.—In the fall of 1860, when the *Rochester City News* expired, the material was purchased by W. H. Mitchell & Co., and the *Rochester Republican*, a radical Republican paper, emerged from the debris. This paper, though originally started with old material, has kept on gaining ground till it stands equal with any of the weekly newspapers in the State. Mr. Mitchell continued as editor and proprietor of the paper until the fall of 1865, when he transferred it to Messrs. Shaver & Eaton, the present proprietors, by whom it is conducted with ability and success.

The *Republican* and *Post* have about an equal circulation, and will both of them rank among first-class weekly newspapers either West or East.

EDUCATIONAL.

THE educational interests of Olmsted County, though they have not received the attention that they should have done, have nevertheless assumed a not unimportant position in the history of its growth and prosperity. The munificent grant of lands to this State, to aid in the maintenance of public schools, by the General Government, has yielded a revenue that has raised a burden from the shoulders of many a brave pioneer who has buffeted the strong waves of adversity, and through toil and stern privation succeeded in establishing for themselves and their loved ones a home, at the same time to educate their children, without drawing upon their hard-earned savings to pay the teachers who were to guide their steps up the difficult paths of science. There has not been as much interest exhibited in the more populous districts in regard to the erection of suitable buildings for school purposes, as in those more sparsely settled. There are in the county at this time *seventy-seven* school-houses. Three of them are built of stone, forty-nine are framed buildings, and twenty-five of logs. Most of them are in neat and pleasant locations, and of sufficient capacity to accommodate the pupils that wish to attend. Some of them are capacious and elegant for country school houses, and nearly all are furnished with charts, maps and black-boards, and such other furniture as helps in the culture of the mind, and prepares for the rich harvest of ideas and expressed thought.

The first school-house built in the County was in the town of Elmira, near the village of Chatfield. This house was built in 1856, near the residence of F. A. Coffin.

In the summer of 1865, there were 101 public schools taught in the county but in the winter of 1865-6 there were only 77, just the number of school-houses, and nine private or select schools. The amount paid to teachers out of the public Treasury in the year 1865 was between \$9,000 and \$10,000. The number of male teachers was 32, with an average wages of \$26.42 per month; female teachers 111, with an average wages of 14.68 per month. The average of wages paid the

female teachers engaged in teaching the present summer (1866) is \$18. The amount of money paid by the County Treasurer to the different districts in the year 1865, was \$9,429.73. The amount raised by tax for the purpose of building school-houses, the same year, was \$4,778.82.

At the last town meeting, the citizens of Salem voted to levy a tax of \$1,750, for the purpose of erecting a building to be used both as Town Hall and for public school. Marion and Oronoco are likewise taking measures to establish a system of graded schools, and to erect suitable buildings for that purpose. The city of Rochester having never expended any money in building cheap concerns for temporary purposes, has wisely concluded that the time has come when they can afford to erect such buildings as will be an ornament to the city, and will accommodate all pupils for many years to come; and at the last charter election the citizens voted to levy a tax of \$25,000, to be used in building school-houses. The plan is, to build two fine brick edifices the present year, one in East Rochester and one in the Third Ward, and in 1867 a large central building, which will probably be located in the Second Ward. A system of graded schools is to be established; and when these plans are carried into effect Rochester will stand second to no city in the State in point of educational facilities. Local enterprise and energy will accomplish for Rochester what the location of normal schools will do for some other towns, in the erection and completion of school buildings; and if the interest keeps pace with the growth and prosperity of the city, facilities will soon be offered in this city for obtaining an education that will not be excelled by any in the West.

In October, 1865, the County Commissioners, in accordance with the provisions of law making it their duty to appoint a County Superintendent of Schools, appointed Sanford Niles, of Salem, to that position. Mr. Niles immediately entered upon the discharge of the duties of his office, and in November organized a Teachers' Institute, the first session of which was held in the Baptist Church in the city of Rochester. The Institute was attended by the teachers in the county to the number of forty-five, as well as many from abroad. Lectures

and discussions occupied the evenings, in which not only teachers and Superintendent took part, but many of the leading citizens of the city, and a feeling was awakened that the needs of the county in an educational point of view must be promptly attended to. Mr. Niles abundantly proved his eminent fitness for the position assigned him, and the confidence expressed of his abilities by the Commissioners, while conducting the exercises of the Institute. The second or semi-annual session of the Teachers' Institute was held at Morton Hall, in the city of Rochester, commencing on Monday, the 17th of April, 1866; and the increased interest exhibited by the number of teachers present, and the feeling manifested by the citizens, showed in an indisputable manner that the seed sown was springing up to ripen into a generous harvest. More than one hundred names of teachers were enrolled at its last session, which continued for two weeks with a continually growing interest. The Teachers' Institute may now be set down as one of the established institutions of the county.

A short sketch of the Rochester Female Institute, furnished by Rev. Sheldon Jackson, will be of interest to all:

THE ROCHESTER FEMALE INSTITUTE

Grew out of a recognized want on the part of parents in Southern Minnesota for a school near at home, where their daughters could receive the benefit of a thorough and finished education, without the expense of a trip to Eastern Schools.

In the fall of 1864 the Institute commenced its sessions, in Dr. Allen's block, with seventeen young ladies. As the school became known the attendance rapidly increased, until during the year the number reached one hundred and fifty.

At the opening of the second term, the School was moved to the new suite of rooms expressly built for its use in the Presbyterian Church.

In the summer of 1865, the fine residence and grounds of Mr. Moses, adjoining the school-room, were secured, and are now occupied with the Boarding and Music departments. But notwithstanding this increase of accommodation, the school is still so straitened for room that it is proposed during the next summer to enlarge the main build-

ing to double its present capacity. During the past winter the Institution has become incorporated under the laws of the State, and is now prepared to confer the degrees usual to such institutions, upon the completion of a full and regular course of study.

Under the efficient management of Mrs. M. R. Andrews and Mrs. M. M. Rice, the able principals, the Institute took at once the first rank among the educational institutions of Rochester, and won an enviable reputation throughout the State. And from the concurrent representations of all who have watched the progress of the school, it well deserves this reputation.

The course of study includes the branches usually taught in first-class institutions East; due attention being given to ornamental as well as more solid acquirements. Under the direction of teachers who combine in so great a degree all the requisites for successful female teachers, as Miss Downing (since gone to China as a missionary), Miss Jennie Smith in the advanced department, and Miss Lillie Smith in Music, the pupil is taught to master and understand the branches she studies, her moral and social being is cultivated and affectionately watched over with parental fidelity and vigilance.

Indeed, the mode of instruction and management of the pupils—their moral and social training—all unite to render this institution not only worthy of the patronage of every parent who seeks the highest welfare of his daughters, but also a matter of just pride to our citizens.



CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS.

For the short space of time since the country was organized, it is somewhat interesting to note the progress and growth of the various religious organizations that have been established in this county. The Methodist was the first to find a foot-hold; and from its itinerant customs is entirely the best adapted to pioneer life, and is perhaps the best adapted to meet the requirements of a new country, from the particularly free and natural mode of worship. This organization

probably numbers more members than any other in the West even. The pastors of the different Churches have kindly furnished us with sketches of the organization and progress of the different denominations throughout the county, which we shall give our readers as they have been given us :

SKETCH OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROCHESTER, MINN.

In the fall of 1858, the Rev. D. C. Lyon settled at Winona, and during the following summer the Rev. Sheldon Jackson settled at La Crescent, Houston county. These two ministers were the pioneers of Old School Presbyterianism in Southern Minnesota.

In addition to preaching in the places where they resided, they endeavored to visit and preach in all the neighboring places.

It was during such a missionary tour, made by the Rev. Sheldon Jackson through the counties of Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Freeborn, Steele, Dodge, Olmsted, and Winona, that Rochester was reached on the 29th of January, 1861.

Finding a few who had formerly been connected with Presbyterian Churches in other places, he agreed to remain and preach for them on the following Sabbath. The services were held in the Court House. On the 9th of February, Rev. J. C. Caldwell, Presbyterian Missionary for Minnesota, visited the place, and preached on Sabbath. Learning that the Rev. Mr. Jackson was expected to return that week, he remained over. On the arrival of Mr. Jackson, they together canvassed the place, and judged that the way was open for the organization of a Presbyterian Church.

Accordingly, on Sabbath, 17th February, 1861, in Morton Hall, they organized the First Presbyterian Church of Rochester, with four members; these being Mrs. John R. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McBride, and Mr. John H. Hyatt. Two weeks later, Mrs. Elizabeth Hyatt and Mr. and Mrs. George Miller were added to their number. Mr. Miller was elected the first Ruling Elder.

A few weeks after, the Church secured the services of the Rev. Robert F. Taylor, whose memory is still fragrant among our older

citizens. Owing to ill health, he was compelled to relinquish his charge after six months' labor.

At the breaking out of the rebellion, the Rev. George Ainslie was driven from his field of labor among the Choctaw Indians, because of his out-spoken loyalty to the Union. After various vicissitudes he reached Minnesota, seeking a field of labor. Receiving an invitation from this Church, he commenced his labors here in January, 1862. He entered upon his work with the enthusiasm begot by his missionary training. Amid many discouragements, he pushed forward the work with zeal. Seeking to reach all the destitute neighborhoods around, he found the work so increased on his hands that he requested permission to resign the village charge, in order to give himself more entirely to the missionary work. This not meeting the wishes of the church, he asked that a call might be made out to the Rev. Sheldon Jackson to become co-pastor with him, and take charge of the city work. Accordingly, in March, 1864, a unanimous call was made out for the services of Mr. Jackson; which call was accepted. From this time the Church entered upon an enlarged sphere of action.

Immediate steps were taken toward securing a church building. Mr. Jackson was sent East to solicit funds from Eastern churches, and returned in the fall with from \$4,000 to \$5,000.

In September, ground was broken for their building upon the corner of Zumbro and Prospect streets; and by the 1st of December, under the efficient superintendence of Mr. P. F. Lawshe, the church was so far advanced towards completion, that the congregation commenced worship in the basement. In the summer of 1865, the building (36 by 60 feet, with spire and stained glass windows) was finished, forming one of the most tasteful and complete church edifices in the State. The cost of the church edifice was about \$8,000. This same season a 1,500-pound bell was placed in the tower, and a commodious manse built in the rear of the church.

The spiritual prosperity of this Church has kept pace with its material prosperity; four prayer-meetings are maintained by its members. The Sabbath School in two years has increased from

twenty to one hundred and fifty; and the membership in five and a half years from four to one hundred.

In addition to regular services in the city, its pastors have supplied from ten to fifteen country neighborhoods around, and its members sustained from three to five Sabbath Schools during the summer.

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

"Calvary Parish" was organized on the 7th day of June, 1860, under the direction of Rev. Charles Woodward, A. M., the present pastor, then having missionary charge of an extensive circuit of which Rochester was one of the principal stations. The following year a site for a church edifice, comprising four lots, was secured on Zumbro street, upon which, one year later, the corner stone of the future edifice under the style of "Calvary Chapel," was laid, with appropriate religious ceremonies, and an address by the Rector. A tin box deposited beneath the corner stone contains, among other documents, various missionary and other journals, including copies of the Rochester City *Post* and the *Republican*.

The building thus begun was gradually brought to its completion, as the means of the parish would allow, and finally consecrated to the service of God, the Divine Trinity, by the Right Rev. Henry Benjamin Whipple, D. D., on the 28th day of January, 1866. It is a small but neat and substantial brick edifice, capable of seating about one hundred and fifty persons; and costing, with furniture, over \$2,500, the larger part of which was raised within the parish, much credit being due to the ladies of the "Parish Aid Society," for their untiring labors in this behalf. The value of the whole church property, including the ample and eligible site upon which the Chapel stands, may be estimated at the present time at \$4,000.

This parish, though small and feeble in its origin, and from time to time weakened by the death or removal of some of its most active and influential members, has had a steady and healthful growth. Since its organization over one hundred persons have been admitted to membership in the Church by holy baptism; and more than fifty have been confirmed.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

For the following sketch of the M. E. Church in Olmsted County, and in the city of Rochester, we are indebted to E. E. Payne, General Agent of the American Bible Society :

In giving a brief history of the rise, progress and present condition of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Olmsted County, much difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the requisite knowledge for such a task, owing to the short time allowed; but such information as could be obtained by inquiring of the "oldest inhabitant" is here presented.

FIRST RELIGIOUS MEETING AND SERMON.—It is believed that Rev. Mr. Fredmore, a Methodist minister residing in Iowa, preached the first sermon in this county, on Sunday, June 4, 1854, in Kinney's Grove, one mile south-east of the now village of Marion, then called the town of Finley.

Regular prayer and conference meetings were held from that time until March 28, 1855, when the first Methodist class was formed in this county, from which the organization of the M. E. Church dates. It consisted of ten members, namely: Nathan S. Phelps, Leader; Levi M. Phelps, Exhorter; Phebe Phelps, Loretta Phelps, Eleazer C. Phelps, Margaret E. Phelps, L. P. Phelps, Resin Phelps, James Rutan, Mary Rutan.

Rev. Benj. Crist organized the class, being the first minister sent by Conference to this portion of Minnesota, having been appointed by the Wisconsin Conference in 1854 to the Brownsville Mission, comprising then nearly all Southern Minnesota. He arrived at Pleasant Grove, Marion, &c., in this county, and preached occasionally during the fall, and the winter of 1854—55.

Rev. David Brooks was appointed Presiding Elder by the same Conference for Minnesota, but his labors were confined mostly to the river towns and further north, so that we do not hear of his labors here

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING.—In September, 1855, Rev. Norris Hobart, present pastor of the Church in Rochester, was appointed Presiding Elder for the Winona District, and held the first quarterly

meeting at Oronoco, on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 3d and 4th, 1855 ; at which he assisted on Saturday to clear and seat a room in the old store building, and preached a short sermon to six persons, from Mat. xviii. 11. On the Sunday following about forty-five were present, and a collection of \$15.75 was taken up ; the largest collection, for the number of persons, he ever saw. The Rev. Nelson Moon had been appointed to the Oronoco mission only a few weeks previous. Rev. D. L. King, of Kalmar, and Rev. J. A. Wing, now of Marion, were present at said meeting, and preached from time to time in various parts of the country.

Rev. D. Cobb was the next Presiding Elder on this District, from 1857 to 1861, when Rochester was attached to Red Wing District. Rev. Silas Bolles succeeded Elder Cobb until the spring of 1865, when Rev. N. Hobart was again employed to fill vacancy until Conference in September, 1865, when Rev. Ezra Tucker was appointed Elder on the Red Wing District, and Rev. Joseph Peregrine on the Winona District, which includes the eastern portion of this county.

There are only three church edifices belonging to the Methodists in the county, one at Marion, one at High Forest, and one at Rochester now in process of completion.

From the 1st class of ten in 1855, the membership has increased in eleven years to twenty-five classes numbering about six hundred members. Pleasant Grove was among the first preaching places in the county, first visited by Rev. B. Crist in 1854.

The first Methodist sermon preached in Rochester of which we can obtain any account was by Rev. Nelson Moon, at the house of Mr. Crabb, some time during the winter of 1855-6. Rev. Mr. Moon, then on the Oronoco Mission, and Rev. S. A. Wing preached a few times during the winter. September 14, 1856, Rev. Mr. Walker preached in the Log School House in east Rochester, after which the first class meeting was held. November, 1856, Rev. J. M. Rogers who succeeded Rev. Mr. Moon on the Oronoco Mission, came to Rochester and preached ; organizing the first class. February 14th and 15th, 1857, the first quarterly meeting was held, and in the absence of Elder Hobart, Rev. Mr. Rogers and Rev. Ezra Lathrop preached.

The first class was composed of seven persons, viz : J. P. Emerick and wife, L. Wynkoop and wife, D. F. Gasway and wife, and Mrs. Mary Barncard, the first two and last of whom are now residing here. The Rev. S. N. Forest was the first minister sent to Rochester in September, 1857, who remained here until his death in April, 1859. The Rev. G. A. Phoebus, Elijah Fate and others, supplied the desk until October, when Rev. Ezra Tucker, our present Presiding Elder was appointed to this charge and remained until succeeded by Rev. G. W. T. Wright, in October, 1861; he also remained two years and was followed by Mr. Chambers the two succeeding years until September, 1865, when Elder Hobart our present pastor took charge of the work under whose labors the church has been greatly blessed.

The several places of worship which have been occupied by this church are as numerous as their ministers have been, viz : first a private house, then the log school house, the Court House, LeSuer's Hall, Head's Hall, Morton Hall, the old Ball Alley, the present parsonage which was erected for a church, Smith's Hall from the time it was completed until November, 1865, when they commenced worship in the basement of their new brick church.

In February, 1857, only 7 members, during the next seven months their members were doubled. The succeeding eighteen months during the services of Rev. Mr. Forest their members were trebled, and during the month of April, 1859, through the indefatigable labors of Elder Cobb, forty-five were added to the church, making some eighty members. We then find it at a stand still. Minutes of 1861, report the same number including probationers. In September, 1862, we find the number increasing to ninety-nine; in 1863 to one hundred and eleven, during the succeeding two years under many discouraging circumstances our next increase was thirty-nine, during the past six months ninety-six have been added to the church, making our present number including probationers two hundred and twenty-five.

The foundation of our church edifice was laid in the fall of 1864, and during the season of 1865, was so far completed as to enable us to occupy it November 12, 1865. The building is 40x72, two stories,

built of brick, and when completed will rank among the first churches of our State.

About six thousand three hundred and seventy-four dollars have already been expended on the Church, and when finished it will have cost not less than \$10,000.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The following sketch of the early history of the Congregational Church in Rochester, is given us by Rev. Robert Welch, a Free Will Baptist Minister, who was one of the pioneers of religion in this new country. He says:

I first came to Rochester about the middle of January, 1855, and held meetings for six or eight sabbaths in the log dwelling house of Mr. Head, which was also a tavern. The families then in the neighborhood, with a number of persons who had come here to make claims and put up shanties, made up the first congregation in Rochester. In April of the same year, I moved my family here and preached to the people in my own house till about the first of June, when Rev. Reuben Reynolds came in and I resigned the congregation to him.

Meetings were next held in a log school house, standing some thirty or forty rods south east of the College street bridge, which was used for meetings and a school until sometime in the month of December, 1857, when the basement of the Court House was substituted for both purposes.

Mr. Reynolds, from the time he became a resident in June, 1855, preached in the log school house until August, 1857. Mr. Thos. Tait, a licensed preacher from Scotland, and Mr. E. O. Burnham, a licentiate from the State of New York, occasionally aiding him. In the summer of 1857, Mr. Reynolds, who was a regular Congregational minister in Michigan, having adopted other than orthodox congregational sentiments, retired from the ministry. Until the close of the summer of 1857, no other religious services were held in the town than those mentioned. At this time however, Rev. E. Westcott from New York, came and took charge of the Baptist interest, and Rev. S. N. Forrest organized a class of Methodists.

Rev. E. Clark from Massachusetts, took charge of the Congregational interest about the first of September, 1857. A few weeks previous, through the agency of Mr. Reynolds, an ecclesiastical society had been formed called the "First Congregational Church and Society of Rochester." This church was founded upon a basis so liberal that Christianity in all its forms could gain admission, and infidelity, unless it choose to do so, need not remain outside.

After Mr. Reynolds had ceased his labors as minister, an effort was made to amend the creed of the church so as to have it conform to the creeds of the orthodox Congregational Churches. As success did not attend the effort, after much discussion which continued from meeting to meeting, during some months, it was resolved to organize a new church. Accordingly on the 3d day of January, 1858, a church was organized, to be called the "Congregational Church of Rochester." The Church was organized with four members of the former Church, and eight others who had been members elsewhere, and who presented letters from their respective churches certifying their standing.

The Church now numbers some eighty or ninety members, and is in a flourishing condition. They have recently erected a fine brick edifice for public worship, 40x60 feet in size, finished and furnished in good style ; the whole at a cost of about \$9,000.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

For the following record of the Baptist Church, we are indebted to Rev. D. N. Mason :

On the 17th day of June, 1857, six Baptist brethren, who had but recently came from their old homes and churches in the east, assembled at what was then known as the log school house, and there resolved to organize themselves into a Baptist Church. From that time regular meetings were held, but the organization was not perfected until the 22d of August the same year, at which time a meeting was held in the log school house and seventeen persons gave in their letters of dismission and recommendation from their respective churches, to constitute the first Baptist Church of Rochester. The Church, on the day their organization was completed, elected a pastor, the Rev. E. Westcott,

who had but a few days previous came from New York. His salary was fixed at \$600 per annum, one half to be paid by the Church and the other half by the Baptist Home Missionary Society. At the same meeting the Church appointed their Pastor and several brethren to represent the body at the annual meeting of an association of Baptist Churches, known as The Southern Minnesota Baptist Association, to be convened at Richland on the 26th and 27th of August. At this meeting the First Baptist Church of Rochester was duly recognized and admitted a member of the Association.

The Church had already taken steps to secure a commodious room, in which to hold religious services, which resulted in the engagement of a room on Main street, known as Morton Hall, which was opened for public worship on the last Sunday of August, 1857.

The stated services of the Church from the time of its organization have varied little from the following: Preaching each Sunday, morning and evening; Sabbath School intervening; Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening; Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each alternate month; Church meeting on the Saturday before the first Sunday of every month.

On the 27th of February, 1858, a resolution to build a house of worship was passed, and the location for the same was decided upon. At this time, the church numbered but thirty-eight members, and many of them were subject to the distracting inconveniences incident to beginning anew in a new country. Many of them uncertain whether Rochester would be to them more than a temporary resting place. None knew, of course, what would be the success of the newly started town. Nevertheless, they undertook to build a house for the worship of God, and on the 30th of October, of the same year, they held their first religious service in their new church. The house is situated on Zumbro street near to the river; is 30x40 feet, and cost originally \$1050. At the completion of the church a balance of \$400 remained to be provided for, the interest on which, together with a sum since expended for blinds, painting and graining, papering and carpeting, makes the whole cost of the house in its present neatly finished state more than \$1500. The house is free from incumbrance.

A Sabbath school was organized soon after the church was constituted, and soon numbered one hundred members including teachers and officers. The school has been in progress from the first, winter and summer. Several times the library of the school has been exchanged or given to feebler schools and replaced by new. There are about one hundred and twenty members in the school at present; three hundred volumes, nearly new, in the library; one hundred sabbath school papers are distributed gratis every month.

The first addition to the church by baptism, was on the 7th of February, 1858. The church has been blessed with four revival seasons. The first was in the winter of 1859, under the labors of Rev. E. Westcott, the Pastor, in which ten were added to the church by baptism. The second occurred in the winter of 1861, under the labors of the present pastor, Rev. D. N. Mason, assisted by Rev. A. P. Graves, then pastor at Lake City, during which twenty-six members were added to the church; 18 by baptism.

The third was in the spring of '63, the pastor, assisted during extra meetings by Rev. G. W. Fuller, then pastor at Chatfield; nine were added to the church, seven by baptism. The fourth revival occurred in the winter of '66, the pastor assisted by Rev. B. Wharton of Wabasha; 52 members were added to the church, 35 by baptism.

Additions by baptism have been made to the church every year since its organization, except one, as follows: 1858, 3 were baptized; 1859, 12,—1860, 1—1861, 20,—1862, 0,—1863, 9,—1864, 1,—1856, 2, 1866, 35. Total of baptism since the organization, 83. The whole number of members connected with the church since its organization, is 221. Number of deceased, 16; present membership, 132.

The church has made stated contributions to benevolent objects, but the sum of such offering cannot be definitely stated.

Rev. E. Westcott, whose pastorate began with the history of the church, served the church in his office three years, his pastorate terminating July 30, 1860. From this date to November 4th, of the same year, the church was without a pastor and had no regular preaching; however, their sabbath school, prayer meetings and church meetings were steadily continued. In November, the present pastor, then not

ordained, was engaged to preach for the church six months. At the expiration of this term, the church called Mr. Mason to ordination, which being advised by a council of church convened at Rochester, May 4th, 1861, took place May 5. After ordination, the church called Mr. Mason to the Pastorate, which office he still holds.

UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY.

In the spring of 1860, Rev. I. M. Westfall came to Rochester and preached the first Universalist sermon ever delivered in this place. An informal organization of Universalism was effected soon after Mr. Westfall's removal here, the society consisting of about forty members. Meetings were held in Compton's Hall, (now Porter House) every alternate Sabbath; the pastor preaching at Mantorville, Cascade, Spring Valley, and other places on the intervening Sabbaths.

Services in the city were well attended and the cause prospered equal to the hopes of its most ardent friends. But the war coming on and a large number of the young men of the society and congregation, enlisting into the service, interest and courage in the movement began to decline, and in the fall of 1863, Mr. Westfall removed from the place and meetings were entirely suspended.

In January 1866, another effort was made to establish Universalism in Rochester. A two days meeting was appointed to be held on the 23d and 24th days of that month. A heavy snow storm which had prevailed a short time previous to the day appointed for the meeting, had filled the roads with snow drifts, rendering travel next to impossible. Rev. S. Wakefield, then of Elkader, Iowa, was present at the meeting, who, with Rev. S. W. Eaton, resident at Rochester, was the only clergyman in attendance.

The congregations were not large, but an interest was elicited which culminated in the organization of a Universalist Society early in the March following. The society organized with nearly thirty members, which number was increased shortly after to over fifty. Mr. Wakefield was the unanimous choice of the Society as pastor, and he removed to Rochester directly afterwards and entered upon the discharge of his pastoral duties. The Society rented the upper room in the Court House building, where services are held every Sabbath, morning and evening

A Sabbath School was very soon organized, numbering some thirty scholars, since which several more have been added. The school is provided with a small, though well selected library, together with a collection of service and class books, all recently purchased at the Universalist New England Publishing House, Boston, Mass.

The Society has purchased grounds nearly opposite the Congregational Church upon which to erect a church. Sufficient funds have been secured and arrangements made for the building of a church edifice the present season.

There are many believers in the doctrine of Universal salvation, resident in the county. Meetings have been held in Pleasant Grove, Quincy, Viola, New Haven, Cascade, Haverhill, Farmington and perhaps other towns by different Universalist clergymen, which were uniformly well attended and characterized by candid and respectful attention.

"THE FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY" OF ROCHESTER.

FROM the early settlement of the town, there has been a liberal religious element in the community. A few years ago an attempt was made to gather the persons representing this element into a worshipping congregation. They denominated themselves "The Friends of Progress," and under this name kept up regular Sunday meetings, for between one and two years, during which time Judge Reynolds, formerly an orthodox clergyman, was the minister. In the winter of 1865-6, another attempt was made to bring the liberal element together, which resulted in the organization of "The First Unitarian Society." The organization consists of from sixty to seventy members, and a congregation of about one hundred and fifty persons. The present minister is J. F. Walker. The Society holds its meetings in Morton Hall. Lots are purchased for the erection of a church building, which will probably be erected another year.

BRIEF SKETCH OF OLMSTED COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

THE Olmsted Co. Bible Society was organized September 16, 1855, in the house of Robert Welch, in Rochester, by Rev. Geo. Bent,

Agent of the American Bible Society for Minnesota. Robert Welch was elected the first President, and Reuben Reynolds, Treasurer.

Its first annual meeting was held in the log school house in East Rochester, on Sunday, October 26, 1856, by E. E. Payne, agent. Robert Welch was re-elected President, and J. V. Daniels, Treasurer. The first Treasurer's report stated, that there was \$2.00 in cash at the commencement of the year, and five bibles and four testaments valued at \$2.10.

The last annual meeting was held in the M. E. Church, at Rochester on Sunday evening, March, 18, 1866, when Rev. Wm. R. Stevens was elected President, F. W. Andrews, Vice President, E. W. Crocker, Secretary, and J. S. Woodard, Treasurer, when the Treasurer's report showed cash on hand at the commencement of the year \$70,91; received as donations, \$82,74; for bibles and testaments sold, \$64,80, making cash on hand received, \$218,45; books in depository, \$233,92, nearly all of which has been accomplished in Rochester; and addition to which there is at Chatfield a Bible Society, supplying the towns of Elmira, Orion; one at Pine Island, which has supplied portions of the towns of New Haven and Oronoco. There is now a Quincy Bible Society, one at High Forest, one in the town of Kalmar, and another at Marion. E. E. Payne, former agent of the American Bible Society, for Minnesota, is now acting for Olmsted County, and expects to hold bible meetings and organize branch Bible Societies in the several towns with a Local Agent in each School District. Already as the result of three days labor the Kalmar Bible Society has contributed \$65.00 to the cause, and other neighborhoods are doing according to circumstances.

MILITARY RECORD.

Few if any counties in the West or in the East, have responded more promptly to the call of the National Executive for help to crush the gigantic rebellion that has been, for the past four years, rocking the nation at its base, and threatening destruction to a Republican Government, than has Olmsted County. With a population, in 1860, of only about ten thousand, she has sent into the field *twelve hundred and fifty* fighting men, besides the cormorants that look for places where they can make money and keep out of harm's way. Of these, we are glad that we can say Olmsted County has furnished but few, while the fighting material has returned with honor, and names written among the heroes of the earth, or have laid down their lives for their country, which by them was prized above all things else of earth.

So sleep the brave, who sink to rest,
Upon their country's generous breast,
By all who love their country, blessed.

The names of the Olmsted County heroes, as recorded in the Adjutant General's Office, we give in the following pages. We had intended to give an entire history of their services, and their rank at the time of entering and leaving the service, but the records do not show this, and it would be a work of much time to procure them. In the following list, persons are credited to the town where they enlisted, without reference to where they lived, just as they are recorded in the Adjutant General's Office at St. Paul :

CASCADE.

Bradley, David W.	McCarty, Warren	Jilsen, David
Bixler, George P	McNeil Philetus W	Boardman, Geo A
Chambers, Justice B	Maher Michael	Burge, Mancil
Crabb, Flavius J	Palmer Ambrose	Conklin, Sylvester
Crabb, Burroughs	Parrish, J D	Sawtell, James R
Cutting, Curtes L	Pitcher, Asabel,	Wilse, Stephen E
Elders, Rierzi L	Sherman Stephen	Lang, George E
Freeman, Samuel D	Tyler, Dennis H	Knudson, Olich,
Fluigge, Edward	Vroman, Barney D	Kennedy, Cyrus
French, David G	Westover, Job	Chafer, Almiron
Hunter, Chas. D	Waterman, Geo B	Russell, Greenville
Hylar, George W	Zirn, Louis	Burch, Wm H
Lange, Frederick W	Cadwell, Alexis	Baxter, Francis W

CASCADE, Concluded.

Hurd, Charles R
Penfield, Vernon
Leusan, Fred W

Todd, Haville
Wrought, Sylvester
Hanson, Joseph

Price, James K
Diddle, Marion L

DOVER.

Allen, Josephus
Bright, Americus
Christie, Wm G
Christie, Thos. G
Evans, Wm H
Evans, John J
Farrell, Sam'l N
Felt, Marcus B
Higley, J M
Higley, Francis
Howe, B B
Harding, Harry A
Johason, Joseph
Kinber, Wm H
Ketchum, Cornelius B
Morton, Henry,
Smith, Wm O
Sheeks, Franklin
Shepard, Amos

Small, Henry L
Tollman, David
Thompson Wm R
Vonamburg, Abram
Lincoln, Chas E
Burgess, Samuel W
Morgan Joseph R
Williamson, Luther G
Burgess, Osmond
Clark, Josephus
Kimber, Anson V
Smith, James S
Christie, Thos D
Baney, James
Churich, John
Cline, Cullen E
Doheney, Walter
Gillaspie, James M

Huter, Fidell
Sink, Wm
Pmiz, Frank,
Smith, James L
Spilittstaser, August
Ward, Norman
Bird, Charles
Smith, John W
Eagan, James J
Miller, Shristopher
Weaver, Philip
Weaver, John
Doekin, Nels
Newell, Amos
Richards, Russell
Bird, Chas
Berry, Joseph
Frakes, Nathan

ELMIRA.

Atkinson, Wm R
Bolen, Alexis H
Blackman, Zeno
Bolen, Albert
Blodget, Wm
Case, Zehiel L
Chamberlain, Moses
Embry, Newton
Elphee, Caleb
Elphee, Caleb jr.
Foster, Samuel
Fross, Albert L
Hayden, Horatio M
Jennings, Alfred

Huntley, J D
Hopkins, J I
Ide Francis B
Jennings, Arthur
Mann, Adam
McEldarg, Jonathan
McEldarg, Jonathan
McEldarg, Daniel S
Morrison, John
Hemirs, Peter
Olehouse, Nicholas B
Potter, Ray S
Scott, Newton

Smith, Clark W
Strange, Frederick J
Stewart, Lucian
Strachan, Joseph
Rogue, Nathan L
Kime, Benj F
Farrington Benj
Erickson, Peter
Kellen, Louis
Wards, Chandler
Dunham, Abel
Dunham, Abner
Gundlock, John
Roberts, William

EYOTA.

Bartow, George O
Buch, Albert C
Brown, Wm H
Ditter, Collander
Greenslee, John
Greenslee, Wm

George, F
Hance, Daniel P
Hodges, James L
Lansing G
Mitchell, Jos R
Prosser, James

Smalley, Henry
Smith, Edgar
Stevens, Phllander
Tuttle, George
Resonette, Louis
Corrison, James

EYOTA, Concluded.

House, John
Hathaway M
Lee, Palmer
Truman, H O
Walters, J F
Wheeler, Mark D
Atherton, Austin M
Graham, Williams
House, George M
Bland, Robert
Crofoot, Warren
Buck, Charles A
Sheehan, Richard

Olden, Edwin
Burt, John F
Burt Wm H
Gilbert, Francis D
Scott, Edward
Clemens, Jabez B
Olsen, Ever
Rollins, James
Targerson, Targer
Chapman, Orange H
Oline, Jacob
Jones, Wilson

Plank, Josephus
Emery, James
Ingalls, Edgar J
Matusrek, Andrew
Sanborn, Elias
Wattles, Jessee
Langworthy, Henry M
Batzla, Christopher
Hodges, James L
Buck, George S
Herst, John K
Osborn, Byron
Bosse, Frederick

FARMINGTON.

Bulen, Alpheus W
Bash, John B
Burton, Thos L
Cramer, Douglas
Casey, Edward
Dodge, James N
Dodge, Henry W
Davis, Hiram H
Howe, John O
Hall, Alfred
Hadley, Varnum
Johnson, Andrew
Lamberton, John
Larey, Richard
Lane, Irvin M
Lane, Eugene
Mantel, Valentine
Marsh, Eli

McArthur, Daniel
Moody, Robert
Prior Benj L
Pugh, Ezra L
Penhallow, Parks
Robinson, Edward
Talbot, Benjamin
Webster, Daniel
Walker, Peter M
Warner, F W
Cummings, George
Richmond, A J
Hall, Eccles
Miller, Abraham
Scott, Francis M
Cooney, Martin
Gibson, George

Striker, George W
Smith, John J
Alker, Samuel T
Kelley, Barnard
Johnson A T
Sherman, Cassius M
Sidmore, Thomas J
Ely, Phiram
Haines, David
Olin, James
Moore, Manly O
Hadley, Simon
Warner, Harvey G
White, William L
Fisher, Albert
Miller, James B
Hotz, Henry

HAVERHILL.

Bulin, Morgan L
Crockett, Geo F
Deiter, Jacob
Dewitt, Geo
Delancy, Wm
Fitch, John M
Fertile, Wm A
Horton, Thos E B
Hueston, John
Ingalls, Herbertson
Johnson, Richard M
Lefevre, Wm
Marlett, Jas H
Morrow, Andrew J
Peck, Henry
Peckham, M L

Laville, Geo
Simonds, John P
Spencer, Daniel
Spaulsburg, Jonas
Smith, Martin
Smith, Hezekiah
Smith, John Van
Whipple, Oliver
Wood, Ashley W
Woodruff, Geo E
Bulin, Frank
Fofarre, Louis
Harrington, Inman
Hymes, Jacob H
Fertile, Wm A

Marlett, Ira A
Starmer, Robert
Madison, James
Conklin, Eleazer
Lampert, George
Weitz, Ferdinand
Barker, Morris C
Clow, Malcomb
Hayes, Daniel
Minvol, Bennett
Vanlorn, Lawrence
Coon, Henry
Brown, B F H
Stone, Nathan
Strong, Chas

HIGH FOREST.

Bradley, James
 Brayn, Charles
 Brown, John
 Comstock, Ellis B.
 Crumb, Saml
 Crumb, Milo
 Craig, Christopher
 Gordy, Minor W
 Gaskell, John W
 Hoag, Reuben
 Hartshorn, Joshua
 Hartshorn, Jesse
 Honeywell, Perry
 Hutchins, David
 Johnson, John
 Johnson, Chas
 Brooks, Edwin
 McKenny, Sylv. S
 Borden, James C
 Fah, William
 Gardner, Stephen
 Nixon, Thomas
 Smith, Thomas
 Crowell, Alfred
 Wade, Robert B

Kratzer, Walter L
 Lowell, John
 Moses Lewis
 McBath, Robert
 Mange, August
 Miller, James O
 Powers, Israel P
 Ruch, Henry
 Bdsell, John H
 Russell, Geo W
 Rolfe, Henry E
 Robinson, John
 Rich, Eli
 Stewart, Hiram A
 Toogood, Dwight
 Tattersall, Wm K
 Abbott, J D
 Chafey, Wm
 Waiker, John W
 Winters, Peter
 Bren, John
 Haath, Chas E
 Harvey, Lewis E
 Horton, Lucius
 Shafer, Oliver P

Wooldridge, John B
 Wood, Menzo
 Western, Stephen O
 Hartshorn, Caleb
 Ruch, Michael
 Stickels, Joseph
 Rue, Henry N
 Rue, Wm H
 Ruck, Edward D
 Douglass, Andrew P
 Douglass, Henry L
 Lake, Gideon C
 Miller, Lorenzo J
 Mattocks, Geo W
 Rumwater, Ira H
 Young, Henry
 Woodruff, Geo E
 Farrell, Garrett
 Cutting, Chester L
 Degraff, Oscar
 Davie, Saml
 Hemmingway, J C
 Prescott, Amasa A
 Cunningham, Jeff
 Blunt, James

KALMAR.

Bretsford, Isaac W
 Blair, James A
 Battles, James L
 Bird, Chas
 Bitner, Robert C
 Bently, David C
 Bursaw, Wm
 Besondy, Chas
 Chilson, Geo
 Caprez, John
 Chilson, Saml
 Christman, Adam L
 Chilson, Daniel
 Gove, Horace H
 Gilbert, Samuel
 Green, Martin
 Harrington, Jerome
 Hart, Nelson
 King John H
 Middleton, Joseph A
 McDowell, Benj
 Merritt, Alpheus
 Telford, Robert

Minden, John
 Nickson, Chas H
 Payne, Chas W
 Pett, Robert
 Page, J S
 Russell, Thomas
 Rice, Benj
 Remick, Franklin
 Ruch, Wm
 Staats, Michael H
 Simonton, Robert
 Thompson, Stephen R
 Tracy, Amos S
 Cummings, John
 Grover, Alvin W
 Grover, Abraham
 Grover, Isaac
 Perry, Robert J
 Chilson, Survetus W
 Smal, John F
 Gerdman, Stephen O
 Hadley, Amos

Katzler, Wm K
 Nye, Reuben
 Cheney, Nathan C
 Ellison, John B
 Lowry, Geo W
 Whitcomb, Ira S
 Whitcomb, Francis
 Rice, Wm.
 Andrews, Norman B
 Ellison, John B
 Hair, James N
 Hansen, Erick
 Kent, Abraham
 VanRensalaer, H w
 Whipple, Ira
 Randar, Jacob
 Grover, Isaac w
 Gordon, Jonathan
 Grover, Alvin w
 Hopper, James
 Johnson, Isaac
 McAllister, Archibald
 Ward, Marquis

MARION.

Bucher Gillet
 Chase Wm H
 Cassidy John
 Corpe Edwin J
 Colton David H
 Deeter Martin V
 Fenlin Lewis C
 Hill Aaron
 Howard Henry H
 Howard John A
 Kester Joseph
 Light Oliver P
 Lee Palmer
 Myres Wm
 McGill John L
 Newell Sydney
 Porter James
 Perry James
 Phelps Sylvester N
 Speels John E
 Scripture Lawrence
 Stevenson Charles
 Smith George C

Thomas George W
 Brown John J
 Brown M R
 Crane Wells
 Dureya Garrett
 Fox John
 Hagers Robert
 Kinney James
 O'Rowrke Henry
 Porter Charles E
 Skeals Warren
 Tubbe Frank
 Colton David H
 Kester Joseph
 Perry Charles,
 Porter James R
 Skeels John E
 Chase W H H
 McAllister Arthur
 Nanerth John
 Barrows Augustus
 McClaive John F
 West Levi C

Belervine John
 Baker Lewis
 Bradt Peter A
 Curtis Oliver
 Dickson Dallas
 Shelton Leonard
 Smith Wm
 True Lewis F
 Chase George
 Fitch Peter
 Graling John N
 Ingalls Bela H
 Mensink Garret
 Parker John H
 Ruxford Vincent
 Richardson Copeland
 Bonkan Amos C
 Howard Silas
 Lee Peter
 Maynard Johnson
 Rosia L G
 Truman Clinton

NEW HAVEN.

Amos, Emanuel
 Bateman, Frank
 Bateman, Ira
 Classon, Isaac W
 Cowdin, Emery G
 Eastman, Sewill
 Evans, Robert R
 Hamlin, P
 Hitchcock, Marshall
 Hamlin, Jacob L
 Kirkpatrick, Chancey R
 Kellogg, George
 Kirr, John
 Lane, Chas.
 Leshar, Garrett A
 Leshar, Amos
 Langworthy, Benj.
 Miller, Salem
 McManus, Lafayette
 Miller, Theodore
 Mills, Seth

Page, George W
 Prosser, Alonzo D
 Patten, James C
 Speed, Wm. J
 Speed, Eliphalet B
 White, Cornelius
 White, Libius
 White, John
 Bacon, Orrin
 Farnham, A
 Farnham, James E
 Upton, Charles
 White, John L
 Basset, Cassius M
 Gould, Charles
 Hunter, George W
 Hewitt, Albert K
 Knapp, Jesse
 Leshar, Garrett A
 Prodger, Frederic

Smith, James C
 Smith Wm G
 Salley, Danville
 Pithey, Wm
 McDill, John H
 Oleson, Gens
 Peck, Jason
 Emerick, Wm
 Lourey, Melvin
 Phillips, Ralph
 Pool, John S
 Palmer, John N
 Salley, Joel
 Patten, Ozro T
 Garland, Wm H
 Gould, Carlos
 Shay, Frank
 Brooks, Israel
 Emerick, Rosswell L
 Knapp, Hiram A
 Pacard, Henry C

ORION.

Barnes, Sam'l P
Brown, Henry C
Case, Norman E
Case, Heman G
Denny, Baruch
Edwards, Geo W
Edwards, Chas W
English, Joseph
Farrington, Benj
Farrington, John W
Farrell, Geo G

Hill, Lafayette
Harris, Thomas
Hazleton, Aden K
Loveiace, Wm Delay
McAllister, Arthur
North, Eben
Russell, Frederick H
Rinderwicht, Henry
Sehermerhorn Putnam
Swain, James R
Savage, David

Simmons, Andrew
Updegraff, John
Russell, Stephen
Barnes, Samuel P
Ersley, Cyrus
Niles, Horace S
Rucker, Thaddeus
Sinclair, Amasa
Frazier, Nelson C
Farnham, Henry
Ecker, Christopher

ORONOCO.

Atkinson, George
Buley, Manning
Clay, Mark W
Cutshall, Jacob E
Durand, Wm
Everson, Samuel S
Furman, Samuel
Furman, Jediah
Fetterman, Daniel
Herrick, L. L
Hanson, Leander J
Hubbs, Clarkes L
Johnson, Alex'r M
Kellogg, Augustus
Keelar, Geo S
Keelar, Ozias D
Kirkhan, J Philo
Oakins, John
Robson, Francis
Stebbins, Wm A
Turnley, Chas H

Webster, Henry
Waldron, Francis W
Allen, D W
Clark, John B
Cregg, A
Carly, Wm
Campbell, George
Dean, Warren H
Ellithorp, A
Hewitt, Ira B
Pieree, Wm M
Stoddard, E Q
Stoddard, J O
Stebbins, W A
Stocking, B F
Stevens, W A
Durand, Wm
Herrick, Lewis L
Harmen, Leander G
Webster, Henry W
Waldron, Francis M

Zirn, Louis
Craig, Alexander
Chase, Andrew J M
Kirkham James P
Kirkham, Joshua H
Lawyer, Alfred G
Oweu, Hiram C
Robinson, Wm S
Sheldon, Fletcher A
Wilcox Hiram B
Emery, C C
Frank, John A
Moulton, H
Ferguson, Anson A
Prettyman, Geo W
Thompson, Peter M
Clark, Alfred
Ellet, Perry
Furman, Jediah,
Terry, Geo.
Rutledge Aaron

PLEASANT GROVE.

Avery, Silas
Andrus, Freeman
Andrus, Isaac
Barrows, Eli B
Balcomb, J O
Burgan, Wm P
Burlingame, Lonis J
Bagley, Murray
Clark, Ziba B
Clark, Samuel M
Crego, D H
Collins, Wm H

Page, Harmon A
Rucker, Albert H
Reeves, John D
Ratcliff, Richard R
Sandborn, G F
Cole, Silas
Duncan, Mathew J
Eatou, J S
Everst, H N
Gasper, Jacob C
Gear, Elisha F
Higby, Theron S

Humes, James J
Humes, Wm B
Kennedy, A
Maddox, Richard
Mill, Wm H
Hutting, John
Parker, H E
Parks, Moses P
Parks, John W
Smith, Daniel
Towle, John M
Tait, Joseph

PLEASANT GROVE, Concluded.

West, Franklin A
 Wagner, Charles C
 Webster, Martin
 Newton, M J
 Russell, Chas W
 Bolewine, Henry
 Reeves, J P
 Adamson, Wesley
 Britendell, Taylor
 Everts, Edward
 McNelly, Patrick
 Steel, Wm
 Kenndy, Augustine
 Webster, Martin
 Burlingame, John L
 Clark, Lemuel O
 Tait, Andrew

Gasper, Jacob
 Nutting, John W
 North, Eben
 Reeves, John V
 Tait, Joseph
 Wagoner, Chas F
 Dieter, Martin
 West, Frank A
 Thomas, John
 Todd, Edward
 Gasper, Reuben
 Griffin, Michael
 Hartney, Simon
 Hueston, Wm
 Gleason, Geo W
 Wood, Hiram M
 Thomas, W G W

Bagley Henry,
 Barnard, David
 Lombard, Newton
 Stowell, Sylvester E
 Crink, John
 Bingham, John G
 Eavans, John D
 Mills, Chas P
 Mathews, Chas M
 Pixley, Ariel
 Pixley, George W
 Sheldon, Hudson B.
 Bagley, Harvey
 Wagner, Wm
 Black, Alexander
 Duncan, Samuel
 Jackson, James

QUINCEY.

Burgess G N
 Burgess G W
 Bone Gilbert H
 Black Reuben
 Banman John B
 Cooper John B
 Curtis Benj F
 Irvan John J
 Jay E A
 Dietrich Chas
 Daniels Arthur K
 Evans J H
 Foster Chas J
 Gray George
 Holland Alonzo
 Kitchell P. Albert
 Kerper Nicholas
 Lincoln Joseph
 Lincoln C E
 Kixter H K
 Kason Wm E
 Kisley George
 Small John
 Stevenson John B
 Stallcopp Levi
 Smith Wm
 Tenny Sam'l S
 Truesdall A J
 Tenny Geo W
 Lavan Geo W

Williams Julius E
 Weagant Wm H
 Wood James M
 Dietrich Paul
 Ketchum Arthur J
 Allen David
 Ames Dolphus
 Clark P F
 Faltes Charles
 Lambert Henry R
 Hehsel Peter H
 Sigdon James T
 Thompson Benjamin
 Wright John C
 Clark Wm S
 Stallcop Levi
 Cooper James
 Stevenson John
 Bell Hiram
 Blodget Milo
 Calkin John T
 Crittenden Newell
 Flavel Jabez W
 Hemmelberg W
 Hordd Arnold
 Keen Geo H
 Laws Samuel
 Simoncon Seaver
 Wilson Wm
 E

Stevens George W
 Ross John N
 Barnes Jonathan
 Libby Wm Z
 Schaffer Jacob
 Utter Chas S
 Whitney C H
 Austin Geo
 Bennett J G
 Churchill Eben
 Thomas Lewis
 Raffardy John
 Gurkee Edwin
 Grinsted Joseph H
 Kennedy Thos E
 Rolf Chas H
 Truesdell Chas B
 Hamilton Geo H
 Smith Levi
 Woodruff Francis M
 Stansbury Chas H
 Bartren James
 Kenzkeimer Chas
 Kirgan Robin L
 North M A
 Frich Abram
 Larch Martin
 Mills Thomas
 King Jas M
 Lerey Wood

ROCHESTER.

Brown W	Howland A J	Rearden Timothy W
Bliss Timothy H	Hubbard Isaac	Stevens August
Brittain Thos	Halmson Ole	Vaught Henry H
Barnard Geo H	Horton Samuel	Wolfe George
Betts Peter B	Hutchins Marion	Wolfe Adam
Bailey Robt E	Hutchins George	Cook Fayette
Barnard Jacob	Hall Addison	Eaton Horace G
Brown Thos R	Ireland Mortimer H	Fogarty Patrick
Brooks Orrin B	Irish Galusha	Stocking Frank
Baxter Wm S	Ireland Chas F	Whitcomb Valentine O
Black W	Jones Wm M	Buskins James H
Blakely Cyrene H	Jones Owin W	Chambers Hamlin
Bamber Archie	Jones Henry R	Dee Wm
Brooks Wm	Jacobs Henry	Shay Martin
Bash David	Kidd Lawrence	Stevens Wm A
Brooks Ariel H	Williamson Robt	Ayers Chas G
Baker Geo A	Thayer Solon C	Beatty Daniel
Chase Albert S	Brown George	Card Levi A
Chrisman Lawrence	Branwan John	Haines Hiram
Carey Michael	Carter Amos C	Ives Stephen
Coppinger Thos	Durland John	Lyons Edw'd M
Cowles Galmon Z	Hovey Alonzo	Peck Henry
Cowles Torris Z	Parmerlee W H	Pollock Robert
Cooper E D	Story Zachus	Schwab Cyrus
Cooley Henry D	Malmson Mathew	Howe Wm L
Cross E W	Morey Chauncey	Hadley Lafayette
Cummings Geo W	Walter John	Wallingford John N
Chase Kelsey A	Adams Wm L	McGrey Alex
Daniels Michael J	Barnard Geo	Gates Thomas
Durand Chas	Bullard Samuel	Nicholas Horace E
Devery Stephen	Duncan John	Fabrick Lewis N
Daniels Don A	Doramus John	Kelley Lewis H
Enoch Absalom M	Edwards Huntington	Loy Owen
Elliott James	Guttormson Gull	Lovejoy Geo W
Elliott Archibald	Hewitt Chas	Loder John W
Falls James	Huggins John P	Laflesh Henry
Godewoth Otto	Iveerson L	Loy John
Geissinger S	McGollg George	McMillan Alex
Gibson Sam'l	Phipps Francis E	Meyette Joseph C
Gifford Andrew J	Thoreson James	McMillen A J
Hoag Richard A	Wrangham Wm B	Mosher Walker
Hyatt Amos	Boyd John F	Mott Samuel
Heller Francis J	Harvey A H	Miller Samuel A
Hinnman Justice R	Hall Leslie	Markham Wm
Hotchkiss Fred N	Kingston Wm D	Markhm Daniel
Hunter Thomas	McKay Hugh	Miller Lewis H

ROCHESTER, Continued.

McMinds Wm W	Maginnis C Ambrose	Worden Henry D
Olds Thos B	Meyers Chas	Eaton Joseph S
Orcutt Chas L	Sherman G W	Pennell Henry
Reynolds H	Turgeson Andrew	Boyd Wm O
Reicharts Wm K	VanDooser J F	Cromdall Marion
Reyuolds Jas G	Wynkoop Wm	Douglas Alden G
Reynolds Jas	Fountain Frederick	Hart Albert
Seamans Randolph	Sylvester Bedal	Hoyt Albert
Seamans S A	Frost John	Johnsing Elling
Sayer Horace B	Wilson Dan'l M	Olson Martin
Stearns Ozra P	Smith Adam	Perry George
Sherman Geo	Richardson John	Rice Albert M
Smith Robt J	Luce Wm	Rheigleg Geo W L
Sage H S	Jenkins Chas E	Wagoner Edw'd
Shaw Alexander	Hawkins J F M	Walch John
Stevenson John	Hawkins Geo W	Wentworth Geo
Sayer Henry	Duncason Leander J	Thurber Chas E
Shepley Richard	Cronkhite Edgar	Fisher George C
Sherman Albert C	Clemons Henry M	Hall N B
Steel Mathew	Minson Nelson D	Luce David
Sloan Elijah	Austin Wm H	Ludwig D T
Spring Thomas	Orcutt Edw'd H	Pike Delos
Smith Geo W	Gifford A J.	Swartz Wm
Taylor Samuel	Ireland Chas F	Hightchen Isaac C
Terrill I M	Kidd Lawrence	Smith Gilbert
Willett C Preston	Jones Henry R	Foss Anton
Westman John	Brooks Orrion B	Johnson Franklin
Walden Ira G	Bailey Robert E	Drurg Ossian S
Wright Thos C	Cooley Henry D	Reymal John J
Wagoner Joseph H	Elliot James	Faley Michael
Williams Joseph H	Finch David G	Jefferson Thomas
Williams John	Jones Orion W	Arine Henry
Williams Wm	Lange Chas J	Barthell D
Williams Talesian	Peckham Martin L	Collins Wm E
Bennett Chas A	Smith Martin L	Grant Santa
Clow John E	Finch Solomon B	Hamilton Bernard
Clark Henry	Hutchins Geo	Johnson James A
Cronkhite Edgar	Jacobs Henry	Oleson Frank
Gaffer Wm	McCumber R B	Patterson John
Metcalf Samuel S	Brooks Wm	Scharf John
McGowan Wm	Kern John	Whips James

ROCK DELL.

Barnes Joel S
Curtis Sam'l
Christopherson Kittle
Elleson Syvert
Humanson Chas J
Christie Alexander

Russel Jas H
Cole Geo
Watson Wm H
Steyba John A
McCue Wm H

Hall Wm M
Madden John F
Conat Thomas H
Pixley Melville G
Roske Wm

SALEM.

Adams Edwin H
Annis Geo
Ankers Wm H
Brooks Geo F
Cornell Henry D
Drake Geo
Dodge John H
Ellison Joseph
Gould Elmer F
Hurd Hubbard G
Hurd Albert B
McCoy Luther
McCoy Andrew C
McMaster David
March Joseph
Northrup Sam'l
Niles Henry
Northrup Walter D
Peterson Andrew
Drake Geo
Green Clark L
Trumble Israel
Cronin John

Brooks H W
Holt Albert
March Joseph W
Price Rufus H
Perry Dudley
Dresbach A L
Johnson Christian
Stoleson Barnt
Bascom Orwin M
Dooley M H
Delancy Albert
Fogarty Wm
Kinney Jas H
Marquette George
Spaulding Aug W
Stoddard Edwin D
Solem H O
Jago Patrick
Tomlinson Sam'l
Barney Theodore
Knapp Harrison
McDonald A

Mulligan James
Ricker Chas S
Steel James
Emmerson John
Wait Alfred
Anderson Anderson
Cromwell Byron
Hurd Chas E
Olden Esmond
Pehle Anton
Smith Henry
Wakefield H B
Langley D A
Spooner John W
Smith Henry R
Garman David C
Gunderson Peter
Anduton Wm W
Green Sayles R
Barnhart Benj
Bisky Martin
Buschtt Henreich
Reiter Adolph

VIOLA.

Bear M R
Calvert R A
Calvert S D
Doty A V
Farrier Granville
Golding W E
Harkins Abram
Ketchum G W
Kitchel E M
Mack George
Oaks Elihu J
Rutledge John
Stulenberger Elias
Shaul Lemuel

Shenton H W
Swan Wm
Stullenberger David
Watson Chas
Wagon Jacob
Williams David
Cunningham Jeff
Golding Wm E
Kitchell Prince A
Brannon James
Booth John
Palmer George
Pendergrass J W
Potter Theo E

Henry Edgar
Allen James P
Morse W F
Bryan Thos
Bunch Quinton
Cutter Marshall
Leeson Robert
Bidwall V A
Webster Alden
Battles John
Powers James
Campbell Wesley
Ray Francis
Stanard Hiram R

TOWNS.

CASCADE.

Adjoining the town and city of Rochester, and near the centre of the county, lies the town of Cascade. The face of the town is somewhat uneven, though not what would be considered hilly, of a deep rich soil well adapted to the cultivation of the various kinds of grain and vegetables, which are raised in such abundance in all parts of the county.

Cascade is well watered by springs and small streams which abound in nearly all parts of the town. The principal of these is Cascade Creek, of which there are two branches, one of them running through the centre of the town, and the other emptying into the Zumbro, in the north part of the city of Rochester, affording an excellent water power a little way above its mouth, which is used in turning the machinery of Cascade Mills. There is very little timber in this town, the people depending for their supply on the broad belt extending into the towns of Kalmar and New Haven. Considerable marsh, or wild meadow land is found in this town, affording an abundant supply of hay for horses and cattle.

The first settlement in Cascade was made in the fall of 1854. James Bucklin, Mr. Proudfoot, and several others made claims and built houses. Mr. Proudfoot started a store in the winter following, west of the Cascade Creek, and kept it in operation till the summer of 1855, when he removed his stock of goods to Rochester. In the spring of 1855, Ephraim D. Cobb, Noble Cobb, George W. Huyler, L. L. Eaton, Charles Horton, Joseph Mathews, and many others came into the town and made claims and established residences. Indeed, so fast did the town become settled up,—we are told by Mr. Cobb,—that when he

went to his place in May, there were but two buildings to be seen from the hill on which his house stands, but that within the next three months, there were twenty-seven.

The town was organized with its present boundaries in 1859, and the following officers elected: Supervisors—James Bucklin, Cham'n, Alvah Southworth, and Philo Boardman; Clerk—Geo. Carpenter; Treasurer—Sylvester Conklin; Assessor—Hibbard Smith; Constables—Joseph Chambers and Lewis Rice.

Cascade is bounded on the north by Oronoco, east by Haverhill, south by Rochester and west by Kalmar.

The following named persons have served as Chairmen of Supervisors, and Town Clerks, since the organization of the town, viz :

CHAIRMAN SUPERVISORS.		TOWN CLERKS.	
1859	James Bucklin,	Geo. Carpenter,	
1860	J. V. Mathews,	Chas. Grant,	
1861	C. G. Lang,	" "	
1862	Abram Ozmun.	T. W. Kendall,	
1863	P. P. Grant,	" "	
1864	E. D. Cobb,	" "	
1865	" "	H. J. Grant,	
1866	" "	" "	

Much of the religious service in the town has been done by Rev. E. Westcott, who labored faithfully for some years, though at no time was he a stated minister, and employed to preach.

In the fall of 1855, L. L. Eaton opened his house four miles west of Rochester as a tavern, for the accommodation of travellers, and kept it for some years, when he removed to the city of Rochester. This was the first and only tavern ever kept in the town. Mr. Proudfoot's store, was also the only one.

The first birth in the town was in the family of Joseph Horton, in the spring of 1855; the first death was in the same spring; Miss Adelaide Bucklin, daughter of James Bucklin, Esq., a young lady of some sixteen or eighteen years of age.

DOVER.

The first claim made in the county, by white men, to the land, was in the spring of 1853, when Hiram Thompson, came into that section

now known as the town of Dover, and made his claim as near as he could calculate on the township line of the Government survey, though it proved a little west. Judge Thompson made his claim and the necessary arrangements to hold it, and returned to bring his family in the early spring of 1854. He soon erected a log house and moved into it. This house is now occupied by the venerable Judge as a residence, and is said to be the first one built in Olmsted county. Simeon Harding, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Waller, G. C. Sheeks, and others, located in the town in 1854, and in 1855 there was a large immigration, and the country became rapidly settled.

The first religious service was held in Mr. Waller's house, in the summer of 1855, when the Rev. Jabez Brooks, now of Red Wing University, preached to a small audience. In the winter of 1855-6, Miss Eliza Sheeks taught the first school in the town, in a room of Mr. Harding's house. In the spring following, Mr. Harding opened his house as a tavern and kept it till 1861. This was the only house of public entertainment ever kept in the town. There is no water power, consequently no mills or manufactories. The surface of the country is somewhat uneven, in some places cropping out in a kind of limestone ledge, which affords excellent stone quarries, and the stone when burned makes a fair quality of lime.

The first birth in the town was Simeon L. Harding, son of Simeon Harding, who was born on Christmas eve. 1855. On the same evening a daughter of Mr. Harding was married to Chester Phelps, who now resides in Dover. Though the first marriage was that of Mr. Ward Smith and Miss Adelia Waller, in the summer previous.

The soil is a rich dark loam with a heavy subsoil, well adapted to grain and grass. Timothy and red top grasses grow as luxuriantly as in the eastern states, though the natural meadow lands are so abundant that but little attention has been given to the cultivation of grasses. The town is well watered by springs and brooks, two branches of the Whitewater running through it, and a great number of springs being in different parts from which the Whitewater mainly derives its supply. Very little timber is found here, the supply being obtained from the Whitewater and Root Rivers at points varying from five to ten miles.

Dover is bounded on the north by Quincy, east by St. Charles, in Winona county, south by Elmira and west by Eyota. It was organized in May, 1859, at which time the following officers were elected.

Supervisors—Nelson Baker, Char'n, Henry Johnson, Elias Bedal; Town Clerk—Sam'l Johnson; Assessor—Simpson Smith; Collector—William R. Tompson; Justices—Joshua Martin and Nelson Baker; Constables—N. E. Mason, W. R. Thompson.

Since that time the following named persons have held the offices of Char'n of Supervisors and Town Clerk, respectively:

CHAR'N SUPERVISORS.		TOWN CLERKS.	
1859	Geo. C. Sheeks,	Theodore Harding,	
1860	Chester Phelps,	A. Richards,	
1861	Samuel Johnson,	" "	
1862	Simpson Smith,	" "	
1863	Elias Bedal,	" "	
1864	Simpson Smith,	E. H. Dewey,	
1865	" "	" "	
1866	" "	" "	

In 1858, Simeon Harding was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention, and the same year Hiram Thompson was elected Probate Judge for Olmsted County, to which office he was twice re-elected.

There are no stores, mills, hotels, or whiskey shops in the town. It is emphatically a community of farmers. Adjoining St. Charles, the people are amply provided with market facilities of all descriptions, and the railroad bringing them within an hour's ride of Rochester, no inconvenience is experienced from not having these institutions located in their midst.

ELMIRA.

In the south east corner of the county, with the town of Dover on the north, Saratoga, in Winona county on the east, Chatfield in Fillmore county on the south, and Orion in this county on the west, we find the town of Elmira. This was a wilderness prairie till the spring of 1854, when James McClellan, Jr., in his search for a location, visited the place, and being pleased with its appearance, and looking away into the future, as all westerners are apt to do, thought he could see in the the then uncultivated prairie, well fenced farms and cultivated fields,

with neat and commodious dwelling houses and barns dotting the prairies, and giving sure indications of industry and thrift. Accordingly, he made a claim and built a house in April of that year. This house was the first one in the town, a frame building not very large to be sure, but sufficient to accommodate the absolute needs of the pioneer.

A company of some thirteen men, came into this town on an exploring expedition, in December of 1853, and built a shanty, and stayed through winter. We have learned the names of some of these gentlemen, who lived upon the prairies through the winter of 1853-4. T. B. Twiford, G. Willis, Wm. B. Gere, J. J. Hubbard, Jas. McClellan, Jr., James Munday, Henry Gere, and Franklin Blodget. Messrs. F. A. Coffin, Thos. Holmes, Joseph Tatro, Charles Redfield and others, followed in the summer 1854, and quite a community was established that fall, and Mr. McClellan's anticipations seemed about to be realized sooner than he had expected.

The first birth in the town of Elmira, was in the family of Joseph Tatro, to whom a son was born, on the 20th of September, 1854, which after due deliberation and consideration, assisted by various discussions between Papa, Ma-ma, and the few female friends of the family, that the settlement furnished, was christened, "Charles P. Tatro."

The first death was that of James McClellan, the pioneer settler of the town, who died in February, 1855, and for him the future wealth and prosperity of the town he had chosen for his home, was of no account, farther than it left his mind at ease, that in leaving a family, he left them in a beautiful country and surrounded by the materials for wealth and comfort.

Old customs seem to travel with the pioneer westward, and "the old story is told again," that was breathed into the ear of our grandmother Eve, when creation was in her infancy, and thus it came to pass, that among other ceremonies of the times, the marriage ceremony was not the least prominent. The first exhibition of this which was manifested in this town, was in August, 1854, and the parties most directly concerned were Mr. Chester Woodward, and Miss Martha Grant. These parties we understand still live in the enjoyment of the connubial arrangement thus entered into.

The first religious services were held in a grove, at which place Rev. Dr. Trow preached the first sermon, but the exact time of the service we have been unable to learn. There are no church edifices in the town; the people generally attending service in the village of Chatfield, in Fillmore county, which joins this town on the south. A portion of the village is located in the town of Elmira, though the business houses are all on the south side of the county line in Fillmore county.

In the winter of 1855-6, Mr. H. E. Loomis taught the first school in District No. 1, in Elmira, which was the commencement of the educational effort. Considerable interest is manifested in the progress of the schools of the town. Three good school houses have been built in which schools are taught for the greater part of the year.

The soil is of a sandy loam, but of great fertility, affording a rapid growth to all the grains and vegetables of the climate. No lofty hills in any part of the town, yet the surface is considerably rolling, and in all parts the town is well watered with springs and small running streams. Root River running through the town, affords an excellent water power which is improved in driving the machinery of the Chatfield Flouring Mills.

There are no stores or saloons, or even hotels in the town. The people attend principally to their farming interests, and do their trading at the villages surrounding, or the cities of Rochester and Winona.

Elmira was organized on the 11th day of May, 1858, at which time the following officers were chosen to represent and serve the people for the ensuing year.

'Supervisors—Milo White, Char'n, E. Prindle, H. E. Potter.

Assessor—W. Postin; Collector—A. D. Putnam; Justice of the Peace—C. H. Stearns; Constables—W. R. Freeman, S. Cole, R. B. Kellam.

Those who have held the office of Char'n of Supervisors and Clerks since that time are:

CHAR'N SUPERVISORS.		TOWN CLERKS.	
1859	F. A. Coffin,	R. G. Ketcham,	
1860	J. A. Huntley.	E. Prindle,	
1861	F. A. Coffin,	" "	
1862	" "	" "	
1863	R. G. Ketchum,	" "	
1864	F. A. Coffin,	" "	
1865	" "	" "	

In the year 1859, J. S. Sawyer was elected to the State Legislature.

Considering the population of the town it did its duty well in the sending out of soldiers to fight for their country. Forty-four of the able bodied of this new town, shouldered their muskets and went into the field. The population is rapidly increasing at the present time, and it will not be a far distant day that all the farms will be put under cultivation, and yielding to their proprietors a rich reward for their labors.

EYOTA.

As early as the fall of 1854, Benjamin Bear made claim near the centre of townships No. 106, and in the month of May following, he removed his family thither and commenced breaking up the prairie, preparatory to putting in crops. The same season H. G. Freeman, Wm. Potter, Chas. Keyes, Clark Brown and others, made claims in the vicinity and established quite a colony, mutually dependent upon each other for help and neighborly kindnesses, they labored for their own interests, and for those of each other, by developing the resources of wealth that lay hidden in the soil, and their labors were abundantly repaid. In 1855 there was a large influx of settlers, and farms were opened and cultivated in all directions. That year the first framed house was built, by Thos. Harris, which was said to be the first one built in the county. The town is composed of two thirds prairie, the other of Oak openings. The timber extends through the centre of the town, being surrounded on nearly all sides by prairie. The ridge, which is called the water shed of Bear Creek, and the Whitewater and Root Rivers, is said to be the highest land in Olmsted County. The surface is gently undulating, with a general slope from the openings in

the centre of the town to the division lines of other towns. Bear Creek, which rises in a spring on the farm of Benjamin Bear, and from whom it takes its name, runs in nearly a westerly direction though the western portion of Eyota, Marion and Rochester, till it empties into the Zumbro, within the limits of the city of Rochester. The Whitewater, or a branch thereof, runs to the north-east, while a branch of the Root River takes a south eastern course, which gives an abundant supply of water for the use of the farmer. The soil of the openings is of a sandy loam, but on the prairies, is a black muck mixed with loam.

The first birth among the white people of this town, was that of Martin Freeman, a son of H. G. Freeman, in the summer of 1854. The first death was Hiram Smith, in the same season. Mr. Anson Boyer and a Miss Smith committed the first matrimonial depredations in the town; while Miss Angeline Stocking first taught young ideas the rudimentary lessons in climbing the hill of science, in the summer of 1856. In the autumn of 1855, Rev. Mr. Wallison, a preacher of the Reformed Lutheran persuasion, established religious services, which have been regularly kept up till the present time.

The town was first organized under the name of Springfield, which name it bore till 1859, when the people feeling somewhat elated with their beautiful harvests, and golden prospects for the future, thought their town would excel all others in the quantity of her productions, changed the name to Eyota, which in the language of the Dacotah's signifies *superior*. This town has had its full share of officials since its political existence. In the fall of 1857, Emerson Hodges was elected as senator in the Territorial Legislature, and re-elected in 1859. In 1861, Geo. Stocking was elected County Commissioner, and held the office till the fall of 1864, when J. K. Randall, also of Eyota, was elected in his stead. O. P. Whitcomb was elected to the responsible position of County Treasurer in 1861, re-elected in 1863, and discharged his duties with such faithfulness and ability, that in 1865, the people refused to allow him to retire to private life, and almost unanimously again re-elected him to that position, which he now occupies.

The Winona & St. Peter Railroad runs through the town, and not far from the centre of the northern part. A depot has been established

and a large amount of business has sprung up. Houses have been built, hotels opened, and a trading house established, while immense quantities of wheat are brought here, and are shipped over the road to eastern markets. The Railroad company have a large elevator, and various private individuals have warehouses for storing grain. There are now in active operation, where two years since there was nothing, four hotels, three stores, one lumber yard, one blacksmith shop, and five whiskey shops. The dry goods dealers are C. P. Russell, Clark & Wheelock, and Milo White, who has also a store at Chatfield. The amount of business done at this little hamlet would seem almost incredible to a person who is not accustomed to the rapid developments of the western prairies. There is no other village within the town, consequently all the business is centered here in this small circle, and farmers prefer selling their wheat at Eyota, even if they have to go to Rochester to trade.

There are now in 1866, five good school houses, in which teachers are employed at least eight months in the year.

A large number of the farmers have fine young orchards set out, which give as fair promise of future fruitfulness as in any country in the same latitude.

O. P. Whitcomb has about two hundred trees on his farm, most of them in a fine condition, and giving promise of future value. Benjamin, Joseph, and Henry Bear, have all of them, fine young orchards. More than one half of the farms under cultivation have orchards of more or less promise.

FARMINGTON.

Farmington is one of the northern towns of Olmsted County, and is bounded on the north by Guilford in Wabasha county, east by Elgin in the same county, south by Haverhill, and west by Oronoco. It was organized in 1858, by the election of the following officers :

Supervisors—Ethan Kimball, Char'n, E. Evans, P. Russell. Town Clerk—T. H. Rose.

The following named gentlemen, have held the office of Chairman of supervisors and Town Clerk, since that time :

CHAIRMAN SUPERVISORS.

Ethan Kimball,
John Little,
Thos. Brooks,
" "

Ethan Kimball
John Little,
Thos. Brooks.

TOWN CLERK.

A. M. Hall,
" "
E. P. Whiting,
" "
" "
" "
" "

Not till the year 1855, was there any settlement made within this township, but in April of this year, Mr. Z. Tumbleson, erected a house in the south east corner of the town, and commenced farming operations. He was soon followed by others who quickly effected a permanent settlement. The general surface of the town is nearly all prairie, though timber skirts it on two sides, which makes it but a short distance for farmers to haul their wood and timber for fuel and fencing. In the winter of 1855-6, Mr. Andrew Parsons died in a house situated nearly on the township line, which was accounted as the first death occurring in the town. Miss Kate Cowles, now the wife of Capt. J. A. Leonard, of Rochester, taught the first school, in the log school house near Mr. Little's, in the summer of 1859.

The first wagon track made in any specific direction, was made by A. M. Baker, in passing from Lake City to Rochester. In 1858, a State road was laid out between those two points, which is now one of the most thoroughly traveled roads in the country.

In the spring of 1857, Mr. Junian Lathrop set out with an exploring party to look over the prairie, and after wandering about some time, he got separated from his companions, and night came on, to add to his perplexity. He kept on traveling till near midnight he came to Tumbleson's shanty, where he halloed and received information where the spring was located, at which his companions were to camp. He then took up his line of march for this point and soon found his friends, and hastened to assist them in courting the favors of the drowsy god, but in consideration of the labors of the day, he was not very coy, and they were soon in the land of dreams.

In October 1856, some parties wounded a Bear as he was passing through the settlement, which induced bruin to leave for other parts. Mr. Philip Hope, thinking that in his enfeebled condition, his bearship might be easily captured, started after him with an ax, and coming up to him attempted to cut him down; but bruin objected to this kind of treatment, and turned upon his assailant and threw him to the ground and was about proceeding to make a meal off him, when a Mr. Schurz ran to his assistance and dispatched the bear with his rifle. Mr. Hope still lives in the north part of the town near the scene of his adventure.

Considerable interest has been taken by the farmers in planting fruit trees. Mr. John Little, A. M. Baker, and Wm. Hodge have all quite a large number of trees. Mr. Hodge has a nursery of native trees, which give every indication of thrift and hardiness.

The general surface of the town is quite rolling, sometimes rising to an elevation that would be termed hills. The uncultivated portion of the land is owned principally by non-resident speculators, but is being rapidly settled by enterprising farmers who are opening up farms, and making it as good a grain growing town as any in the county.

HAVERHILL.

Haverhill situated near the center of the county, is much of the same general character of soil and surface, as are most of the towns in the county. Most of the town presents a gently undulating surface, though in some portions it rises high enough above the general level, to entitle it to the name of hills or mounds. These however, are all of them susceptible of a high state of cultivation, and perhaps afford as good crops as the low lands. The soil is principally of black loam with clay subsoil, mostly covered with a luxuriant growth of hazel brush, which farmers usually consider as indications of excellent farming land, and such lands are always selected in preference to those growing nothing but the grass. There are some natural meadows in the town, sufficient to supply the needs of all until such time as farmers can raise cultivated hay. All kinds of grain grow rapidly, and early arrive at maturity. The average of the wheat crop for 1865, was about twenty-two bushels to the acre. The prairie portion extends through the town

from east to west, skirted by openings on the north and south, making the whole surface well adapted to the wants of the community.

Haverhill is bounded on the north by Farmington, east by Viola, south by Marion and west by Oronoco. At the time of its organization as a town, in 1858, it was called Zumbro, and so remained until 1865, when, the commissioners changed the name to Sherman, in honor of that gallant general. The town gloried in the name of Sherman for about one year, when it was ascertained that some other county not more patriotic, but more prompt, had stepped between them and fame, and christened one of her towns with the title of the illustrious chieftain, and the commissioners were again obliged to go through the process of christening, and it now rejoices in the name of Haverhill, which it will probably retain unless some part of the State has made a previous appropriation.

The town was settled as early as 1855. On the 15th of May of that year, Mr. Gideon Fitch, Edward Cox, and G. Van Houghton, arrived in town and laid claim to certain tracts of lands in the north part, and laid out farms for themselves.

On the 1st day of October of this year, a son was born to Mr. Fitch, whose probation in this world was for about two weeks. Thus the first birth was followed by the first death in about two weeks, and both in the same family. The first marriage was also solemnized in the same month, in the same house, and one of the parties a member of the same family. Mr. Fitch was in truth a veritable pioneer. His family being the first in town, the first birth, death and marriage occurred in his family, and the first religious meeting was held at his house. The first meeting was only a gathering of the friends of religion, to discuss matters pertaining thereto, in July of 1855. In the October following public preaching was held at the same house, by Rev. Mr. Moon, a Methodist circuit rider. The society continued to hold their meetings at the residence of Mr. Fitch, until August 1861, when a school house was built on Mr. Fitch's farm, since which time the meetings have been held there. In 1859, a Mrs. Andrews living about a mile south of this settlement, opened a select school in her own house for the accommodation of the neighbors, which is the earliest information we have of any school in the town.

At the time of its organization, the following named officers were chosen to run the machine of the town government for that year:—Supervisors—O. A. Hadley, Char'n., Chas. H. Crane and Samuel Woodbury, as side supervisors. Town Clerk—Chas. Parker; Assessor—Reese H. Talbot; Collector—Baldwin Martin; Justices of the Peace—Francis Dresser, R. W. Palmer; Constables—Baldwin Martin, John P. Simonds; Overseer of Poor—Gideon Fitch; Pound Master—G. Van Houghton.

The Records in the Clerk's office bear no evidence of any business being done in the town, till April of 1860, when another election was held.

The offices of Chairman of Supervisors, and Town Clerk have been filled each successive year as follows :

SUPERVISORS.		TOWN CLERKS.	
1860	Wm. Horton,	Hiram Andrews,	
1861	Wm. D. Michael,	John Van Smith,	
1862	C. H. Crane,	Reese H. Talbot, app't	
1863	Edwin Palmer,	M. A. Burbank,	
1864	Wm. Boyd,	" "	
1865	" "	John Van Smith,	
		" "	

HIGH FOREST.

We are indebted to Dr. A. Grant, Secretary of the Old Settler's Association of High Forest, for the following sketch :

This town located in the south west part of the county of Olmsted, in Towns 104 and 105 range 14 west, was visited by an exploring party from LaCrosse, in March, 1854. The company consisted of Rev. J. C. Sherwin, Mr. John Robinson and Dr. Balcome.

The natural advantages which this region of country presented with its rich soil, pure streams, rolling prairies and majestic forest, (from which this town takes its name), invited the explorers to permanent settlement which was effected in the following month by Messrs. John Robinson, Owen Sherwin, Charles Shephard and John Wright, supplied with breaking teams and other necessary means for putting a different if not a fairer face on nature, as she had reposed since the dawn of the morning of Creation.

In the following month, May, 1854, the first family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson and their daughter Mary R., Lucretia Stratford and Charity Oleson, opened the first house in this town and gave first evidence of the presence and march of civilization.

Other pioneers soon followed and before the close of the season the little colony was augmented by the addition of Messrs. Covell, Granness Pierson, Lyon, Johnson, Rhodes, Hills and Clayson, the first four now among our most substantial and prosperous citizens. With the native energy and perseverance which belong exclusively to pioneer life, and which are the only elements that can carve home, fortune, and new States, out of the broken wilds of nature, these settlers constructed houses and laying their hands to the plow to break the native soil that had lain undisturbed for ages.

Few remarkable events occurred the first season. The native red man occasionally appeared in their midst, but his calls were not attended with the danger, torture and death with which he visited many settlements in the early history of many of the other western States. We have no thrilling adventures of daring and danger to relate; no perils or "hair breadth escapes" from wild beasts or wilder men. The unbridled elements were the only danger. Fire sweeping the broad expanse of untamed prairie apparently illuminated the whole heavens, and the deep toned thunder and the terrific lightning so common in new lands, disturbed the slumbers of the hardy adventurers. One of these storms is worthy of notice; it occurred on the 6th of July, 1854. The day, even for that season of the year was intensely hot, with occasional showers; towards evening a dark cloud obscured the sun which at nightfall had so expanded itself, that the whole horizon became a darkness portending a terrific storm. The atmosphere was close, sultry and still; not a leaf or blade of grass trembled. The silence was unbroken save as the distant thunder rose peal on peal, while the rapidly moving clouds marshalled themselves for pouring out upon the parched earth a perfect flood of water, darkness disappeared before incessant glare of lightning, and rain fell in torrents. The incessant roar of thunder, the uninterrupted play of lightning and apparently unbroken sheet of water falling from the clouds, conspired to make this storm

perfectly grand and sublime, and it so awed the pioneers that it remains distinctly stamped upon their memory. After the violence of the storm had passed by, they repaired to their couches in the cabin, one only having been built at that time, standing on the banks of what is now known as Robinson creek, near its junction with Root River. The house not being large enough to accommodate all, one lady with several children sought shelter in a covered wagon box near the house; but the stream overflowing its banks, came rushing along with headlong haste, its violence arousing the sleepers, made it necessary for them to beat a hasty retreat. On awakening they found their cabin rapidly filling with water, and means of egress by door and window were quickly sought. Some lost nearly all of their clothing, and many other articles of convenience were swept away.

The lady in the wagon box in rescuing her children lost a stocking containing gold to the amount of \$1000, discovering the loss of her money she began to search for it, leaving two sleeping youngsters in the box. The swelling waters were sweeping them along when the strong arm of a stalwart Californian grasped the wagon box and made it fast to a tree. Morning came, the gold was found, the water subsided and all were safe.

In the month of February, 1855, Capt. Wm. Russel, of Oswego, N. Y., in visiting some of his relatives who were among the early pioneers of this town, was so much pleased with its rich soil, natural facilities, &c., that he determined to locate here and construct a flour and saw mill on this branch of Root River. He immediately set about the work and the number of workmen that he employed was a material addition to the community. In the course of the season he dammed the river, erected a large and commodious building for the joint purpose of a saw and flour mill. Early in the winter of 1855-6, the saw in this mill, the first running in all this region of country, was cutting out the much needed building material, and the next season, 1856, the flour department was completed.

In the spring of 1855, Mr. John Robinson determined to lay the foundation of a town and selecting the part of his land best adapted to that purpose, laid out a plat with blocks, lots and streets. By this time

the visits of seekers for a location to prosecute various kinds of business became quite frequent, merchants, mechanics, landlords, professional characters, &c.

In the autumn of 1855, B. S. Reppy, Esq., of LaCrosse, opened the first store in this town in a building erected for that purpose by Mr. Robinson, and almost cotemporary with him, Messrs. Coe & Huddleston opened a stock of general merchandise.

In the same year that the original plat was laid out, Capt. Russell extended it by Russell's addition to High Forest. In the summer of 1856, W. K. Tattersall of the city of N. Y., built a commodious three story hotel which has ever since and yet continues to furnish abundance of good cheer for the traveling public.

The first divine service held and sermon preached in the town, was in June, 1855, at the house of Mr. Robinson. The minister was transient and his name unknown. In the summer of 1856, Rev. Mr. Humason of the M. E. church, preached in the mill, and afterwards on warm sunny sabbaths, in "God's own temple, the grove," but there was no church organization earlier than 1859. On the 13th of June, of that year, Rev. D. Cobb organized the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the society erected a neat and commodious house of worship the following year.

In February of the year 1859, the Baptists organized a Society, and two years after, 1861, built a substantial and capacious house of worship, from the belfry of which was heard the first tones of the church going bell in this entire region of country.

In June, 1860, the Congregationalists organized themselves into a Society.

In March, 1865, the Old School Presbyterian Church was organized at Stewartville, in this township, under the pastorate care of Rev. Geo. Ainslie. Each and all of these societies have regular service and are in a healthy and prosperous condition.

The first school in this town was taught by J. C. Howard, in the winter of 1857-8, in the village of High Forest. There are at present eight schoolhouses, in which schools are taught eight months in the year.

Mr. E. Y. Earle and Miss Reese, were the first parties married. The

conjugal knot was tied by T. H. Armstrong, then Justice of the Peace in Mower county, 1855.

The first death—Mary E. Robinson, June 1st, 1855, aged one year and eight months, daughter of Mr. John and Mrs. Sarah C. Robinson.

The first birth, Anna S. Lyon, February 1st, 1855, daughter of Orson and Sarah A. Lyon.

The first political action was in Territorial times, before townships were organized. In the spring of 1856, the part of the town then in the county of Mower, was set off into a precinct, and the following officers appointed by the County Commissioners :

G. T. Covell, Supervisor ; John Robinson, Assessor ; T. H. Armstrong, Justice of the Peace ; Orson Lyon, Constable.

In the autumn of 1857, the Republican County Convention nominated W. K. Tattersal, for a seat in the lower house of the State Legislature, which nomination was ratified at the polls, and he was returned to a seat in the same House in 1860. In 1858, G. T. Covell was elected a member of the lower House. In 1863, T. H. Armstrong was elected a member of the lower House, returned and chosen speaker in 1864, elected Lieut. Governor in 1865, which office he now holds. At the first town meeting after the admission of the State into the Union, the following ticket was elected to run the machine of government under the township organization act :

Supervisors—D. B. Coe, Char'n, C. Stewart, A. Horton.

Town Clerk—J. W. Whitney.

Assessor—J. Pierce.

Justice of the Peace—Julius Smith, David Brainard.

Collector—J. L. Rockwell.

Constables—M. D. Chamberlain, John DeNure.

In 1862, Wm. Carson was elected County Commissioner, which office he now holds.

In the spring of 1857, Charles Stewart, from western N. Y., built a flouring mill and laid out the village of Stewartville, within the limits of the town. This water power is one of the best in the county, and the improvement of it substantial. One of the three Post offices in the town is located at Stewartville.

With the natural advantages of prairie land of the first quality, a more than average amount of timber, an abundant supply of water, and with the number of churches, Post offices and schools, there is perhaps no other rural town in this region of country that offers more inducements to people seeking homes than High Forest.

The business of High Forest at the Present time, is represented as follows :

Merchants—A. Grant, W. Buck, A. Gaskill, A. Rockwell. Tattersall House—W. K. Tattersall, Proprietor. Physicians—A. Grant, O. Chase. Blacksmiths—J. L. Rockwell, J. Smith, O. Carlet. Carpenters—W. W. Tichenor, K. Z. Russell. Wheelright—Reese & Lyon. Boot and Shoe Makers—N. E. Gaskill, Geo. Rueh. High Forest Mills—C. Stewart, Proprietor. Postmaster—J. L. Gaskill. Lawyer—T. H. Armstrong.

KALMAR

Is one of the western towns of the county, and does not comprise quite a full township, sections one, two and three, having been attached to New Haven, making the boundaries of Kalmar as follows :

North by New Haven, east by New Haven and Cascade, south by Salem, and west by Mantorville in Dodge county. About one fourth of the face of the town is covered with a good quality of timber. The balance is prairie diversified with occasional patches of oak openings. The land is quite rolling, but not hilly, as there are but very few acres in the town that are not adapted to culture by the plough. The soil is a strong loam, with a clay subsoil. The loam is deep and rich, yielding the enterprising husbandman a bountiful return for his labor.

The town was settled in 1855, by Messrs. Chilson, Merritt, Gilbert, Burgess, Randall and Cauldwell, who built the first house and turned the first sod in the town. In 1855, Messrs. Blair & Staats built a saw mill, and in 1857, an addition, which was fitted up for flouring purposes. Mr. W. W. Doty, also built a saw Mill in the summer of 1857, and in 1858, Mr. Middleton erected a saw mill to be driven by steam, about three fourths of a mile above Doty's mill. All these mills have been doing a good business each season since they were built, making quite a trade in lumber, to the great advantage of the town.

The first school was taught in a small house near Blair's mill, by Miss Jennie Dumars, now Mrs. C. C. Jones of this city, in the summer of 1856.

The first religious meeting was held in the summer of 1855, by Rev. D. L. King, who continued to labor with the people occasionally till the fall of 1860, when a class was organized by J. H. Richardson, with the following members: Madison Rice and wife, Leroy Cleveland and wife, Melancthon Holt and wife, Wm. Rice and wife, and Wm. C. Rice. The church has continued to prosper and increase in numbers since its first organization.

The first marriage was celebrated between James Caulfield, Esq., and a Miss Bonny. The ceremony was performed by James Bucklin, Esq., of Rochester, who having lost his way in going over the prairie to the place of the nuptials, was very late. So much behind time was the Justice, that the impatient bride and groom concluded that he would not come, and not wishing a postponement, sent for Elder King to tie the knot. But soon after the messenger was dispatched, the Justice "hove in sight," and being somewhat tired and anxious to have the job through with, he proceeded to pronounce them husband and wife, before the Reverened gentleman's arrival.

The first birth was in the family of Lorenzo Gilbert. The first deaths were Mrs. James Caulfield and child. We have not the exact date of these occurrences, but believe they were in the summer of 1856.

Kalmar has a fair record among the military heroes, seventy-six of whom volunteered to serve their country in her hour of need, and those who stayed at home evinced an appreciation of their acts, by raising a bounty of \$11,050, to distribute among the boys in blue who did the fighting.

The town has six comfortable school houses, five of them framed buildings, and one of log, in each of which schools are taught the greater portion of the year.

The following persons have served as Chairman of Supervisors, and Town Clerk: D. L. King, 4 years; H. C. Sheldon; Mr. Payne; D. Sinclair; B. F. Perry, 2 years; S. J. McDowell, 6 years; W. W. Doty; R. J. Perry, 2 years.

In the summer of 1857, D. L. King was elected to the Constitutional Convention, and in 1858, to the House of Representatives. In 1865, B. F. Perry was elected to the House of Representatives.

MARION.

Directly east of Rochester, with Haverhill on the north, Eyota on the east and Pleasant Grove on the south, lies the town of Marion, which dates its first settlement in April, 1854, at which time, Messrs. Alfred Kinney, Levi Phelps, Nathan Phelps, Eleazer Phelps, Geo. Mills, and a few others with their families, made their camp near the present village of Marion, and staked out their claims to real estate. They commenced improvements immediately, and very soon their cabins were dotting the prairie and human habitations were there to greet the eye of the explorer of the western wilds and Indian hunting grounds.

Being a pious and God-fearing people, the day after their arrival being Sunday, they held a kind of family worship, and all gathered around their camp fires seated upon ox-yokes, boxes, &c., they formed a family circle, as children of one great father, and unitedly joined in praise and thanksgiving to a Divine Providence, for thus casting their lot in pleasant places, and bestowing upon them this goodly heritage. The meeting was addressed by Rev. Mr. Predmore, which is believed to be the first sermon ever preached to a civilized people in Olmsted county. Thus in God's natural temple, not made with hands, surrounded by only the works of the great Original, and the evidences of his goodness and mercy, was instituted the first public worship in Olmsted county.

As time passed on the country became settled rapidly, and the buildings multiplied till a neat and bustling, active village was in the height of its prosperity, and in 1856, Marion was the rival of Rochester for the County Seat, and boasting of two hotels, three stores, and other business in proportion; but the water power fortunately possessed by Rochester, turned the scale in its favor, from which time Marion has been declining as a village, though its agricultural interests are constantly improving.

In the fall of 1854, Mr. Alfred Kinney opened a store about one mile east of where the village now stands, which he kept in operation for about one year, when he removed his stock, and in company with James

DeGraff, opened a store in the village. Business prospered and the next year two more stores were opened.

A school was established in 1856, and the people have ever manifested a lively and active interest in the cause of education.

The first visit of the dreaded messenger of death was made to the family of Mr. David Baumgartner, in the spring of 1856, and they were called upon to spare one of their little ones to go on before them to the thither shore of the dark river, to await their coming, when their work here shall have been finished. The same year the marriage rites were first celebrated by the union of Mr. Jacob Bonham and Miss Letitia Phelps.

There is no timber of consequence in any part of the town of Marion neither any available water power. In Pleasant Grove which lies directly south, there is plenty of timber along the banks of Root River, to supply both fuel and fencing for the several towns adjoining it. The soil in general is of a sandy loam, though in some places it is quite sandy, only slightly mixed with loam. Diagonally through the center of the town there is a strip of sandy soil varying in width from a half mile to a mile, which comprises most of the sand to be found in the county.

The village of Marion is still quite a trading point, and supports one good Dry Goods and Grocery Store, kept by Messrs. Fawcett & Root; one hotel, two blacksmith shops and one wagon shop. Dr. J. C. Cole, is resident physician, having established himself there at an early day, and practised his profession till the present time. There is also a very good church edifice in the village, which is filled each sabbath day with attentive worshippers.

Marion has been twice represented in the State legislature, by Hon. J. P. Moulton, who distinguished himself for his earnest and practical zeal for the good of the county and State.

Great interest is always manifested by the citizens in all enterprizes for the public good, and in schools and churches, they are not behind any in the county.

The following named persons have served in their respective capacities since the organization of the town in 1858 :

CHAR'N SUPERVISORS.

1858 John Case,
 1859 John R. Brown,
 1860 C. H. Short,
 1861 S. A. Howard,
 1862 T. E. Cooper,
 1863 " "
 1864 E. West,
 1865 " "
 1866 " "

TOWN CLERKS.

E. T. Fry,
 Richard Edwards,
 J. C. Cole,
 J. Rorman,
 A. W. Curtis,
 C. W. Cressup,
 " "
 " "
 S. P. Chandler.

In the summer of 1856, the first Post Office was established, and L. G. Dudley appointed Post master. Mr. Dudley was also appointed Justice of the Peace, and held that office for several years.

NEW HAVEN.

In August of the year 1854, Samuel Brink, S. P. Amsden, Wm. Kilroy, J. N. Palmer, and C. Colgrove, came into the town and made their claims, and commenced preparations for building themselves homes and cultivating farms. Brink, Amsden and Palmer, settled near the center of the town, while Messrs. Kilroy and Colgrove chose as their location, places on the branch of the Zumbro, near the pleasant little village of Genoa. Mr. Kilroy commenced immediately to turn over the thick prairie sod preparatory to putting in a crop, and Mr. Brink at his place set himself to work to convert the excellent waterpower which the Zumbro here affords, to some practical use, by the erection of a saw mill, and thus produce the lumber which the pioneer settlers stood in such need of to build their houses and barns. In the year 1855, Mr. Brink brought on some \$15,000 worth of Dry Goods and groceries, and opened a store, thus supplying another material want of the settlers, and at the same time adding to his own prosperity, and the growth and prosperity of the town. This same year a man by the name of Burch opened a grocery store, and vended "wet and dry groceries" to customers far and near, frequently selling his customers, that which maketh a man glad, sad and mad, at the same time.

Another saw mill was put in operation this same season, by Messrs. Baker and Mattison, on the same stream, on which Mr. Brink's was

located, and about one mile above, which commenced cutting lumber immediately, making the town a bustling and active place, and giving intimation of a town of some note at a not far distant day.

In 1856, another store was opened by a Mr. Nye, and in 1858, Daniel Heany of Rochester, opened still another store, and became one of the leading merchants of the county. Mr. Heany continued the mercantile business until 1860, when business was transferred to other towns, and that of the village of New Haven passed away and was reckoned among the things that were and are not.

In 1856, Messrs. Mapes, Baker, and Frycke, built a saw mill at Genoa, and in 1857, Charles Chapin and Son, erected still another saw mill on the same stream and just below that of Messrs. Mapes, Baker & Frycke. In the summer of 1863, Mr. John Kilroy and L. W. Kilbourn, built a fine steam saw mill at Genoa, which did a good business till it was burned down in the spring of 1864. The mill was rebuilt the same season, which makes three mills in operation in this village. At this point mercantile pursuits were not commenced at so early a day as in the centre of the town, but business is still prosperous to compensate the citizens for waiting for the "good time coming." Mr. Ira Richards opened the first store in 1863. In 1864, Mr. J. L. Bassett started a grocery store, and in 1865, Hiram Miller opened another store with a general stock. All of which are in successful operation at the present time.

This town is situated in the northwest part of the county, and bounded on the north by Pine Island, in Goodhue county, on the east by Oronoco, on the south by Kalmar and west by Roscoe in Dodge county. It is somewhat irregular in shape, as it comprises the whole of township 108, and sections, one, two and three, of township 107.

About two-thirds of the town is covered with a heavy growth of timber, composed principally of bass and oak, but somewhat interspersed with hickory, maple and black walnut. A large share of the oak and bass lumber that is used in the county, is manufactured at mills in New Haven. Two branches of the Zumbro run the entire length of the town, uniting near the boundary line on the east, and forming one stream which flows through Oronoco, driving the machinery at that thriving

village. In the north part of the town, the soil is of a dark loam with clay subsoil, and in the southern portion a deep black muck. Nearly one half of the prairie and opening is under cultivation. The present population of the town is about 800.

The first birth in this town was that of Bertha, daughter of Wm. Kilroy, on the 13th of March, 1855. The first marriage was celebrated in the spring of 1855, between John Holmes and Miss Diann Phelps. Mr. N. Madison, died in the same spring, which was the first death that occurred in the town.

The first religious service was held in a grove now known as Center Grove, in the south part of the town, in 1855, when a sermon was preached by Rev. S. A. Wing, now of Marion. Miss Ann Losinger inaugurated the first school enterprise in a little log school house near Center Grove, where she held undisputed sway over the young urchins for the space of two months, when the house itself was removed and her field of operations transferred to the loft or chamber of John Lowry's house, the approach to which was made easy by means of a good substantial ladder. The room had neither doors or windows, but holes were left in each end of the building which let in as much light as though the door was there. Here for a number of weeks the school went on, the teachers and pupils literally climbing the ladder of science, and pursuing knowledge under difficulties. In the following autumn, the citizens built a fine large framed school house, which they still claim as the largest and best furnished of any in the county.

In the spring of 1858, the town was organized under State law, and the following Town officers elected;

SUPERVISORS.		CLERKS.	
1858	John Lowry, Daniel Sally, Thos. McManus,	1858	John Cornwell,
1859	John Kilroy,	1859	" "
1860	J. M. Cornwell,		" "
1861	Daniel Sally,		" "
1862	" "		" "
1863	Russell Williams,		" "
1864	Daniel Sally,		" "
1865	J. M. Cornwell,		" "

The town has now seven school houses, four mills, three stores and one Post office. Several whiskey shops have been started, but by the efforts of the Good Templars, they have been effectually crushed out, and at the present time there is no place for the sale of intoxicating drinks, and the town is run upon strictly temperance principles.

ORONOCO.

The town of Oronoco, situated in the northwestern corner of the county, is one of the finest and best developed, as well as one of the first settled.

As early as the 13th of March, 1854, the soil was broken up and preparations made for carrying on the agricultural pursuits, which then were just being introduced into this wilderness country on the western shore of the Mississippi. The site of the present village is one of the most romantic of the many romantic sites in the State. The Zumbro river runs through the place and just as it enters the village, leaps down a little precipice making a noisy cataract, and creates a water power that cannot be excelled in the country. The village is most of it on the west side of the river on a little table land, which farther back is surrounded by hills of more lofty pretensions, so that though the village is on quite high ground it is yet nestled among the hills. It contains probably some four hundred inhabitants all of whom are sober and industrious people. A mile below the village by following the river you find another water power, and still lower down yet another, capable of turning any amount of machinery when once it is brought into use, neither of these latter powers are improved.

In the summer of 1856, parties commenced the search for gold along the banks of the Zumbro, and in many instances the rock and earth was found to be highly metalliferous, and so thoroughly impregnated with gold, that the interest grew to be an excitement, and the fortune seekers flocked into town in great numbers. The principal "diggings" was a few miles below the town, but there were found sufficient indications of the auriferous metal, near the village to bring real estate to wonderful high prices. The financial crisis of 1857, and the spring freshets of the same year, combined, swept away the sluices and the

brilliant anticipations of the miners, into the far-away to-morrows, and neither have ever yet been recovered.

We can perhaps give as correct idea of the settlement, growth and present prosperity of the town by publishing entire, a letter from Hon. L. B. Hodges, in answer to our request, to furnish us with some items of information. Mr. H. writes as follows :

From Curtis' at Pleasant Grove, to Cannon Falls, and from Springer's and Davidson's settlement (now St. Charles,) thence to Faribault, was an unbroken solitary wilderness, up to March 13th, 1854, at which time Leonard B. Hodges, J. B. Clark and Ebenezer S. Collins of Iowa, made the first settlement in the heart of this wilderness, twenty-five miles from anybody, on section 17, town 108, range 14 west of the 5th prin. m., on what is now the site of the village of Oronoco.

After staking and making their claims and putting up their log cabin, Hodges and Clark returned to Iowa for supplies, leaving Collins to hold the claim. They returned the last of April with five yoke of oxen and a "prairie schooner," loaded to the guards with provisions, farming implements, and a small black-smithing institution, for the nearest black smith was at Red Wing, thirty-five miles north ; too far to go with a plough every few days. The season of 1854, was occupied in breaking forty acres of prairie, planting it to corn and potatoes, building, staking out roads and keeping "Old Bach." They had a good time of it, raised a good crop, and before winter set in, "Oronoco" was an established institution.

The first white woman who visited Oronoco, was a Miss Stevens, who made us a visit in the summer of 1854. Just before this era in the progress of civilization, Clark, becoming tired of the monotony of our Sioux neighbors, (some two or three hundred of whom had been encamped with us for several weeks,) made an offer of a town lot to any white woman who would come and see us. Miss S. responded by making us the proposed visit, accompanied by her brother, and in due time received the deed of her lot. The first white family who settled after us, was that of Mr. E. C. Stevens from Red Wing, who moved to this place about the 1st of August, 1854, and where he still resides. The next family was that of S. P. Hicks of Iowa, who with his accom-

plished wife, soon converted our bachelor establishment into a first class hotel, and maintained its reputation as such while they presided over it. In the spring of 1855, Mr. Hicks built the Zumbro House, which fully maintained the reputation of the old hotel.

The first store in Oronoco was opened in the fall by John B. Clark and J. A. Moore. The next by Samuel Withrow and H. D. Evans, in 1855, in which year the first mill-dam was built by Ezra Odell and Jas. Holliston, who also built a saw mill and had it running by the 8th of November of that year. The grist mill was built by T. A. Olmsted, D. J. Bascomb and H. D. Evans in 1856. The same year Messrs. Alcott & Wilcox built a Sash, Blind and Door Factory, and started a Shingle Mill and Planing Machine.

In the spring of 1855, the first meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held in Oronoco, Col. Jas. George, Brigham Barrows and James Rutan, Commissioners. At this first meeting of the Board our School District was organized. The first school was taught by Miss Sarah Pierce. The first sermon I remember to have heard preached in Oronoco, was at a Methodist Quarterly meeting by Elder Hobart of Red Wing, and was held in the store house of Evans & Withrow on the south side of the river, at which time a collection was taken up and on counting the money, the Elder remarked that it was the biggest pile he ever saw raised from so small a crowd.

The "Oronoco *Courier*" newspaper, was established in the fall of 1856, by a Joint Stock Company, consisting of Leonard B. Hodges, John B. Clark, Ebenezer S. Collins, Reuben Ottman, and E. Allen Power. The press and stock of the concern was purchased in Dubuque, Iowa, of J. B. Dorr & Co. John R. Flynn of Dubuque was foreman of the office. Dr. Hector Galloway was appointed by the stock holders Editor in Chief and E. Allen Power, Local Editor. This was the first newspaper established in Olmsted county, and during its brief existence ranked with the ablest public journals of the State, and established the reputation of Dr. Galloway as the most accomplished writer in Southern Minnesota. Ned Powers presided over his department, with all the rollicking fun of a genuine Irishman. That *they* were successful may be inferred from the fact that "Doc." was soon elected to the State

Senate, and Ned, the incorrigible, irrepressible Ned, to the House of Representatives. The panic of 1857, admonished the Stockholders of the necessity of retrenchment and reform. Justice to themselves, compelled them to abandon the somewhat expensive luxury of running a newspaper.

The school house of Oronoco was built in 1856, by the Oronoco Literary Association for their own use, and at the time was the best building of the kind in the county. The Association generously donated the use of the building to the public as a school house and a place to hold meetings. When the District became able, they purchased the building of the Association, and now this is to be superseded by the erection of a magnificent school house, which will be a credit not only to the District, but to the State.

The first white child born in Oronoco, was a Norwegian, name unknown, born in January 1855, and died in infancy. The first marriage was that of James Holliston and Mary Stevenson, in September, 1855.

The volunteers who have died in the service of their country, are Ebenezer S. Collins, one of the original proprietors of the town; Amos Keeler, who was shot at the battle of Fredericksburgh and died from the effects of the wound soon after; Roswell Stanton, died; Lieut Alexander Cregg, died in Hospital at Galatin, Tenn.; Orlan Bascomb, died in Hospital, in Tenn.; H. J. Kirkham died in Miss.; Daniel Fetterson, died in hospital in Louisville, Ky.; Geo. Atkinson, died at Andersonville, Ga.; John Campbell, died in Arkansas.

Mr. Collins was one of the earliest of our heroic countrymen who fell in defence of the Union. Soon after the commencement of hostilities, he proceeded to St. Louis and enlisted in a Cavalry Regiment. Becoming tired and disgusted with the idleness and inactivity of camp life in a large city, and panting for an opportunity to engage in actual conflict with the enemy, he was successful in obtaining his transfer from his regiment to the gun boat Essex, then ordered to engage in the reduction of Ft. Denelson. In that memorable conflict he was mortally wounded and died in six hours afterwards.

As to the amount of business transacted in this town, the total aggregate will not vary much from \$100,000 annually. The grist mill

owned by A. D. Allis, Esq., is continually crowded to its utmost capacity. The wagon shop of A. K. Stone, is doing a large business in manufacturing new work. Dean's wagon shop has all it can do. Hill's Black Smith shop cannot begin to do the work that naturally comes here.

Bascomb & Withrow, long and very favorably known to the business men and others of this region, are selling piles of goods. Lindsay Bros., although lately established here, are doing a heavy general merchandise business. Their stove, tin and sheet iron establishment, also, merits special notice, and supplies a long felt necessity.

C. H. Hudson is also doing a snug business in the grocery line. G. A. Hewitt & Son, still run the old Zumbro House, under the new cognomen of Hewitt's Exchange. The shoe and boot business is represented by Christian Millhouse, who cast his lot among us at an early day, and whose reputation as a crack workman is well known. G. A. Tibbitts, also, carries on the business, and besides being a good workman, is noted as the only shoe maker in existence who always has his work done when called for.

While most of the ordinary branches of business have succeeded and prospered, and have become established on a permanent basis, the "Doggerly" has never succeeded in this town—half a dozen different attempts have been made since the first settlement in 1854, but all have proved unsuccessful. Our way of treating them is to let them alone "severely," and they are sure to die out in a few months.

The following persons have served the town since its organization :

SUPERVISORS.		TOWN CLERKS.	
1858	L. B. Lodges,	J. McMaster,	
1859	Wm. M. Pierce,	A. G. Lawyer,	
1860	J. A. Frank,	" "	
1861	Wm. M. Pierce,	E. Odell,	
1862	E. C. Stevens,	Eli D. Hewitt,	
1863	" "	" "	
1864	J. McMaster,	Chas. H. Whitney,	
1865	Wm. M. Pierce,	S. Barnes,	
1866	Wm. Lindsay.	Chas. H. Whitney,	

ORION.

Orion is one of the southern tier of towns in Olmsted county, and perhaps possessing as many of the elements of wealth and prosperity as any. About two thirds of the town is prairie and oak openings, the other third is covered with magnificent forest trees, affording an abundance of timber for that and surrounding towns. The boundaries of Orion are : on the north, Eyota; east, Elmira; south, Spring Valley; and west, Pleasant Grove.

The first settlement was made in 1854, at which time a Mr. Schermerhorn, Joel Ballard, David Hazelton, and James Edwards, located in the eastern part of the township and made preparations for building homes. In the fall of the same year, Stephen Case, C. L. Case, and several others, came on and selected farms, and in the spring following the colony grew to quite a settlement.

The first marriage that took place in Orion, was that of Mr. O. H. Chapman and Miss Louisa Schermerhorn, in the fall of 1854. The first death was that of Mr. Schermerhorn, in the summer of 1855.

The first school was in the winter of 1856, and taught by a Mr. Beardsley.

The first religious service was at the house of Stephen Case, in the fall of 1855; Sermon by Rev. Geo. Stevenson. The Methodists organized a society in the autumn of 1855, which has continued to flourish ever since.

In the summer of 1855, Mr. Cummings built a saw mill on a branch of Root River, at a point where the river runs through a heavy belt of timber. He also planned a town, which he gave the name of Cummingsville. The same year Thos. Harris erected a steam saw mill and put it in operation that season. Neither of the mills were very profitable investments, and were operated only a short time. The Root River and Mill Creek, both run through the length of the town and afford an excellent supply of water and a good water power. Orion affords a better supply of timber than any other town in the county.

The organization was made in 1858. The following gentlemen have served as Supervisors and Town Clerks :

CHAR'N SUPERVISORS.
 1858 L. B. Bliss,
 1859 Richard Russell,
 1860 Thos. Harris,
 1861 Stephen Case,
 1862 F. B. Burke,
 1863 J. C. Robinson,
 1864 Stephen Case,
 1865 J. C. Robinson,
 1866 — Burnap.

TOWN CLERKS.
 S. J. Russell,
 John Hancock,
 " "
 " "
 " "
 " "
 " "
 " "

In the fall of 1861, Thos. Harris was chosen to the State Legislature, and in 1859, L. B. Bliss was elected to the responsible position of Register of Deeds of Olmsted county, which position he has held ever since. Mr. Bliss has also held the position of Mayor of the city of Rochester, to which place he removed on his election to the office of Register of Deeds.

PLEASANT GROVE

Is situated in the southern tier of towns, and is bounded on the north by Marion, east by Orion, south by Spring Valley in Fillmore county, and west by High Forest. It derives its name from a beautiful grove of oaks, where the little village is located, and to any one who has an eye for the beautiful, it seems very appropriate. The town was organized in 1858, on the 11th day of May, by the election of the following officers:

Supervisors—J. H. Hartenbower, Char'n., E. H. Stuckman, and F. L. Stevens; W. H. Mills, was elected Town Clerk; H. G. McCaleb, Assessor; Samuel Barrows and I. W. Norton, Justices of the Peace; Wm. Kennedy, Collector; Wm. Kennedy and J. S. Stevens, Constables; John Collins, Overseer of the Poor.

The following named gentlemen have been elected to the office of Chairman of Supervisors, and Town Clerk, respectively since then:

SUPERVISORS.
 1859 Elkanah Day,
 1860 G. T. Sanborn,
 1861 W. H. Mills,
 1862 R. S. Russell,
 1863 " "
 1864 " "
 1865 " "
 1866 " "

CLERKS.
 W. H. Mills,
 P. B. Austin,
 " "
 D. W. Prentice,
 R. D. Hathaway
 " "
 " "
 " "

In the fall of 1855, R. D. Hathaway was elected to the Legislature of the State.

The town was first settled in October, 1853, by Philo S. Curtis, who with his family, settled in the place where now stands the village of Pleasant Grove. Others soon followed and the place soon presented the appearance of a hamlet. Mr. Curtis was appointed Post master when the office was first established. In 1861, Mr. Mills resigned the office of Chairman of Supervisors, and entered the army, and R. D. Hathaway was appointed in his place. Also, commissioned the first Justice of the Peace for this town.

In 1855, Mr. Curtis opened the first hotel in town, which was abundantly patronized by people traveling over the Dubuque and St. Paul Territorial road. Several persons came into the place and located at nearly the same time as Mr. Curtis, among whom were M. Brittendoll, John Lambert, John and William Burch, Jacob Prentice, J. D. Bunce, David and Robert Overend, W. H. Mills, E. D. Barrows, Samuel Barrows, and Frederick Sibeck.

In July, 1854, M. O. Walker commenced running a line of Stages from Dubuque to St. Paul, though this town which gave it quite a business appearance. This gave the people somewhat exalted opinions of the place and its ultimate importance, and in the fall of that year Dudley Taylor, and Samuel Barrows, laid out and platted the village of Pleasant Grove. In the winter of that year, F. A. Olds, brought in a large stock of goods and opened a store in a log building erected by E. B. Barrows. In May following, Judge Olds sold his entire stock to Messrs. Rumsey & Clough, who did a flourishing business until 1862.

The first birth was that of "Minnesota Collins," a daughter of John Collins. The first death was that of an old man by the name of Holmes.

The first marriage ceremony was performed by P. S. Curtis, Esq. The parties were Mr. Marvin Harwood and a daughter of Benjamin Winans.

The first school was taught by Miss Susan Rucker in a little log school house near the residence of John Collins.

The first church service was in the residence of Y. P. Burgan, by a Methodist Minister named Kress.

The Christian church was organized in July, 1855, with thirteen members, at which time Peter Radabaugh was elected Elder. The church is in a flourishing condition, and at the present time numbers ninety-nine members. The society propose erecting a place of worship the coming season. The Methodist society are already making preparations to erect a church edifice. The Second Adventists, or Seventh day Baptist, worship in a school house known as the Lull School House. The Catholics are perhaps most extensive of any church organization in town, and have a small but neat stone church edifice in the north west part of the town.

The people of Pleasant Grove, adopted the independent school system as early as 1855, and have continued it till the present time. They support eight good schools, which are controlled by a Board of six Directors.

The north branch of Root River runs diagonally across the town, and is skirted with excellent timber, consisting of oak, maple, butternut, black walnut, bass and hickory, with scattering pines and red cedar. About one sixth of the town is covered with timber, the balance prairie. Root River affords several excellent water powers, two of which are improved and now employed in driving the machinery of Saw mills.

The soil is of a deep, rich, dark loam, covered with black hazel brush, and is from twenty to thirty inches deep, underlaid by mellow clay loam, and lime stone, yielding the largest kind of crops. The wheat crop for the past five years has averaged some twenty-eight bushels per acre; oats, about seventy; corn, about sixty.

The village of Pleasant Grove is situated near the centre of the town, in the midst of beautiful scenery; has a population of some two or three hundred; contains a good hotel, kept by Jesse Bagley; one store of general merchandise, by Capt. W. H. Mills, who is also Post master; three blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, one cabinet shop, one shoe shop, and not a saloon; several doggeries have been started, but public opinion has frowned them down, and whisky guzzlers have to go to other places for their potations.

Dr. I. C. Bardwell is the resident physician, and has been for several years.

A Masonic Lodge was established in 1856, which held its first meeting on the 16th of December, of that year. Samuel Barrows, W. M. The Lodge is still in a flourishing condition.

QUINCY.

In the northeast corner of the county of Olmsted, bounded by Plainview in Wabashaw county, on the north, and by Winona county on the east, with Dover on the south, and Viola on the west, we find the town of Quincy. Nothing remarkable marks the surface of the town, above those immediately surrounding it. The soil is peculiarly productive, but not more so than others. Quincy was still an unbroken wilderness till in the summer of 1855. M. H. Wetmore, T. T. and A. J. Olds, and others came to this point in their search for a location. Finding their anticipations realized in this spot they immediately "stuck their stakes," marked out their claims, and commenced the erection of cabins to protect themselves from the inclemency of the weather, for no matter how much of beauty may dwell in the landscape, or how much fertility in the soil, the storms of both summer and winter, are unpleasant to contend with, without some kind of a protection. Mr. Wetmore had lived under the protecting shelter of his wagon cover until the night before Christmas, when he moved into his shanty, as being better adapted to winter accommodations.

There are several good water-powers on one branch of the White-water river, within the boundaries of this town, two of them improved, a saw mill and a grist mill, which afford great convenience to the people of the vicinity. The town is mostly prairie, though there is some excellent timber.

Rev. J. Clipper preached the first sermon, in August of 1857, in the house of Mr. N. W. Murphy. Soon after this, Rev. Fred. Loy, commenced regular service which was continued for several years.

There are five good framed school houses, in all of which schools are taught some eight months in the year, with an average of teachers wages of \$25 in summer, to \$45 in winter. The educational interest of Quincy, are well looked after.

In 1864, Wm. Teachout, of this town, was chosen to represent Olm-

sted county, in the State Legislature, which we believe is the only State officer ever chosen from Quincy. At the time the town was organized in 1858, T. T. Olds was chosen Char'n of Supervisors, and Jotham Holland, Town Clerk.

ROCK DELL.

In the southwestern part of the county, so that it is bounded on the south by Mower county, and west by Dodge county, lies the town of Rock Dell. Salem in this county lies on the north, and High Forest on the east. Like most of the other towns in Southern Minnesota, it is destitute of any high hills or deep vales, consequently there can be no graphic descriptions of beautiful scenery, and as the settlers planted their little colony in peace, and have experienced uninterrupted prosperity since that time, no thrilling adventures can be related of pioneer life.

In 1855, a party of Norwegians located in the north-western part of the town, and commenced cultivating farms. They were followed in 1856, in July, by Rev. L. H. Humason, who chose a location near the central part of the township. John S. Humason arrived soon after with his family, and houses were erected and the settlement established.

This township is mostly made up of prairie, there being no timber of any account except in the north part. The soil is very similar to that of the towns surrounding, of a dark, rich loam, such as makes the whole section of country so noted for its productiveness.

The first birth among the Americans of the town, was in the family of Joseph Atkinson, in the summer of 1856. No deaths occurred until 1857, when an old man by the name of Russell, left for the other side of the dark river, being the first to embark from this point, for the viewless shores of the dread river of death.

Miss Rebecca Mead, taught the first school, in 1857, in Mr. J. S. Humason's house.

The ordinance of matrimony was first celebrated in Rock Dell, in 1857, between Lyman Connor of High Forest, and Miss Sarah Gifford.

The first religious meetings were held by Rev. L. H. Humason, in his own house.

Science has not crowded into all the corners of the town with the

persistency that we see exhibited in many other places, and the people only boast of three school houses, and one of these was built by the Scandinavians, to educate children in their own language.

The surface of the town is well watered by springs and brooks. One branch of the Zumbro runs through this town, and affords an excellent water power, which is as yet unimproved.

The present improvements for the public benefit, are one hotel, one Post office, which is kept at the hotel, and one blacksmith shop.

The town of Rock Dell was organized in May, 1858, at which time J. P. Powers was elected Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and Jonas S. Cornish as Town Clerk. Since that time the following named gentlemen have held those offices respectively ;

CHAR'N SUPERVISORS.

Jonas S. Cornish.

" "

John Post,

" "

" "

" "

L. H. Humason,

" "

TOWN CLERK.

John S. Humason,

H. A. Fox,

" "

J. S. Humason,

H. A. Fox,

John Warren,

A. P. Allen,

J. C. Patten.

The last named of which now (in 1866) hold the offices.

SALEM.

Salem is situated in the west part of the county, and is bounded on the north by Kalmar, east by Rochester, south by Rock Dell, and west by Vernon in Dodge county. The first settlement was not made till 1854. On the 1st day of June, of that year, Mr. J. B. Dearborn of Meredith, N. H., J. W. Hurd and wife, and Albert B. Hurd arrived in Mantorville in search of homes in the west, and in their explorations they came upon this town, and looking over the broad expanse of prairie that lay spread out in beauty, inviting the farmer to settle and cultivate the unimproved soil, promising in return for their labors a rich reward in golden grain, they made up their minds that this was really "the land of the West" that they had so often heard and read about, but had supposed existed only in the imagination of some writers, who wished to picture a beautiful spot that had no real existence in tangible shape, So they staked out claims and made arrangements for permanent homes

and built shanties to protect their families from the inclemency of the weather. The Messrs. Hurds, built their shanties of hay, as being then, the cheapest and quickest way of procuring a domicile. They also set their teams at work and broke up the soil, and planted corn, that the staff of life might not be lacking when the winter approached. Means of transportation were then not very numerous, and it behooved the settler to keep a reasonable supply on hand in case of need, thus it became one of the first duties to plant and sow, whatever would yield the most material for making bread.

In the autumn of 1854, Mr. Dearborn returned to Illinois for his family, who accompanied him to his western home, in the spring of 1855. The Hurds stayed through the winter in their new homes and kept any eye to the claim of Mr. Dearborn as well as their own. Mrs. J. W. Hurd, the first white woman that ever settled here, was the daughter of Hon. Wm. Fessenden, of Illinois. In July of 1854, Mr. Asa Hurd, father of John and Albert, with his family, came on from his home in New Hampshire, and commenced building the first log house that the town could boast. In 1855, the rest of the Hurd's family came on from the east and settled in the neighborhood, making of the Hurd family, some eight families in the neighborhood. In the central part of the town were two Norwegian families by the name of Anderson, who came in the fall of 1854, and built shanties upon their claims.

During the winter of 1854-5, the Indians, in passing through the town, on their way from one belt of timber to another, made Mr. Hurd's house a regular stopping place. From twenty to twenty-five would sometimes come into his small house at a time and ask and even demand whatever they wanted, and Mr. Hurd with a frank generosity, never let them go away empty-handed, but satisfied all their wants. They never molested any one, but being hungry they demanded the means to satisfy the cravings of their appetites.

The winter was very mild and the spring opened unusually early, and during the spring of this year, the tide of emigration to the northwest commenced, and continued in an uninterrupted flow during the whole summer and fall, and the town of Lexington as it was then called, received her full share of those who were seeking homes. Quite

a colony came thitherward from Illinois and settled near the center of the town, among whom were Mr. Zebina Handerson, and Cyrus Holt. Mr. Handerson built the first frame house in the town, that fall. Mr. Holt built a log building and filled it with goods; this being the first store in this section of the country, thus establishing himself in business and becoming one of the leading merchants of the times and country. In the winter of 1855, a Post office was established and Mr. Holt was appointed Post master, this honor conferred upon him in addition to his mercantile business, gave him an influence in this new country, and he gave the town the name of Salem.

The first marriage in this town was celebrated at the house of Mr. Asa Hurd, on the 18th of February, 1857, at which time and place Darius Wilkins, Esq., fastened the connubial fetters upon the willing victims, Mr. Columbus G. Irish and Miss Francis Hurd.

In 1858, Minnesota having thrown off her Territorial cloak, and assumed her position as one of the States of the Union, the town of Salem held her first election in accordance with State laws, and elected town officers as follows:

Zebina Handerson, Char'n, Wm. Waite, Jr., Ole Severts, Sup.; H. G. Hurd, Collector; Darius Wilkins, Cyrus Holt, Justices of the Peace; Sam'l H. Nichols, Town Clerk; A. P. Everest, Assessor; L. McCoy, Overseer of Poor; J. B. Little, H. G. Hurd, Constables.

CHAR'N SUPERVISORS.

1859	Cyrus Cornell,
1860	D. S. Hibbard,
1861	" "
1862	Sandford Niles,
1863	J. B. Dearborn,
1864	" "
1865	S. H. Nichols.
1866	" "

TOWN CLERK.

S. H. Nichols,
N. W. Wilkins,
S. H. Nichols,
" "
" "
" "
Cyrus Holt,
" "

In the fall of 1862, Zebina Handerson was elected as Representative to the State Legislature. He also served as a member of the County Board of Commissioners, and on the Board of School Land appraisers. Wm. P. Brooks served for two terms as Country Treasurer; Samuel H. Nichols was twice elected as County Commissioner; Sandford Niles, Esq., was appointed County Superintendent of Schools for Olmsted county, in the fall of 1865, and now holds the position.

The streams that furnish water for this town, are the Zumbro river and Cascade creek, both of which run through this town and through the city of Rochester, uniting at the north of the city.

There are about three sections of timber in Salem, composed of white and black oak, bass, poplar, maple, elm, &c., which as yet furnishes a full supply for fencing and fuel.

The first birth was in the family of Darius Wilkins, to whom a daughter was born on the 8th of April, 1856, which was named Ella, she stayed with them two years and two days, leaving again on the 10th of April, 1858; thus becoming the first arrival and departure in this life from the town of Salem.

The first school established, was in November, 1857, and was kept in the house of Darius Wilkins. At Salem center the school house is but a poor one. The Norwegians have a good school house and good schools, in the south west part of the town. The Irish have a very good school house and schools, in the north-east part of the town. The citizens of the southeast part, have lately built a good log school house; while in the north part of the town they have a joint district with Kalmar and a fine framed house and good schools.

The quality of the soil is as good as the average of land in the county, where all is good enough. In the north part of the town the surface is composed of black loam, with a clay subsoil, which also predominates in the west and south, while in the centre of the town and eastern portions, the surface is more mixed with sand, making it a very quick soil, and well adapted to the raising of corn, and such grains as require a quick and rapid growth. Wheat and oats are the principal crops raised, of which the yield will compare favorably with those of other towns. J. B. Dearborn, in the north part of Salem has a fine young orchard, from which he has gathered quite a quantity of apples for the past two years.

Salem as a town is well watered, and well divided with hay marsh, and timber lands, and lying, as it does, contiguous to the Winona and St. Peter Railroad the centre of the town being only three and a half miles from the depot at Byron, it offers inducements not often found to those in search of homes and farms.

Each of the towns in Olmsted county are anxious to preserve a record of the names of their patriots, who stood so nobly up to battle for Liberty and Union, and Salem has no reason to hide her face or blush when it is recorded that seventy-two of her brave and true ones, went forth to fight their battles, while only about sixty ever returned, and some of them only to receive the greetings of their friends and say good-bye till they shall meet on the thither shore of the dark river.

VIOLA.

In 1854, Mr. Carl Bierbaum and Mr. Whitman, located in the south part of township 807, range 12, and made their claims on section 27. Several others settled in the same season.

In 1855, Abram and Lewis Harkins came on and bought the claims of Messrs. Bierbaum and Whitman, and commenced farming in good earnest. Mr. Abram Harkins brought his family to his new home in August of the same year, and the prairie soon began to present the appearance of cultivated fields, and improved farms. These pioneers had come on with stout hearts and willing hands to carve out their fortunes and build for themselves homes, and right bravely did they set themselves at the work. Cabins were built to live in, and the prairie sod was broken, and wheat sown, which in due time yielded a plentiful return. Thus encouraged the brave toilers worked on, poor in pocket but rich in health and the prospects before them, and the sure reward that should attend their labors, and after the harvest was gathered additional acres were turned over in preparation for seeding the coming spring. The town was christened Washington, in honor of the father of his country, and retained that name until its organization under State law in 1858, when it was changed to Viola.

The first birth in this town was in the family of Abram Harkins, Esq., to whom a daughter was born on the 20th of May, 1856. The first death was also in Mr. Harkins' family in August, 1855.

Rev. Mr. Roberts performed the first marriage ceremony, the parties being Jeremiah Sweeney and Miss Orpha Kitchell, step daughter of Jacob Ostrander.

The first school was taught by Mrs. Edward Doty, in her own house, in the summer of 1858. She taught the school for two terms, when

the citizens built a school house, and as Mrs. Doty could not leave her home, another teacher was employed. The first school house was built of logs, in what was called the Morrow settlement.

The first religious service was held in the house of a Mr. Cordell, in the summer of 1857, but no regular service was had until the spring of 1858. The Methodists now have an organized class, and regular service each Sabbath, in the school house known as the Fremont school house.

The town is bounded on the north by Elgin, in Wabasha county; east by Quincy, south by Eyota, and west by Haverhill. It is about equally divided into prairie and oak openings. The surface is high and rolling, with a soil unsurpassed for agricultural purposes. The openings furnish sufficient quantities of timber to supply the residents contiguous thereto with fuel, but fencing is scarce, and farmers depend mostly on using lumber from the pine forests of Wisconsin.

Various springs in this town flow through the prairies and unite near the eastern line and form a branch of the Whitewater river. There are a great many small natural meadows, affording an abundance of grass and hay for keeping stock. Though there are no large streams and no water power, the town is well watered by spring brooks which flow through every section of land, and nearly every farm. The average of wheat per acre, has been about twenty-two bushels per acre.

From Mr. Jacob Ostrander, we learn that in the first five years after the settlement, there was not a case of protracted sickness known in the town, neither was there a law suit during the same period, making honors all the recompense for Justices and Constables, and driving doctors and lawyers to other fields in search of employment. The first lawsuit was in 1860, and the parties were Wm. Woodard and a Mr. Stanton, in regard to the delivery of some lime. Both parties were beaten, as is usually the case.

There are four school houses in the town, three framed and one built of logs.

Several of those who left their homes dressed in the army blue, never returned to become citizens. Charles Watson died from sickness contracted while in the army; S. D. Calvert was killed in the battle of Chickamauga; Wm. Swan and A. V. Doty were wounded in the same battle; Lieut. Abram Harkins, lost his left arm in the same battle, and

for bravery was commissioned as Captain, but ill health succeeded the loss of his arm, and he resigned his position and returned to private life. In the fall of 1864, the people of Olmsted county wishing to care for their heroes, elected him to the office of County Auditor, which office he now holds. In the spring of 1860, Mr. Harkins was elected County Commissioner, and in the fall of the same year, to the State Legislature.

There are four school houses, one Post office, and no whiskey shops.

The following named persons have acted as Char'n Supervisors and Town Clerk, respectively :

CHAR'N SUPERVISORS.

Abram Harkins,
 " "
 A. E. Doty,
 Wm. Somerville,
 A. E. Doty,
 Caleb Sawyer,
 Peter Fenton.

TOWN CLERK.

R. F. Cunningham,
 N. I. Wetmore,
 " "
 " "
 R. F. Cunningham,
 N. I. Wetmore,
 " "

ROCHESTER.

Not until the spring of 1854, was the first settlement made in the territory of what is now the city of Rochester. At that time T. C. Cummings and Robert McReady made claims, and built their shanties near Cascade Creek. On the 12th of July following, George and Jonathan Head, with their father, made claims where the business part of the city is now situated, and on the 25th of the same month, the city was staked out, and had a fine appearance, on paper. It had already become a station for stages to stop at, as on the 15th of July, M. O. WALKER, the pioneer stage proprietor of the west, established a line of stages from Dubuque to St. Paul, over the wilderness prairies, and through the prospective city of Rochester. Winona and Elliot were at that time the nearest Post towns. The neighbors the first winter were few, the families of F. Prodger, McReady and Geo. Woolford, being the only ones within seven miles of the new city. In the following spring, there was quite an extensive emigration, and business prospects became apparent. Mr. J. D. Jenkins built a store of logs, and sold it to Hugh Mair, who soon filled it with goods for the accommodation of

the rapidly increasing population. Wet and dry groceries seemed to be the most important articles of his stock. A cask of gin, of this stock, was the first intoxicating liquor ever brought to the town.

The "boys," used to frequently partake of Mair's "best" without the preliminary of paying for it, or having it dealt out by the glass, but the old man was shrewd enough to make them pay for it all in the end. As the cask was never allowed to get empty, so long as there was plenty of water in the Zumbro, and it is currently reported that when cold weather came on, the whisky froze so hard that it had to be sold in chunks, and thawed by the fire, before it could be drank.

In the summer of 1854, Mr. Geo. Head erected a log house commodious enough as a dwelling, but quite small for a house of public entertainment, yet the tide of emigration was so great that the house was filled to the utmost capacity all the time. All the provisions at this time had to be imported from Iowa, and consequently bore a very high price. Head continued to keep the hotel till the spring of 1856, when he sold out to Mr. Asa Lesuer, who has kept it in operation ever since. though the old log house has been torn down, and a neat and commodious hotel taken its place, a little farther up Broadway than the old stand, which is now known as the "York State House."

The first birth in Rochester was in the family of James Smith, in 1855. A Mr. Brown, who was looking for a claim, camped on the north side of the Zumbro on the school section in the fall of 1854, and soon thereafter was taken sick and died, this was the first death of a white person on the prairie or in Olmsted county. Very soon after his death, his widow took another man, but was not married to him as there was no one here to perform the ceremony, yet they did the best they could, and procured witnesses to their agreement to get married as soon as there was a chance, and even had McReady perform such service as he could, to last till there should come along a minister, or some one in authority. This was the first matrimonial speculation publicly entered into in this vicinity.

The first school house was erected in the spring of 1856, in East Rochester. It was built of logs, and did duty as school house, church, and place for elections and all kinds of public meetings. Miss Mary Walker taught school therein the summer following.

The first religious service was held by a minister from St. Paul, who was travelling through the country on business, and preached in December of 1854, at McReady's house one evening and the next evening at Head's. No other religious service was had until the following March, when Rev. Robert Welch, a Baptist minister commenced regular service and continued the same until the next June, when Rev. ben Reynolds, a Congregational minister assumed the duties of pastor, and remained the only preacher of the Society till sometime in 1858. A sketch of the organization and progress of the different churches has already been given.

This summer (1855), the wolves were quite troublesome, and committed frequent depredations on the property of persons who had neglected to put their effects out of their reach. In one instance they entered the dwelling house of Mr. Geo. Head, and carried off a sheep that had been killed to furnish mutton for the breakfast of a company of travelers, though a number of persons were sleeping in the room over the one where the robbery took place.

The first lawyer made his appearance this summer, a Mr. Jay Parker, but he flourished only for a short time and left the place. The tide of immigration to the embryo city was setting in rapidly, and buildings were going up in various directions so that neighbors were within speaking distance. W. D. Lowry bought the claim of Geo. Woolford about one-half mile south of the city plat, now within the city limits, and the present residence of Mr. Lowry's widow. In the fall of this year Mr. Lowry was elected to a seat in the Territorial Council, which position he occupied until the admission of Minnesota as a State in 1858. This election being the first in this election District, and some important issues coming before the people, great interest was felt in the result. Parties at Oronoco and Chatfield were anxious to have the District so divided that each of those towns should be the geographical center of a county, and consequently a county seat, to this arrangement the citizens of Rochester were very naturally opposed. Mr. Lowry was the candidate of the people of Rochester, Reuben Ottman of Oronoco, the opposing candidate. Probably no more entire vote has ever been cast in Olmsted county, under any circumstances, and when

the result was made known it was found that Lowry had beaten his opponent by two to one, and twenty-seven to spare.

In the early history of the county, there was frequently much trouble experienced by new comers jumping the claims of those who had preceded them. Emigration was rapid, and in many instances, persons, made and staked out their claims, and went for their families, but on their return found them jumped by other parties, and they must seek new locations. This evil became so prevalent that the settlers organized a Vigilance Committee for the protection of settlers' claims. This Committee was known as the "Regulators," and was composed in part of the following persons, most of whom are now residents of the county. T. C. Cummings, Grant Cummings, L. W. Bucklin, J. A. Bucklin, Jas. Lovering, B. Goodwin, A. Goodwin, Wm. Eaton, Chas. Martin and S. S. Goodrich.

Sometime in the winter of 1855, Mr. Charles Martin made a claim in the town of Kalmar, and commenced getting his logs ready to build a house, when, a fellow by the name of Moler, heard of it, and went and bargained for a house to move on and jump the claim. The Regulators were notified, and not wishing any trouble, but bound to protect the claimant in his rights, they went to Kalmar, leaving Rochester about nine o'clock in the evening, and called on the man that owned the house, and bought it and moved it to the claim and had it ready for occupancy before Moler got there the next morning. It was a bitter cold night in the winter, yet the men worked all night. They considered it a good night's work, to travel eight miles, and move a house, and get it ready to occupy in the morning.

The first lawsuit, was tried before James Bucklin, Esq., in the summer of 1855. At the hour appointed for the suit to commence, the Justice was hoeing corn, and as it was a very busy season, and work hurrying, the parties assembled in the cornfield, and the suit was called. The parties were T. C. Cummings, Pl'ff., and Alfred Moler, D'ft. Jas. A. Bucklin, Att'y, for Pl'ff.; G. W. Chilson for Def't. The Court proceeded, and Plaintiff won his case.

A rivalry had sprung up between the two locations of Head and Me-

Ready, and when the fourth of July came around, each of the parties determined to have a celebration. Head had it proclaimed throughout the settlement that he would roast a sheep and regale his friends with mutton, while McReady made a barbecue of a yearling steer. Some forty or fifty assembled at each place, and held high carnival throughout the day. At McReady's celebration a speech was made by an ambitious young lawyer named Tompkins, who was finally so overcome by patriotism and whisky, that he fell from the box on which he was standing, and his arm coming in contact with a scythe it was nearly severed from his body. His wound was dressed, and he was taken home a soberer and sadder man.

The first saw mill in the town was of somewhat curious construction, and consisted of a scaffolding erected some six or eight feet in height. The saw used was a long narrow saw called a whip saw, with a strong handle at each end. The frame work of the scaffolding was so arranged that the log could be gaged to produce lumber of any desired thickness. The motive power was a man at each handle of the saw, one of whom stood on the log and the other beneath or as it was called in the pit; hence it derived the name of the pit saw. These mills are quite common in the old country, and in this instance was made of great benefit in a new country. Mr. Alexander, the proprietor, assuring us that two men would frequently manufacture as much as five hundred feet of lumber in a day. To the pioneers who were yet destitute of mills driven by water or steam, this was of vast importance, and many are the houses made comfortable by use of the lumber manufactured by the pit mill.

Messrs. Alexander and Goldsworthy built the first frame shop in the spring of 1856, on Zumbro street, where it did duty as a shop until 1861, when it was removed to Broadway, and fitted up for a store, and is now occupied as a boot and shoe store. In the year following, these gentlemen built a fine steam mill and sash factory, on the Zumbro, in East Rochester, to which they soon added machinery for planing and general cabinet making. This mill was continued in successful operation till the summer of 1863, when it took fire and was burned to the ground.

In the fall of 1855, Messrs. L. W. Bucklin and James Lovington built the first bridge across the Zumbro, at a point opposite where Cook's Livery Stable now stands. It was built of logs and remained in use till another bridge was built in 1857.

In 1856, Hon. F. A. OLDS, purchased of Messrs. Moe and Cross, the property on the corner of Broadway and College street, known as the Mill Reservation, and commenced the erection of a Stone Flouring Mill, which he completed the following year at an expense of about \$40,000. This was the first substantial public improvement that was undertaken. Judge Olds built several Blocks of buildings and was very active in all public enterprises. Probably no one individual contributed more to the growth and prosperity of the city than Mr. Olds. In the summer of 1864, while superintending some work on his farm house in the western part of the county, he fell from the scaffolding and received injuries from which he never recovered, but died soon after, respected and regretted by all who knew him.

In the summer of 1854, Fred. Prodger and Henry Woodard, made claim to the northern part of the city, and pre-empted the same in 1855, and sold the same year to C. H. Lindsley, who sold a three fourths interest in the whole to Messrs. G. S. Harris, W. W. Cowles, Daniel Williams and Richard B. Smith, of Boston, and the Company assumed the name of the "Boston Company," and commenced operations for building upon and improving their property. Mr. Lindsley, resident proprietor, was chosen business manager. This year they commenced the erection of the Zumbro Falls Mills, a large hotel, the present Court House, and several other buildings, making preparations for extensive improvements the ensuing year; but the financial revolution of 1857, included in the list of its victims, the original Boston Company, and after expending some \$53,000, they were obliged to suspend operations, and the property was transferred to the hands of their creditors, Messrs. Alvin Smith, J. H. Ward, David Loring, and John M. Cole, all of Boston. This failure proved the death blow to improvements in the lower town, as the title came under a cloud so that parties did not wish to invest, no matter how desirable the property.

In the final division of the property among the proprietors, the Court

House came into the hands of Mr. Lindsley, and the Flouring Mills fell to the share of John M. Cole, who in 1860, removed to Rochester, and put the mills in the best of order, and has made it valuable to himself and the city.

In 1863, Messrs. L. H. Humason, and Gilbert Smith erected the third flouring mill in the city on Cascade Creek, a short distance above where it empties into the Zumbro. The streams that afford water power for the city, are subject to great variations in the stages of water; sometimes in seasons of extreme drouth, affording scarcely water enough to turn the machinery, and in times of freshet, being swollen so as to overflow their banks, sometimes doing great damage to property situated on the low lands. In the summer of 1852, on the 11th day of August, Bear Creek and the Zumbro rose so rapidly from the effect of heavy rains, that all the bridges were carried away, and considerable damage done to the mill property. One man, Mr. Nathan B. Robbins, in attempting to swim across the reservoir, just above the Zumbro Falls Mills, was drowned. He was an estimable young man, and his untimely death is remembered and regretted by all who knew him. Another flood of water discharged itself through these streams, the present year. Heavy rains had fallen during several days preceding the 6th of August, and on that evening, commenced raining as though the job was to be completed that night. People retired to their beds with a feeling of perfect security, never dreaming that they were to witness so grand and yet so fearful a spectacle, when the morning dawned. At two o'clock in the morning of the 7th, there was no perceptible rise in the streams, but at four o'clock, families living on the low grounds on the north side of the river, were aroused from their sleep by the rush of water entering their dwellings, and so rapidly did the waters advance, that they only had time to save themselves by taking refuge in trees, which fortunately grew close by. They remained in this situation with the waters roaring and rushing madly beneath them, and threatening to destroy their last refuge till about nine o'clock, when they were rescued by some courageous and noble hearted men, who procured boats and at the risk of their own lives saved their neigh-

bors. No lives were lost, though immense damage was done to property.

The first brick business house in Rochester was built by Dr. L. H. Kelly, formerly of Painesville, Ohio. He built a brick store 22x70 feet on the corner of Broadway and College street, and finished it in the best manner for use.

The next brick block was built by Gilbert Smith in 1860, since which time there have been a large number erected.

The present population of the city of Rochester is estimated at about *four thousand*. In June of 1865, the census reports was 2,666, since which time it is estimated that there has been an addition of from 1300 to 1500.

There are now six church edifices erected in the city, and two more in contemplation of being built the present season. The county is erecting a magnificent Court house, and the city will build several fine school buildings the coming year. The general business of the city will be given in the Business Directory.

The town of Rochester was organized in 1858, and town officers elected as follows:

Supervisors, P. F. Lawshee, Char'n, O. A. Hadley and Samuel Stone; Town Clerk, Thos. Brooks; Assessor, Richard Postier; Collector, T. C. Cummings; Overseer of Poor, G. W. Huyler; Justices of the Peace, Hiram Thompson, S. G. Whiting; Constables, I. M. Terrill and Barney Hackett.

In April, 1859, the town as it now is was organized. The following gentlemen have acted as Chairman of Supervisors and Town Clerks:

CHAR'N SUPERVISORS.		TOWN CLERKS.	
1859	David Whitney,	John Kent,	
1860	" "	" "	
1861	J. N. McLane,	H. L. R. Jones,	
1862	J. F. J. Harmon,	" "	
1863	John Severn,	" "	
1864	John Forbes,	Simeon Smith,	
1865	" "	John Bamber,	
1866	" "	" "	

The city was organized in 1858, under a charter granted by the Legislature, and has elected the following named persons to serve in their respective capacities each year since then.

	MAYOR.	RECORDER.	CITY JUSTICE.
1858	M. W. Fay,	Thos. Brooks,	S. G. Whiting,
1859	F. A. Olds,	F. A. Poole,	" "
1860	W. D. Hurlburt,	E. W. Crocker,	H. Hyatt,
1861	John Clark,	" "	" "
1862	L. B. Bliss,	N. C. Younglove,	R. Reynolds,
1863	" "	" "	" "
1864	A. Ozmun,	S. W. Eaton,	W. S. Booth,
1865	J. V. Daniels,	" "	" "
1866	O. P. Stearns.	" "	A. Blanchard.

There are but few cities, even in the wonderful west, where all things spring rapidly into existence, that have made such progress as has the city of Rochester. It has not been consequent upon any great excitement such as is generally gotten up in the gold, or mineral regions, but the natural healthy growth that is the result of the development of one of the finest agricultural countries on the face of the globe. Property at the present time is held at high figures, but it has been constantly rising in value ever since the financial revolution in 1857, and now its business prospects are such as warrant holders of property in setting a good price upon it, with a certainty of receiving it. We give below a Directory of the principal business houses in the city.

CITY OFFICERS.

Mayor—O. P. Stearns,
Recorder—S. W. Eaton,
Alderman—1st Ward, L. Waker,
 " —" C. H. Chadbourn,
 " —2d Ward, H T. Horton
 " —" " J. Rickert,
 " —3d " J. M. Cole,
 " —" " A. Smith,
City Justice—A. Blanchard,
City Attorney—C. M. Start,
Treasurer—D. LeSuer,
Marshal & Police—I. Simonds,

POST OFFICE.

S. Geisinger, P. M., Third st.,

U. S. OFFICERS.

Assessor 1st Dist.—G. W. Baker,
 —Dep, S. Risker.

Deputy Col.—O. P. Whitcomb,

JUDGE 3D JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

Lloyd Barber,

COUNTY OFFICERS.

Register of Deeds—L. B. Bliss,
Sheriff—H. Loomis,
Auditor—A. Harkins.
Treasurer—O. P. Whitcomb,
Judge of Probate—R. Reynolds,
County Att'y—O. P. Stearns,
Clerk of Court—A. Blanchard.

ATTORNEYS.

E. A. McMahon, Third st.,

C. C. Wilson, Third st..
 W. L. Brackenridge, Main-st.
 M. W. Fay, Broadway,
 O. O. Baldwin, Graham bl'k,
 P. M. Tolbert, Broadway,
 Jones & Butler, Broadway,
 W. S. Booth, City Post Office.
 Edson & Start, Broadway,
 O. P. Stearns, Graham bl'k.
 W. H. Mitchell, Republic Block.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

G. W. & C. H. Payne, Broadway,
 Vedder & Dutton, Broadway,
 L. G. Dudley, McCormick Reaper

BANKS.

First National Bank of Rochester,
 Rochester Bank,

BOOTS SHOES &C.

R. H. Doe, Leland's block,
 J. Koonsmuller, Gibbs' block,
 Kellogg & Co., College-st.
 J. H. Brown, Broadway,
 A. Nelson, cor. Main & Third.
 Bunce & Wright, Broadway,
 N. Peterson, Broadway,
 S. Clemmetson, Third-st.
 Allyn & Meyette, Broadway,
 Clark Herring,

CRACKER MANUFACTORY.

Tait & Voorhees, Broadway,

BILLIARD HALLS.

Markham & Ott, Broadway,

BLACKSMITHS, &C.

J. G. Platt, Zumbro-st.
 Henry Schuster, Broadway,
 Norton & Haines, Main,
 T. R. Rusted, Zumbro,
 Wm. Brown, near City Mills.
 Rowley & Co., Broadway,

CLOTHING.

S. Gold, Broadway,
 Blake & Leet, Broadway,
 M. Levy, "
 Levi Harris, Third st.
 Seickert & Adler, Broadway,
 Bennett Bro. "
 A Nelson, Main-st.
 Solomon Hess, Broadway.

CONFECTIONERY, &c.

J. W. Everstine, Broadway,
 C. F. Anderson, "
 C. A. Buck, "

DRY GOODS.

J. D. Blake, wholesale, Broad.
 F. W. Andrews, Broadway.
 Barden, Baldwin & VanDusen,
 W. Elder & Son, Broadway,
 McKay & Jargo, "
 Bennett & Bro. "
 J. H. Brown, "
 Bunce & Wright, "
 N Peterson, "
 Kellogg & Co. College-st.
 A. Nelson, Main-st.
 Levi Harris, Third-st.

BAKERIES.

Tait & Voorhees, Broadway.
George Head, Broadway,
John Sehl, "

DRUGS AND MEDICINES.

Woodard & Ells, Broadway,
J. D. Blood, "
Pool & Harrington, "

DENTIST.

J. M. Williams,

EXPRESS COMPANY.

American, College-st.

FURNITURE AND CABINET WARE.

Cowles & Whitney, Broadway,
S. A. Hickox, College,

FLOUR AND FEED STORES.

Wallingford & Whitney, Broad,
J. H. Olmsted, Broadway,

FOUNDRY AND MACHINE SHOPS.

C. T. Allaire, cor. 4th & Oak.

GROCERIES.

Bennett & Bro. Broadway,
Crittenden & Fabrick, Broadway,
Crocker & Younglove, "
J. J. Knapp & Co. "
J. H. Brown, "
L. L. Eaton, "
N. Peterson, "
Gooding & Morrill, "
Daniels & Co. "
Bunce & Wright, "
Feeney & Fitzgerald, Main-st.
Kellogg & Co. College-st.
A. Nelson, Main-st.

HOTELS.

American, E. A. Goodell, Broad.
Bradley House, College-st.
Stevens House, Main-st.
Porter House, cor 4th and Frank.
Winona House, Broadway,
Farmers' Hotel near railroad.
York State House Broadway,
Arcade, "

HATS, CAPS AND FURS.

T. Carroll, & Son, Broadway,
Blake & Leet, "
Levy, "
S Gold, "
A. Nelson Main-st.

HARDWARE STORES.

Van Doorse & Upman, Broad.
A Ozmun & Son, Broadway,
H. A. Brown, "
G. W. & C. H. Payne "

HARNESS & SADDLERY.

H. W. Garratt, Broadway,
Warren & Co., "
V. Bustch, "
Pooler & Co. Third-st.

PAINTERS & PAPER HANGERS.

Fayette Kelley, Main-st.
W. H. Pratt, Broadway,
C. S. Woods, Zumbro-st.

INSURANCE.

Rochester Insurance Co.
Farmers' Insurance Co.
O. O. Baldwin, Life, Fire, & Mar.
Chadbourn & Whitney, ætna, Hart
ford, &c., Bank block, Broadway.

JEWELRY & WATCHES.

E. Damon, Broadway,
H. Luce, "
C. Smith, "

LUMBER DEALERS,

Porter, Horton & Co.
Laird, Norton & Co.
Hodgins, Coleman & Co.
E. E. Youmans & Co.

LEATHER & FINDINGS.

J. Koonsmuller, Broadway.

LIVERY STABLES.

Cook & Bro. College-st.
Graves Bros. near Amer. House.

MILLINERY AND DRESS MAKING.

Mrs. M. A. Wilcox, Third-st.
Mrs. Ameigh, Broadway,
Mrs. J. H. Olmsted, Broadway,
Mrs. P. H. Bucklin, Broadway,

MERCHANT TAILORS.

Blake & Leet, Broadway,
P. Cavalier, "
J. Horgan, Third st.

SEWING MACHINES.

M. A. Martin, Leland's Block,

FLOURING MILLS,

Rochester City Mills, F. T. Olds,
Zumbro Falls Mills, J. M. Cole.
Cascade Mills, J. S. Humason,

MUSIC TEACHERS.

G. W. Lovejoy, at Geisingers.
Mrs. M. R. Andrews, Zumbro-st.
Mrs. L. Windsor, Main-st.
J. S. Knapp, Bank Block.

MEAT MARKET.

Fred. Rommel, Broadway,
Geo. Bailly, "
I. Waldron, "
Kennedy, Main-st.

NEWS, PERIODICALS, &c.

C. F. Anderson, Broadway,
Geo. Head, Third-st.

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

E. C. & E. W. Cross, Broadway,
W. W. Mayo, Third-st.
H. Galloway, Broadway,
J. S. Allen, cor. Col. and Main.
I. M. Westfall, Broadway.
W. A. Hyde, Broadway.

PHOTOGRAPHS & AMBROTYPES.

J. H. Easton, Broadway,
J. H. Whitney, Broadway.
Bonnell & Robinson.

PIANOS & MELODEONS.

G. W. Lovejoy, at Geisingers,
J. S. Knapp, Bank Block.

REAL ESTATE DEALERS.

Chadbourn & Whitney, Bank blk
J. V. Daniels & Co, Broadway,
O. P. Whitecomb, Court House.
Browning Nichols, Broadway,

HAT MANUFACTORY.

T. Carroll & Son, Broadway.

WASHING MACHINES.

H. & J. Huny, Zumbro,

PUMP FACTORY.

Loren Dutton, Broadway.

BOOKS AND STATIONERY.

Geo. Head, Third-st.
C F Anderson, Broadway,

MARBLE MANUFACTORY.

Delano Bro, Main-st.

TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

Miss J. E. Halverson, operator.

GUN MANUFACTORY.

L. H. Humason, Broadway.

PRINTING OFFICES.

Rochester Republican,
Rochester City Post.

CHURCHES.

M. E. Church, cor Franklin & 5th
Baptist, Zumbro-st.
Congregational, Zumbro,
Presbyterian, "
Episcopal, "
Unitarian, Morton Hall,
Universalist, Court House,
Catholic, Peter's Block,
Lutheran, Fifth-st.

WAGON & CARRIAGE MANUFACTORIES.

Wm Wood, Third-st.
S. S. Metcalf, adj. Olds' Mill.
O. Oleson, Broadway.

PLOW MANUFACTORIES

T. R. Rusted, Zumbro-st.
Nelson & Gunderson.

YANKEE NOTIONS & FANCY GOODS.

R. I. Johnson, College-st.

TOBACCONIST.

Chas. Schott, Broadway.

BARBERS.

A. H. Holla: d, Third-st.
H. W. Gray, "
W. A. Fertile, Basement Bank blk

J. H. WHITNEY'S
FINE ART GALLERY,

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA.

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