

HISTORY
OF
SAC COUNTY
IOWA

WILLIAM H. HART

With Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens and
Genealogical Records of Many of the Old Families

ILLUSTRATED

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HISTORICAL

CHAPTER I

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Without going into a detailed account of all that has been written by geologists concerning the formation and surface appearance of Sac county, it may be of some interest to the ordinary reader of this work to mention some of the general features of the soil and formations below, in this section of the state.

First, it should be said that the geological features here are not materially different from other western Iowa prairie counties.

Sac is the third county from the Missouri river, and the fourth from the north line of the state: It contains a superficial area of five hundred and seventy-six square miles, equal to 368,640 acres. It is admirably watered and drained by North Raccoon and Boyer rivers and their tributaries, together with several branches of Maple river which have their sources in the county. Cedar and Indian creeks are important tributaries of North Raccoon. Boyer river, so famous in this state for the fertility of its valley, rises in Buena Vista county and flows south across the center of Sac county.

The southern extremity of an important chain of little lakes occupying the "Great Watershed," is in Sac county. The middle of the county is about on the summit ridge, Raccoon river, on the east, flowing to the Mississippi, and Boyer river, on the west, flowing into the Missouri at Council Bluffs. On this "watershed" between the Raccoon and Boyer are situated several small lakes, the largest of which is known as Wall lake. This charming little lake is situated in townships 86 and 87, of range 36, being in the southern portion of the county. This body of water covers an area of about three square miles, and does not exceed a depth of twelve feet. Originally a part of the shores of this lake were bordered by earthworks, or an embankment of earth and boulders, in some places the latter having the appearance of a wall laid up by the hand of men, and hence the name Wall lake. In the waters of this lake are many fine fishes and from the early settlement of western Iowa many persons visited the spot on fishing expeditions. In the beautiful autumn time of western Iowa, immense flocks of wild fowl, including ducks and other waterfowls, here congregate. In the north part of the county there was also another lake of about a mile square. It was in township 88 of ranges 36 and 37. This was known as Rush lake, but has recently been drained out by dredge ditches.

In recent years - since the beginning of the railroad era - these lakes, especially Wall lake, in the southern part of the county, have been utilized for summer resorts. The shores of Wall lake have been improved and boating and bath houses have made it a very popular place for excursionists. Camping and fishing, with all the amusements that characterize a summer resort, are here found.

At an early day, and even at this time to a certain extent, the Raccoon and Boyer rivers possessed a considerable growth of natural timber, including such varieties as oak, black walnut, cottonwood, linn, elm and the maples. The general character of the surface is rolling, in only a few places being very rough or broken - simply a beautiful prairie plain. But little is too flat or wet to cultivate, and most of the present county is used for actual, practical farming purposes. The soil is of unusual fertility and richness. Here are produced annual crops of wheat, oats, corn and tame grasses. Vegetables and some variety of fruits do well in Sac county. At one of the corn palaces in Sioux City in the nineties, Sac county took the premium on her exhibit of apples. Variety, color and flavor were all taken into account.

The soil is for the most part a deep, black alluvial loam, which possesses rare productive qualities, and will last for generations, even without fertilizing; but the scientific methods of the present century have taught the wise and intelligent farmer to conserve his rich soil holdings, by rotation of crops, the growth of tame grasses, etc., in order that his land may not "run down," but be as rich and productive in generations to

come as it is today. This drift deposit in all northern Iowa is from the original rocks of Minnesota, with much from Iowa itself. In general terms, the constant component element of the drift soil is that portion which was transported from the north, while the inconstant elements are those portions which were derived from the adjacent or underlying strata. For example, in western Iowa, wherever that cretaceous formation known as the nisabotany sandstone exists, the soil contains more sand than elsewhere. The same may be said of the soil of some parts of the state occupied by the lower coal measure, the sandstones and sand shales of the formation furnishing the sand.

The northern and northwestern portions of Iowa contain more sand and gravel than any other portions. This sand and gravel was doubtless derived from the cretaceous rocks that do now or formerly did exist there, as well as from the pudding-stone beds of the Sioux quartzite.

Sac county is really too far north to be within the coal measure of the state. Good clays are found within the county, but the wealth comes largely from the rich alluvial soil and is more and more valued as the years go by.

ORIGIN OF THE PRAIRIES

From all that has been written concerning the origin of the prairie lands of this state, it appears to be quite well settled in the minds of up-to-date scientists, that the annual prairie fires account for the lack of timber in this section of the Mississippi and Missouri valleys. It is estimated that seven eighths of the entire surface of the state of Iowa was prairie when first known to white men. These prairies are not confined to any particular variety of soil, for within the state they rest upon all formations, from those of the Azoic to those of the Cretaceous age inclusive. Whatever may have been their origin, their present existence in Iowa is not due to the influence of climate, nor the soil, nor any of the underlying formations. The real cause is the prevalence of the annual fires. If these had been prevented fifty and a hundred years ago, Iowa would now doubtless have been a timbered country. The encroaching habits of forest trees are well known to farmers of this state, and they have from time to time observed this encroachment going on as soon as the adjoining woodland has been well protected from the fires. As it is today, and has been for forty years, ninety-five per cent of the land in Iowa is tillable land of great value.

THE MYSTERY OF THE PRAIRIES

The Iowa boy and girl of today knows but little, if indeed anything, of the beauty and mystery of the prairie; they can never see (as did their parents only a few decades ago) the moist furrow as the sod is turned in long rolls, the miracle of subduing the soil so wild. The prairie, just as God turned it, in long reaches, so clean, so sweet in its perfumes wafted on the winds that came down out of the southwest. After a rain, how pure all nature appeared. The wide expanse stretching away to the east and north, all prairie for miles from the new farm that was being improved. The billows of waving grass, dotted with wild flowers, the whole seeming to wave in unison with the wind as it came over the hill. The mystery of the prairie? Unsolved, entrancing and one of rarest memories of boyhood and young manhood, in the clays that have forever gone for the sons and daughters of the Hawkeye state, the floral emblem of which is the wild rose.

What tribes haunted these prairie lands of Sac county before the advent of the white race? What Indian princess had gathered the wild flowers to radiantly bedeck her swarthy brow? For this had been, in the early days, the richest of all pasture lands and the hunting ground of the Indians for many generations. Of this there were many mute evidences when the pioneer first set stakes along the streams of this county. The writer of this article knew the same kind of prairies in Iowa, when they were unsullied and unscarred, the gift of God, direct from His hand, lying like a great quilt of many colors over spreading valley and upland, the pattern most exquisite and perfect in execution, for it had been wrought out by the great Artist of the Universe. The sweet William, the violet and retiring lily, the latter the most beautiful and so hard to discover, so hiding in its habits - these were the flowers scattered through the wild grass, in many places a riot of bright, dazzling color.

To have known the unbroken prairie was to have known, intimately, virgin life. Really, to have studied it in all its deep mysteries was to have been well schooled in all things chaste and broad-minded. To have seen the joyous springtime, the mature deliberations of summer and the somber hues and tones of autumn time was to have witnessed the sublime in Nature's uncultivated flower garden. Then the great white blanket of snow, covering all as far as the eye could see, was but to look out upon a dreary, yet pleasing landscape. But how changed is all this scene. There are no large prairies in Sac or any of her sister counties. The plowshare has forever obliterated all that has just now been described. The landmarks have long since been swept down beneath the hand of the greedy, though generally laudable, husbandman. The beautiful prairies have served their time and have passed away, and with them the nimble-footed deer, the elk, antelope and that wonderful game bird, the prairie chicken.

PIONEER ANIMAL LIFE

The following is a list of the mammals found in Sac county, at an early day, as shown by a recent state publication: Opossums, prairie hare, cottontail, prairie gopher, muskrat, meadow mouse, prairie deer mouse, northern white-footed mouse, brown rat, common house mouse, American beaver, woodchuck, ground-hog, marmot, prairie squirrel, striped gopher, chipmunk, ground squirrel, western fox squirrel, short-tailed shrews, prairie mole, red rat, hoary bat, red deer, American elk, buffalo, American otter, northern plains skunk, civet-cat, American badgers mink, long-tailed weasel, red fox, prairie wolf, bob cat, mountain lion.

All but a small percentage of these animals have long since been scarce in this portion of Iowa, but at one day it was their home.

CHAPTER II

INDIAN OCCUPANCY- TERRITORY ACQUIRED BY WHITE MEN

Of what is termed the pre-historic race that inhabited this section of the Northwest, there is but little known, the only history of this extinct race being the mounds and the contents of the same. These mounds are found scattered here and there in many sections of this and other states, a goodly number having been discovered in recent years in Cherokee county. Whether these Mound Builders were a distinct race from the North American Indians or not is still an unsettled question, but the evidence so far goes to show that they sprang from some tribe from Asia. Those best versed in such questions claim that this settlement from the Orient came about either by ship-wrecked sailors, or by the true immigration from Asia, crossing at Bering Strait. There is every evidence that tends to show that the Mound Builders were people well up in arts and science, as then understood in the world, and that copper was mined and worked in a fashion now unknown to the most skilled artisan. They made implements of war and had elaborate houses, practiced domestic economy and were probably the ancestors of the North American Indian.

For more than one hundred years after Marquette and Joliet trod the soil of Iowa and admired its fertile plains, not a single settlement was made or attempted, not even a trading post being established. During this time the Illinois Indians, once a very powerful tribe, gave up the entire possession of this "Beautiful Land" (as its name, Iowa, really signifies) to the Sacs and Foxes. In 1803, when Louisiana was purchased by the United States, these two tribes, with the Iowas, possessed the entire present state of Illinois. The four most important towns of the Sacs were along the Mississippi, two on the east side, one near the mouth of the Upper Iowa river and one at the head of the Des Moines rapids, near the present town of Montrose. Those of the Foxes were, one on the west side of the Mississippi just above Davenport, one about twelve miles from the river, back of Dubuque lead mines, and one on Turkey river. The principal village of the Iowas was on the Des Moines river, in Van Buren county, where Iowaville now stands. Here the last great battle between the Sacs and Foxes and the Iowas was fought, in which Black Hawk, then a young man, commanded the attacking forces.

The Sioux had the northern portion of the state and southern Minnesota. They were a fierce, warlike nation, and often disputed the possessions of their rivals in savage and bloody warfare; but finally a boundary line was established between them by the government of the United States, in a treaty held at Prairie Du Chien in 1825. This, however, became the source of an increased number of quarrels between the tribes, as each trespassed, or was thought to trespass, upon the rights of those who lived on the other side of the line. In 1830, therefore, the government created a forty-mile strip of neutral ground between them. Which policy proved to be more successful in the interests of peace.

Soon after Louisiana was acquired by the United States, the latter adopted measures for the exploration of the new territory, having in view the conciliation of the numerous tribes of Indians by whom it was possessed, and also the selection of proper sites for military posts and trading stations. This was accordingly accomplished. But before the country could be opened up for settlement by the whites, it was necessary that the Indian titles should be extinguished and that people removed. When the government assumed control of the country by virtue of the Louisiana purchase, nearly all Iowa was in possession of the Sacs and Foxes, at whose head stood the rising, daring and intelligent Black Hawk. On November 3, 1804, a treaty was concluded with these tribes by which they ceded to the United States the Illinois side of the Mississippi, in consideration of two thousand three hundred and thirty-four dollars worth of goods then delivered and an annuity of one thousand dollars to be paid in goods at cost; but Black Hawk always maintained that the chiefs who entered into that compact acted without authority, and therefore the treaty was not binding. The first fort built on Iowa soil was Fort Madison. A short time before a military post was fixed at what is now Warsaw, Illinois, and named Fort Edwards. These enterprises caused mistrust among the Indian tribes. Indeed Fort Madison was located in violation of the treaty of 1804. The Indians sent delegations to the whites

at these forts to learn what they were doing and what they intended. On being "informed" that these structures were merely trading posts, they were incredulous and became more and more suspicious. Black Hawk, therefore, led a party to the vicinity of Fort Madison and attempted its destruction, but a premature attack by him caused his failure.

In 1812, when war was declared between this country and Great Britain, Black Hawk and his band allied themselves to the British, partly because they were dazzled by their specious promises, but mostly because they had been deceived by the Americans. Black Hawk said plainly that the latter fact was the cause. A portion of the Sacs and Foxes, however, headed by Keokuk ("Watchful Fox") could not be persuaded into hostilities against the United States, they being disposed to stand by the treaty of 1804. The Indians, were, therefore, divided into the "war" and the "peace" parties. On old Black Hawk's return from the British army, he says that he was introduced to Keokuk as war chief of the braves then in that village. On inquiry as to how he came to be made a chief, there were given him the particulars of his having killed a Sioux in battle, which fact placed him among the warriors, and of his having headed an expedition in defense of their village at Peoria. In person, Keokuk was tall and of stately bearing, and in speech he was a genuine, though uneducated, orator. He never mastered the English language, hence his biographers have never been able to do his character justice. He was a friend of the United States government, and ever tried to persuade the Indians that it was useless to attack a nation so powerful as that of the United States.

The treaty of 1804 was renewed in 1816, which Black Hawk himself signed; but he afterward held that he was deceived and that the treaty was not even yet binding. But there was no further serious trouble with the Indians until the noted Black Hawk war of 1832, all of which took place in Illinois and Wisconsin, with the expected result—the defeat and capture of old Black Hawk, and the final repulsion of all hostile Indians to the west of the Mississippi. Black Hawk died October 3, 1838, at his home in this state, and was buried there, but his remains were afterward placed in a museum of the Historical Society, where then were accidentally destroyed by fire.

More or less affecting the territory included within the state of Iowa, fifteen treaties have been made, an outline of which is as follows: In 1804, when the whites agreed not to settle west of the Mississippi on Indian lands; in 1815, with the Sioux, ratifying peace with Great Britain and the United States; with the Sacs, a treaty of similar nature, also ratifying that of 1804, the Indians agreeing not to join their brethren who, under Black Hawk, had aided the British; with the Foxes ratifying the treaty of 1804, the Indians agreeing to deliver up all their prisoners; with the Iowas, a treaty of friendship; in 1816, with the Sacs of Rock River, ratifying the treaty of 1804, in 1824, with the Sacs and Foxes, the latter relinquishing all their lands in Missouri; and that portion of the southeast corner of Iowa known as the "half-breed tract," was set off to the half breeds; in 1825, placing a boundary line between the Sacs and Foxes on the south and the Sioux on the north; in 1830, when the line was widened to forty miles; also in the same year, with several tribes, who ceded a large portion of their possessions in the western part of the state; in 1832, with the Winnebagoes, exchanging lands with them and providing a school, etc., for them; also in the same year, the "Black Hawk Purchase" was made, of about six million acres, also along the west side of the Mississippi from the southern line of Iowa to the mouth of the Iowa river; in 1836, with the Sacs and Foxes, ceding Keokuk's reserve to the United States; in 1837, with the same, when another slice of territory, comprising one million two hundred and fifty thousand acres, joining the foregoing tract, was obtained; also in the same year, when these Indians gave up all their lands allowed them under former treaties; and finally, in 1842, when they relinquished their title to all their lands west of the Mississippi river.

TROUBLE WITH INDIANS IN NORTHWESTERN IOWA

While it should be stated that no serious trouble was ever experienced with the Indians in Sac county, save an occasional scare, there was real trouble in many of the counties just to the north and northwest, which should here be chronicled in brief.

After the treaty made by the government of the United States with the Sioux Indians, July 15, 1815, almost a century ago, it was believed that the tribe was forever at peace with their white brethren; but, alas, not so! In the light of all true history, it must be said that imprudence and bad faith upon the part of some white men brought on serious difficulty with the Indians of northwestern Iowa and Minnesota, which finally culminated in the Spirit Lake massacre, so well known and generally understood by the intelligent reader of Iowa history, and which event took place in the spring of 1857. While it is not the province of this work to go deep into the details of this horrible massacre, it is but proper to state that the author of this book does not believe that the United States government broke faith with the Indians, in this particular case at least; but that individuals did must be admitted by all honorable, fair-minded people who are cognizant of the facts that brought on this Sioux massacre, and possibly they, too, were more or less responsible for the New Ulm massacre up in southern Minnesota by the same tribe in 1862, when vengeance was sought for supposed, or real, wrongs against the Indians in the fifties. So while "Lo! the poor Indian" is not perfect, on the other hand Christian civilization has not always exemplified the Christ-like spirit. Beginning in New England, trace the Indian wars on west over the Allegheny mountains, and through the Western states and territories, and here and there the treaties have not been kept sacred by white men, any more than by the untutored savage of forest and plain.

Coming now to the events that brought about the Spirit Lake massacre of 1857, let it be said that sometime during the month of February, 1857, a hunting party of Sioux Indians passed down the Little Sioux river. They made a short stay at Cherokee and were friendly. They then journeyed to Smithland, in Woodbury county. Here the white settlers demanded of the Indians where they were going and insisted on knowing something concerning their business and the plans they had in mind, before they would allow them to proceed further. The Sioux replied that they were going down to shake hands with the Omahas; at this the whites made the Indians give up their guns - which means as much to an Indian as virtue does to a chaste woman, the last thing she will think of compromising. Their compulsory surrender of arms enraged them, and they turned up stream, breathing vengeance upon the whites. The pale faces had stolen their guns and now white men and women must make restitution, which would only be satisfied in the free flowing of human blood, drawn from the bodies of the white race. Hence it was that on their return trip north through Cherokee and other counties, the Indians entered the cabins of the few settlers and after insulting the women and frightening the innocent children at their sides, took what firearms they chanced to find about the premises. By the time they had reached Cherokee their passions were strong and the wrongs inflicted against them at Smithland had become much magnified in their minds. Here they acted as brutal as possible for human beings to act. The arms they had been able to gather up on the way back from Smithland were directed against the innocent ones at Cherokee, in the notion that they might frighten the entire settlement into leaving the country. Cattle were stolen, provisions, of which the settlers had none too much, were violently seized and devoured, while they stood with cocked guns, to be sore that they were obeyed at once. Finally, they feasted for three days in and about Cherokee, seeming to be debating in their own minds what to do with the little colony that had recently come in from Milford, Massachusetts. No one will ever know just what ran through their minds. Suffice to say that those days were the longest days ever experienced by these colonists, who expected every hour to be scalped or burned, as both were threatened.

One writer, in describing the situation, penned the following: "On the third evening pioneers Parkhurst and Lebourveau returned from Sac City. The Indians, suspicious of the Smithland people and believing they might be on their trail, were very anxious to know where these two men came from, but the cunning of the white men played on the Indian's fears they would not tell them; so, apprehensive of danger, they set off early in the morning up the river. When far enough away to feel safe, they became ungovernable and murderous. In O'Brien county they entered the home of Hannibal H. Waterman, the first settler, as well as others, far apart, and there they destroyed property, took guns and in several instances ravished women, in the most revolting and fiendish manner. They grew more blood-thirsty until the terrible climax was reached at Spirit Lake, Iowa, where about forty were killed and four innocent women (including Miss Abbie Gardner then a frail girl of fourteen summers) taken captive. Some of the four captives were inhu-

manly treated and died on the weary march through snow and ice water made from the melting snows. Miss Gardner and another lady were rescued by the state of Minnesota a few months later.

In this, as in all other cases, there were possibly two sides that are entitled to a hearing, yet while it is true that the Indians were not altogether blameless, for they plundered the settlement, killed stock, and did many things to exasperate the settlers, yet the people of Smithland were by no means angels, and public opinion has long since fixed the terrible Spirit Lake massacre as having resulted from the unmanly conduct of the white settlers at Smithland, but the Smithland people have always claimed all they did was in self-defense against the Indians. Be that as it may, when the sickening tale of the awful scenes enacted at and near the state line, at Spirit and Okoboji lakes, reached the ears of the little settlement at Cherokee, every heart was bruised and saddened. Parties at Smithland advised the Milford colony to leave Cherokee; and in a few days not a settler was left in the county. Some had gone to Onawa and Ashland, while others had taken refuge at Smithland. Right here is the darkest spot in the whole history of this unfortunate affair. Soon as the Cherokee colony had deserted their homes, people from Smithland visited Cherokee, plundered what was left, including flour, provisions, etc., as well as opening boxes of household goods, which the latter settlers had not yet unpacked since their arrival from New England. Matters now looked bad indeed. Word had been sent on by some one to New England that the whole colony had been massacred by the Indians. It was then that Doctor Russell's society of Milford, Massachusetts became disorganized. The people were disheartened, and all their fond hopes seemed dashed to pieces. However, in May, that same season, most of the settlers returned to their farms and homes and put in good crops, which yielded a fair return in the autumn time.

In this connection it should be stated that the part Sac county (then only one year old as a county, and three years as a settled community) took in this massacre was to send a few brave men out in the hope that they might relieve the distressed and bury the dead at Spirit lake. Among these men may now be recalled such as Capt. F. M. Cory, the Tiberghiens and others, who formed a rescuing party to try and unite with the companies sent from Webster City, Boonesboro and Fort Dodge, the latter under command of Major Williams, John h. Duncombe and the late Governor Cyrus C. Carpenter. But these men, including the Sac county delegation, were all too late, for, in many cases, the work had been accomplished before they arrived. So the men from this county returned, after having gone as far as Gilett's Grove.

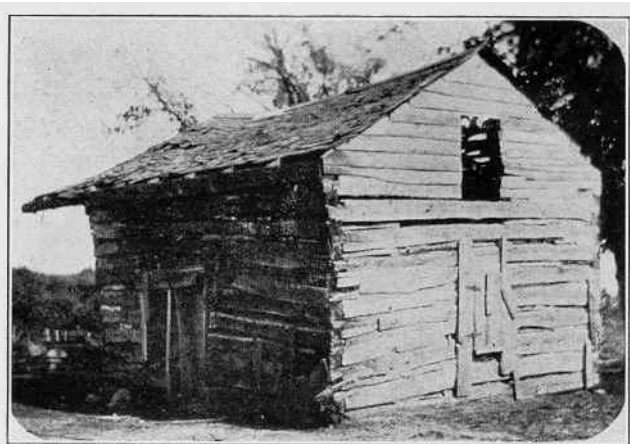
INDIAN BATTLE IN SAC COUNTY

Near the mouth of the Cedar there was an encampment of the Pottawatotnies and Maquoketa tribes of Indians. They were attacked by a war party of Sioux, and when the two tribes united in common defense the latter retreated up the Cedar, hotly pursued by the former. Near the north line of the county the Sioux halted and fought the two tribes for several hours. A number were killed on both sides, the Sioux being defeated.

The graves of the "fallen braves" were still to be seen a quarter of a century ago by the farmers who settled that portion of Sac county. These graves are along the banks of Cedar creek.

The late ex-Lieutenant-Governor B. F. Gue's four-volume history of Iowa, published about 1900, gives the following account of a bloody battle between Indian tribes, and from his description the scene of the battle must have been near, if not within, the present boundary of Sac county

"In 1841 a party of Sioux surprised a hunting company of twenty-four Delawares on the Raccoon river, killing all but one of them. The Delawares, led by their chief, Nes-wa-ge, made an heroic fight against



CORY LOG CABIN, ERECTED 1853

overwhelming numbers, killing twenty-six of their enemy, four of whom fell beneath the terrific blows of the Delaware chief. But one escaped to carry the tidings to their Sac and Fox friends, who were camped on the east bank of the Des Moines river, near where the present State House stands. Pashepaho, the chief, who was then eighty years of age, mounted his pony and, selecting five hundred of his bravest warriors, started in hot pursuit of the Sioux. He followed the trail from where the bodies of the Delawares lay unburied for more than a hundred miles up the valley of the Raccoon river, where the Sioux were overtaken. Raising their fierce war cry, led by the old chieftain, the Sacs and Foxes charged on the enemies' camp. The battle was one of the bloodiest ever fought on Iowa soil. Hand to hand the savages fought with a desperation never surpassed in Indian warfare. The Sioux were fighting for their lives and their assailants for vengeance over their slaughtered friends. The conflict lasted for many hours. The defeat of the Sioux was overwhelming. More than three hundred of their dead were left on the field of battle. The Sacs and Foxes lost only seven of their number in killed."

Old settlers, including the Cory family, give an account of an awful battle between the Sioux and a band of roaming Musquas, in 1853, in Cedar township, this county. It occurred on section 16 - the school section. The spring of 1856, the few settlers, including the Corys, were exploring the country at that point and came across at least one acre which was literally covered with skulls and bones of the slaughtered Indians, mostly of the Musquas tribe, which tribe now resides in Tama county, at the government Indian reservation. The wolves and other wild animals had eaten the flesh of most of the carcasses, and the piles of bones and skulls were a gruesome sight to behold. Several skulls were taken home by the Corys and were about the place many years. There are others who believe that the above engagement must have occurred several years before the settlement, and not in 1853.

The Corys' best money-making plans in the first years here were in trapping, hunting and especially in trading with the Indians, who sold them many furs, which, when a load had been accumulated, were taken to Fort Des Moines and there marketed.

At a time when the settlement consisted of about five families, one of the company had a very valuable dog. The Indians were afraid of him, and told the owner that he must kill the dog or they would kill him. At first he refused, but later, upon the suggestion of the settlers, concluded to do so, and the dog was shot. It was believed that had he not obeyed the Indians, the man, and possibly the little band of settlers, would all have been murdered.

OTHER INDIAN MURDERS

Father De Smet, who was a missionary at what is now Council Bluffs, in 1839, wrote in his diary, among other interesting things, this concerning an Indian affair which doubtless occurred about the northern line of Sac or not far over in Buena Vista county. The item reads as follows: "May 24, 1839 - A war party of Saucks discovered three lodges of Omahas on the headwaters of the Boyer river, consisting of nine men and twelve women. Invited them to smoke, accepted, believing them to be the Pottawatomies. They were treacherously murdered and their women taken prisoners. Danced nine days around the scalp post in the Sauck village. Huzzah! for the Indian braves."

The following account of Indian scares in northern Iowa is found in early "write-ups" of Sac and adjoining counties: "Early in December, 1856, a runner came down the Coon river with the news that the Sioux had been committing depredations near Gillett's Grove (now where Spencer, Clay county, stands). A company of sixty men, partly from western Calhoun county and partly from Sac county, was quickly organized. Enoch Ross, of Sac county, was elected captain and among others in his command were the following: W. H. Hobbs, Judge Eugene Criss, Judge D. Carr Early, Asa Platt, James Watt, William Montgomery, John Austin and others. On reaching Gillett's Grove, they found that the Indians had gone and that they had done nothing except kill a few head of cattle. The force of men was divided into different squads, some going one way and some in other directions, over the prairie. Judge Eugene Criss, in command of one squad of men, procured a saddle horse of a farmer in Clay county and, leaving his men, he took a reconnoitre. He discovered the Indians in a ravine, several miles from where his men were, and rode back to give the in-

formation, with the expectation that the whole company would be mustered and an attack made. When Mr. Criss arrived, he found the whole company in an active quarrel among themselves, the final result being that all disbanded on the spot and the fifty or sixty men came home. They arrived, the distance being over fifty miles, by nightfall."

Perhaps the last appearance of roving bands of Indians was in 1874, when fifteen Winnebagoes invaded the grove owned by H. M. Cory, near Sac City, in a hunting expedition. They hunted and trapped along the river several weeks that fall and winter.

IOWA TERRITORY

In 1834 this state was incorporated into the territory of Michigan and thus became subject to the ordinance of 1837; and two years later it became a part of Wisconsin territory, and two years thereafter became the territory of Iowa, with sixteen counties and a population of twenty-three thousand. The first Legislature was held at Belmont, Wisconsin, in October, 1836; the second at Burlington, Iowa, in November, 1837; and the third also at the last named place in 1838. As early as 1837 the people of Iowa began to petition Congress for a separate territorial organization, which was granted on June 12th following. Ex-Governor Lucas, of Ohio, was appointed by President Van Buren to be the first governor of the newly created territory. About this time there occurred what is known as the "State Line war."

STATE LINE WAR

This was a difficulty that arose between the territories of Missouri and Iowa over where the line between the two should be fixed. The strip in question was from eight to ten miles in width nearly across the states, between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Both territories claimed the rich, valuable land. Missouri officers attempted to collect taxes within this disputed territory, and were at once arrested and confined in jail in Iowa by sheriffs, and the respective governors called out the militia, preparing for bloodshed. About twelve hundred Iowa men enlisted, and five hundred were actually armed and encamped in Van Buren county, ready to defend their territory, when three prominent and able men in this state were sent to Missouri as envoys to effect, if possible, a peaceable settlement and just adjustment of affairs. Upon their arrival, they found that the county commissioners of Clark county, Missouri, had rescinded their order for the collection of taxes, and that Governor Boggs had dispatched to the governor of Iowa a proposal to submit an agreed case to the supreme court of the United States for the settlement of the boundary line question. This proposition was declined, but afterwards, upon a petition from Iowa and Missouri, Congress authorized a suit to settle the controversy. The suit was duly instituted, and resulted in the decision that Iowa had only asserted "the truth in history" and that she knew where the Rapids of the Des Moines river were located (this being the point from which the boundary line west was to take its place of beginning). Thus ended the Iowa-Missouri war. Many years later, Judge C. C. Nourse stated that "if Missourians did not know where the Rapids of the Des Moines river were located, that was no sufficient reason for killing them off with powder and lead; and if we did know a little more of the history and geography than they did we ought not be shot for our learning. We commend our mutual forbearance to older and greater people."

IOWA MADE A STATE

In 1844 the population of Iowa territory had reached a sufficient number to justify its being organized into a state, and the territorial Legislature passed an act on February 12th, that year, submitting to the people the question of the formation of a state constitution and providing for the election of delegates to a convention to be called together for that purpose. The people voted on this at their township elections in the following April, giving the measure a large majority. The elected delegates assembled in convention at Iowa City, October 7, 1844, and finished their work on November 1st. Hon. Shepherd Leffler, the president

of the convention, was instructed to transmit a certified copy of the proposed constitution, to be submitted by him to that body at the earliest practicable day. It also provided that it should be submitted, together with any changes that might be made by Congress, to the people of the territory, for their approval or rejection, at the township elections of April, 1845.

The constitution as thus prepared fixed the boundaries of the state very differently from what were finally agreed upon.

On May 4, 1846, a second convention met at Iowa City, and on the 18th of the same month and year another constitution, prescribing the boundary as it now stands, was adopted. This was accepted by the people August 3d, by a vote of 9,492 to 9,036. The new constitution was approved by Congress, and Iowa was admitted as a sovereign state in the American Union on December 28, 1846.

The act of Congress which admitted Iowa gave her the sixteenth section in every township of land in the state, or its equivalent, for the support of schools; also seventy-two sections of land for the purpose of a university; also five sections of land for the completion of her public buildings; also the salt springs within her limits, not exceeding twelve in number, with sections of land adjoining each; also, in consideration that the public lands should be exempt from taxation by the state, she gave the state five per cent of the net proceeds of the sale of public lands within the state. Thus provided as a bride for her marriage portion, Iowa commenced "housekeeping" on her own account!

A majority of the members of the constitutional convention were of the Democratic party, and the instrument contains some of the peculiar tenets of the party of that day. All banks of issue were prohibited within the state. The commonwealth was prohibited from becoming a stockholder in any corporation for pecuniary profits, and the General Assembly could only provide for private corporations by general statutes. The constitution also limited the state's indebtedness to one hundred thousand dollars. It required the General Assembly to provide public schools throughout the state for at least three months in the year. Six months previous residence of any white male citizen of the United States constituted him an elector.

At the date of the state's organization its population was one hundred and sixteen thousand six hundred and fifty-one, as appears from the census of 1847. There were twenty-seven organized counties in the state, and the settlements were rapidly pushing toward the Missouri river.

The first General Assembly was composed of nineteen senators and forty representatives. It assembled at Iowa City, November 30, 1846, about one month before the state was admitted into the Union.

The most important business transacted was the passage of a bill authorizing a loan of fifty thousand dollars for means to run the state government and pay the expenses of the constitutional convention. The great excitement of the session, however, was the attempt to choose the United States senators. The Whigs had a majority of two in the House, and the Democrats one majority in the Senate. After repeated attempts to control these majorities for caucus nominees, and frequent joint sessions for purposes of an election, the attempt was abandoned. A school law was passed at this session for the organization of public schools in the state.

At the first session also arose the question of re-location of the state capital. The western boundary of the state, as now determined, left Iowa City too far toward the eastern portion of the state. This was conceded. Congress had appropriated five sections of land for the erection of public buildings, and toward the close of the session a bill was introduced providing for the re-location of the seat of government, involving to some extent the location of a state university, which had already been discussed. This bill gave rise to much discussion and parliamentary tactics. It was almost purely sectional in its character. It provided for three commissioners, who were authorized to make a selection as near the geographical center of the state as a healthy and eligible site could be obtained; to select five sections of land donated by Congress to survey and plat into town lots, not exceeding one section of the land so selected, etc. Soon after, by an "act to locate and establish a state university" approved February 25, 1847, the unfinished public buildings at Iowa City, together with ten acres of land on which they were situated, were granted for the use of the university, reserving their use, however, by the General Assembly and the state officers, until provisions were made by law.

When the report of the commissioners, showing their final operations, had been read in the House of Representatives, at the next session, and while it was under consideration, an indignant member, later known as the eccentric judge McFarland, moved to refer the report to a select committee of five, with instructions to report "how much of said city of Monroe (the place named for the new state capital, in Jasper county) was then under water, and how much was burned." The report was referred without the instructions, but Monroe City never became the seat of government. By an act approved January 15, 1849, the law by which the location had been made was repealed and the new town was vacated, the money paid by the purchasers of lots being refunded to them. This, of course, retained the seat of government at Iowa City, and precluded for the time being the occupation of the buildings by the state university. The question of a permanent seat of government was not yet settled, and in 1851 bills were introduced for the removal of the capital to Pella and to Fort Des Moines. The latter appeared to have the support of the majority, but was finally lost in the House on the question of ordering its third reading.

At the next session, that of 1853, a bill was introduced in the Senate for the removal of the seat of government Des Moines, and on the first vote was just barely defeated. At the next session, however, the effort was more successful, and January 15, 1855, a bill re-locating the capital within two miles of the Racoon fork of the Des Moines, and for the appointment of commissioners, was approved by Governor Grimes. The site was selected in 1856, in accordance with the provision of this act, the land being donated to the state by the citizens and property holders of Des Moines, then still styled "Fort Des Moines." An association of citizens erected a building for a temporary capitol, and leased it to the state at a nominal rent.

PROHIBITION OF SLAVERY

The passage by Congress of the act authorizing the territories of Kansas and Nebraska, and the provisions it contained, abrogating that portion of the Missouri bill that prohibited slavery and involuntary servitude north of the thirty-sixth degree of latitude, was the beginning of a political revolution in the Northern states, and in none was it more marked than in Iowa. Iowa was the "first free child born of the Missouri Compromise." and has always resented the destruction of her foster parent.

UNDER A SECOND CONSTITUTION

In January, 1857, another constitutional convention assembled at Iowa City, which framed the second constitution. One of the most pressing demands for this convention grew out of the prohibition of banks under the old constitution. The practical results of this prohibition was to flood the state with every species of wild-cat money.

The new constitution made ample provision for home banks under the supervision of our own laws. The limitation of the state debt was enlarged to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and the corporate indebtedness of the cities and counties was also limited to five per cent annum the valuation of their taxable property.

On October 19, 1857, Governor Grimes issued a proclamation declaring the city of Des Moines to be the capital of the state of Iowa. The removal of the archives and offices was commenced at once and continued through the fall. It was an undertaking of no small magnitude; there was not a mile of railroad to facilitate the work, and the season was unusually disagreeable. Rain, snow and other accompaniments increased the difficulties, and it was not until December that the last of the effects - the safe of the state treasurer loaded on two large "bob-sleds" drawn by ten yoke of oxen, was deposited in the new capitol. It should be added in this connection that during the passage over hills and prairies, across river, through bottom lands and timber, the safes belonging to the several departments contained lame sums of money, mostly individual funds however. Thus Iowa City ceased to be the capital of Iowa.

CHAPTER IV

ORGANIZATION OF SAC COUNTY

At an early period Sac county was a part of Buchanan county, except the southern tier of townships, which were in Benton county. It was established in 1851 and was attached to the county of Waukwa (now Woodbury), January 22, 1853, up to which time it had been attached to the county of Polk. It was attached to Greene county in 1855. It was named in honor of the Sac tribe of Indians, who, with the Foxes, at one time possessed the entire territory of the present domain of the state of Iowa.

In 1856 Sac county, which had previously been attached to Greene county for all administrative purposes, was granted a separate jurisdiction. S. L. Watt was the first county judge -- and the county judge of those days was an autocrat, performing the functions of the present board of supervisors and county auditor, as well as those in part of the judge of the circuit court. H. C. Crawford was the first county clerk, and F. M. Cory the first treasurer and recorder (both offices being then combined in one).

Previous to the organization of the county the following persons were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat: C. W. Williams, T. E. Brown and Mr. Huxford. They made selection of a point six and a half miles west of the east line of the county, on the west bank of the North Raccoon river, adjacent to a fine body of timber. This is now known as Sac City.

The first election for county organization was held at the house of Eugene Criss, April 7, 1856, when thirty-seven votes were cast for the entire county. The officers then and there elected were: Samuel L. Watt, county judge; Frances Ayers, clerk of the district court; F. Lagourge, sheriff; H. C. Crawford, prosecuting attorney; F. M. Cory, treasurer and recorder; Jacob McAfee, drainage commissioner.

The next election in this county was that held on May 10, 1856, when there were twenty-two votes polled for officers, as follows: Justice of the peace, Eugene Criss, of Jackson township; for trustee, John McAfee had twenty-one out of the twenty-two votes cast; for the office of township clerk, Henry A. Evans received twenty-two votes and was declared elected; John Russell was elected as constable of the township; also, another constable was elected in the person of William Allen; an assessor was elected in the person of William Wine; twenty ballots were cast for the office of supervisor, Joseph Gammon being declared elected. The above returns were certified to by William Nine, S. W. Wagner and G. F. Browning, and attested to by W. J. Wagner, Henry A. Evans, clerks of the election, and County Judge S. L. Watt, Justices of the Peace G. F. Browning and Eugene Criss.

For Sac township the election at the above date resulted as follows: Trustees, William F. Lagourge, J. William's, William Forks; justices of the peace, J. Severn, J. K. Lane; constables, P. Forks, J. W. Clark; township clerk, N. W. Condron; assessor, J. Condron; supervisor, William Lane. The judges of this election were E. Stills, P. D. Finks and Lorin A. Doff, attested by H. C. Crawford and N. Condron.

A PROPOSED COUNTY SEAT

In the first records of this county it is learned that an attempt was made to locate the seat of justice for Sac county at a point on section 36, of what is now Boyer Valley township, to the west and south of its present location. It was at almost exactly the center of the county. The record shows that badge Samuel H. Riddle, judge of the seventh judicial district, living at Council Bluffs, on November 11, 1856, signed the following:

"A majority of the citizens of Sac county, as shown by a petition and certificate of the district court, prayed for the appointment of a commission to locate the seat of justice for said county. In accordance with the prayer of said petition, I, Samuel H. Riddle, judge of the seventh judicial district, hereby appoint Jesse Mason, of Crawford county; E. Buterick, of Carroll county; and Doctor Bonnie, of Calhoun county, who shall within two months after receiving this notice of such appointment, locate the seat of justice for said county of Sac as near the geographical center as may be, having regard for the present as well as the future population."

This report shows they located the county seat on a portion of section 36, township 88, range 36, but while the record seems silent as to just why this was not carried out, it is found that another commission was appointed by judge McFarland, at Jefferson, Greene county, the same consisting of Talmage E. Brown, Crandall W. Williams and Cyrus Huxford. This commission was ordered to meet at the office of the county judge of Sac county September 17, 1857, at two o'clock in the afternoon and, having taken the oath prescribed by law, they proceeded to locate the seat of justice, taking into account the present and future prospects of said county. This proceeding is signed by G. W. Cochran, clerk of the court for Sac county.

The commission thus appointed had the following report to offer on the performance of their duties:

"To the Honorable Judge of Sac County, Iowa: We, the undersigned commissioners appointed to locate the seat of justice for Sac county in the State of Iowa, make the following return to your Honor, to-wit: That we have the 19th day of September, 1857, located the seat of justice for and in said county, on the following described premises and lands to-wit: On all that certain tract of land in section 24, known as Sac City, with its present additions, together with the east half of the northeast quarter of section 23, all in township 88, range 36 west of the fifth principal meridian, in Sac county, Iowa, and that we name the seat of justice Sac City."

"(Dated) September 19th, 1857.

"TALMAGE E. BROWN,
"C. W. WILLIAMS,
"CYRUS Y. HUXFORD.

"Before County Judge
"A. J. CAIN."

CHAPTER IV

PIONEER SETTLEMENT OF THE COUNTY

To have been a pioneer in western Iowa -- to have set stakes in the early fifties and sixties in Sac county - was to have taken part in many interesting, as well as trying, scenes and transactions. Far removed from a thickly settled community, far from railroads and mills and post offices and market towns, hardships were entailed which but few of today can comprehend. The sons and daughters their fathers and mothers relate the stories of those long ago, never-to-be-forgotten days, but even then this generation cannot begin to realize what the settlers of fifty and sixty years ago endured on the bleak prairies of western Iowa. The pioneer period has about passed away in America and cannot, in the very nature of things, ever return. When the virgin prairie sod has been once turned over to the sunlight, its wild state is gone forever. With it forever goes away the wild game so common at an early day. A few prairie chickens may still be seen, a few wild geese and sand-hill cranes, but, practically speaking, they have been numbered among the things of generations just done.

The few pioneers who braved the dangers and hardships of early days in Sac county have nearly all been gathered to their fathers and sleep the long sleep that knows no waking. When the few remaining pioneers meet in reunion and family gatherings, their eyes sparkle and they grow young again, as the fading reminiscences of other days are recalled. As was well stated by a pioneer in this section, at a gathering of old settlers:

"You come together with varied emotions. Some of you almost at the foot of life's hill, look back and upward at the path you have trod, while others, who have just reached life's summit, gaze down into the valley of tears with many a hope and fear. You gray-headed fathers have done your work; you have done it well; and now, as the sunset of life is closing around you, you are given the rare boon of enjoyment, the fruits of your own labor. You can see the land won by your own right arm from its wilderness state, and from the savage foe, pass to your children's children-literally a land 'flowing with milk and honey'; a land over which hover the white-robed angels of religion and peace; a land fairer and brighter and more glorious than any other land beneath the blue arch of heaven. You have done your work well, and when the time of rest shall come, you will sink to the 'dreamless sleep' with a calm consciousness of duty well performed.

"In this hour let memory assert her strongest sway; tear aside the thin veil that shrouds in gloom the misty past; call up before you the long forgotten scenes of years ago; live over once again the toils, and struggles, the hopes and fears of other days. Let this day be a day sacred to the memory of olden times. In that olden time, there are no doubt scenes of sadness as well as of joy. Perhaps you remember standing beside the bed of a loved and cherished, but dying wife - one who, in her days of youth and beauty, when you proposed to her to seek a home in a new wild land, took your hand in hers and spoke to you words like this: 'Whither thou goest, I will go, and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God; when thou diest I will die, and there will I be buried; the Lord do so to me and more also, if aught but death part me and thee.' Or perhaps some brave boy, stricken down in the pride of his strength; or some gentle daughter, fading away in her glorious beauty; or some little prattling babe, folding its weary eyes in the 'dreamless sleep that kisses down its eyelids still.' If so - if there are memories like these, and the unbidden tear wells up to the eye, let it come, and today one and all shed a tear or two to the memory of the 'loved and lost.'"

In compiling this chapter the writer finds some difficulty in establishing the dates of coming and the locations first selected by the pioneer band in this county. Fortunately, there are in libraries of Storm Lake, Council Bluffs and Sioux City copies of a work published in Sioux City by the Journal Company, in 1882, the same being known as "Western Iowa," and in which is given an account of the settlement of thirteen counties situated in western, and especially northwestern, Iowa. This work includes a brief history of Sac county, and its pages are verified by the history of Iowa, by that splendid Iowa historian, the late ex-Lieut.-

Governor B. F. Gue, of Des Moines, who has seen fit to incorporate most of this historical data on Sac county in his four-volume work. The following are extracts from this work published in 1882 at Sioux City:

"The population of this county in 1880 was nine thousand three hundred, but in 1882 it is estimated at eleven thousand. This increase is partly accounted for by the Narrow Gauge railroad (a branch of the Wabash), which is in course of construction and which - will run across the county, passing through Sac City, thus giving additional shipping and traveling facilities to the people of the county. Depot grounds for the road have been laid out near the court house." - Northwest Iowa History, 1882.

Perhaps no better, more accurate account of the beginnings in Sac county can be had than to quote from a well-written article published in the local paper, The *Sac Sun*, December 24, 1881, which reads in part as follows:

"The immense immigration from the Eastern and Central states has for the past two or three years rapidly settled up the lands of Kansas and Nebraska, but of late have been diverted to some extent to the more certainly productive agricultural lands of northwestern Iowa. Many more of these home-seekers might have been induced to settle in this section had the people of Iowa and the Iowa government sooner awakened to the fact that so many thousands of good citizens were passing through Iowa to lands farther from market, and by no means so valuable as those of Iowa, all because the Kansas and Nebraska lands were assiduously advertised, while those of Iowa were undefended under the slanders mentioned in the appended letter. The General assembly, however, to remedy this evil, appointed Hon. George D. Perkins, of the Sioux City Journal, to the office of commissioner of immigration for Iowa, and appropriated a considerable sum of money for the promotion of immigration to this state. Read what Governor Campbell says

"Newton, Iowa, June 15, 1880.

"Hon. George D. Perkins,

"Commissioner of Immigration for Iowa

"Dear Sir -- Your invitation to the immigration convention at Sheldon, June 27, received on my return home from an extended trip east. I fully realize the importance of the convention, and the great interests to be considered, and I assure you my hearty sympathy goes out toward any effort that will tend to direct public attention to your beautiful country and fertile soil, and point the tens of thousands of homeless ones to that fair country that offers such splendid advantages for permanent homes and prosperous futures. During my visit east I had occasion to "talk up" northwestern Iowa in several localities and I found

"1. A total ignorance of the fact that so large a territory in, Iowa lies open yet to settlement, the impression having obtained that a state with over a million and a half of people must be well settled up.

"2. I found the old "grasshopper still sitting on the sweet potato vine," in the prejudices of many and it was only the work of a moment to convince them that the "grasshopper" was long since a dead issue in any portion of Iowa.

"3. The terrible storms and daily hurricanes of wind were held up before me, and I told them they were more a native of Missouri or even Ohio, than northwestern Iowa, and that the settlement of our state, the planting of groves, etc., had very materially changed the climate.

"These are only a few of the objections urged, but among the most weighty, and I name them that you may see the objections that obtain in various quarters. There are tens of thousands in the East who would be glad to find homes in northwest Iowa, were they fully acquainted with the true condition of things, climate, soil, prices of land, terms, etc.

"With thanks for your invitation, and regret that I cannot be present, I am your well-wisher and friend.

"FRANK T. CAMPBELL."

"This sketch is intended principally as a pen picture of Sac county, as it now is, and will include a short outline of its history and a few incidents of the life of the early settlers.

"The soil of Sac county is a deep black loam, and in its nature is purely vegetable decomposition. Its depth is from eighteen inches to five or six feet. In some parts of the county the surface is almost perfectly

level for long distances, but in general it is of the genuine 'rolling prairie' description. The inexhaustibility of the soil is shown by the fact that farms which have been under cultivation for from twenty to twenty-five years-are now as fertile and productive as ever. More than that - the land may be plowed here when it is so wet that it is almost impossible to do the work, and it will not bake.

"As regards the productiveness of Sac county, perhaps as effective a way of showing whether the detractors of northwestern Iowa, mentioned in Governor Campbell's letter, are right or wrong, will be to give our readers the benefit of some of the observations of the Hon. Eugene Criss, a pioneer and resident of Sac county for more than a quarter of a century. Judge Criss says that his average yield of corn in his twenty-five years' residence has been from forty to fifty bushels per acre, and the highest yield was sixty-five bushels. Average yield of oats, forty to fifty; highest yield, seventy-five; average yield of wheat, fifteen to eighteen bushels; this, remember, is his personal experience, and with only fair cultivation, no fancy farming, that he knows of at least two of his neighbors who have raised as high as forty bushels of wheat per acre. Others, too, have raised, in more than one neighborhood, from seventy to eighty bushels of corn to the acre, and this with no extra amount of cultivation. The principal agricultural products of Sac county, and this section generally, are corn, wheat, oats, flax, barley, rye and grass. Timothy, clover and blue grass grow readily and will make Sac county, at an early day, one of the leading stock and dairy counties in Iowa. And Iowa is, with rapid strides, coming into the head of all states in dairy products. We will put judge Criss on the stand again in regard to the advantages for stock raising.

"We have stated that the tame grasses grow rapidly. Besides that fact, it is also true that Kentucky blue grass is rapidly coming of itself in places where it has never been sown. Along fence corners, along paths made by cattle through the brush and in the pastures, in spots where the timber and underbrush have been cleared, in door yards and other places, in some mysterious way that sweetest and best of feed for stock is rapidly making its appearance. It is a matter which the writer does not understand, but it is a good thing, and we are glad to see that this section is so fortunate. Grass is always sufficiently high to turn stock out at a date varying in the different years from April 1st to April 30th. And now we produce judge Criss's testimony. The judge is a Virginian by birth, but has had some years' experience farming in Maryland. After many years' experience in the two states, it is his firm belief that both cattle and horses do better 'running out' during the winter months in this part of the state than they do in Maryland.. This, our readers will observe, is not guess work or the dictum of a traveler or chance observer, but the carefully considered verdict of experience.

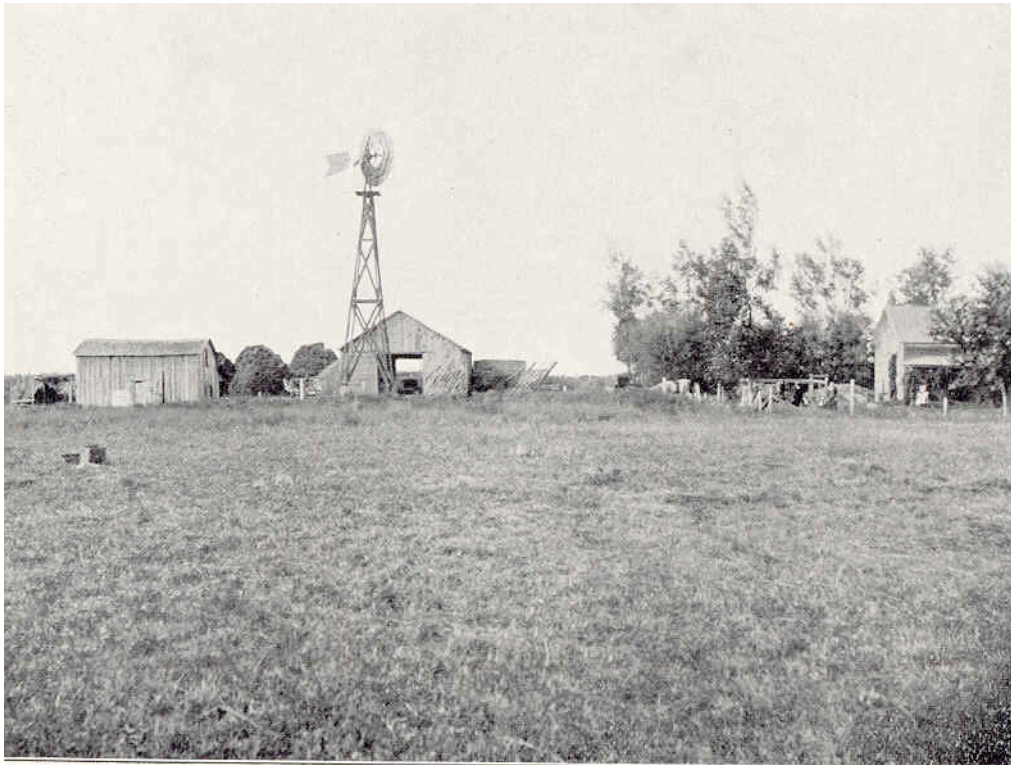
LOCATION OF SAC COUNTY

"Sac county is on the Great Divide, as the water-shed between the Missouri and Mississippi is called. It is in the northwestern part of Iowa, being the fourth county from the north line; the sixth from the southern and the third from the Missouri river, while it is tenth from the Mississippi. Sac City, the center of government, and not far from the geographical center, is about fifty miles by wagon road west from Fort Dodge and eighty-five miles southeast from Sioux City.

"Sac county contains sixteen congressional townships, west of the Des Moines river. It contains three hundred and sixty-nine thousand six hundred and forty acres, nearly all of which is desirable land for either grain or stock purposes, and the larger part for either or both combined. The larger part of these lands are railroad property and these can be purchased by homeseekers, who will occupy them at once, on the most liberal terms. Many of the private holders are also selling on nearly if not quite as easy terms as the railroad land companies. And as for the grasshopper and tornado bugbears, it is perfectly safe to say that the farmers of Indiana and Ohio are as much annoyed by them, and have as much prospect for annoyance from them, as the Sac county grower of grain and stock. Sum up these advantages, and the reader will readily see why the population has been rapidly increasing ever since the opening of the railroad communication. Let those who have doubts give the county a visit and they will hesitate no longer. Sac' county has not even the drawbacks so common to these fertile counties of northwest Iowa. What this is, is too well understood by the settlers who early located in the extreme northwest part of this state, before there were rail-

roads to deliver coal at every man's door. Many counties in this section had little or no timber. Ida county, for instance, had less than a thousand acres within its herders. Sac county had many thousand acres of oak, black walnut, hickory, ash, elm, maple, box-elder, cottonwood, linn (basswood), and many other varieties native to this soil. The Coon river, that traverses the east part of the county, lies buried in woods for almost its entire length. Cordwood is delivered at from four to five dollars a cord, according to quality. The timber culture laws of the state - relieving land from taxes for ten years in consideration of the culture of a certain portion of forest trees -- have also caused so extensive a growth of forest trees that there is probably more timber now in the county than before the first axe was struck on the banks of the classic Coon.

EARLY SETTLERS AND FRUIT-GROWING



FIRST BARN IN SAC COUNTY

"The early settlers of Sac county, though they had the advantage of being able to try fruit culture under the protection of considerable belt of timber, had small faith in the country as adapted to the growth of fruits. Hence, little was done ten or twelve years after the county was first settled. When proper attention was given to the matter, it was speedily demonstrated that Sac county was really well fitted for fruit growing, and there are now many fruit orchards, vineyards and small fruit gardens growing on the fair surface of Sac-shire. Apples, grapes, plums,

cherries, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, currants, gooseberries and other fruits grow rapidly and yield surely and abundantly, while the duality is unsurpassed any where. This section is the garden spot of Iowa, as Iowa is the Garden, state of the Union. The dry, pure air of our unexcelled climate gives to trees and plants a healthy growth, and the fruits and vegetables are solid and delicately flavored and handsomely tinted. You can say the California fruit is larger; so you may say a pumpkin is larger than an apple, but how about the taste of the two? Our western Iowa apples are of a medium size, of the finest flavor and will keep much longer than any apple grown in a warmer climate. Therefore, the Iowa apple is in the near future the apple of commerce, and it is not unlikely that the principal future industry of Iowa may be fruit growing. But not apples alone. Nowhere does the Concord grape come to such perfection as in Iowa."

THE FIRST TO MAKE SETTLEMENT

Coming down to the first settlement question in Sac county, the above authority continues:

"The first settlement was made by Otho Williams, who came from Michigan in the autumn of 1853, with his family, and took up a claim in the timber near Grant City, in the southeastern part of the county. He and his family were the first white inhabitants of Sac county, but during the two succeeding years quite

a number of settlers made their homes either in the same neighborhood or in the vicinity of Sac City, and Otho Williams, at the end of about two years, complained that 'folks are gitten' too thick 'round yer,' and he and his family 'folded their tents like the Arabs, and silently stole away.' In other words, they sold their claims and disappeared in the direction of the setting sun. No one knows where they went or where their remains now lie.

"In the spring of 1854 Leonard Austin, F. M. Cory, William Wine and David Metcalf, with their families, W. A. Montgomery, with his mother and sister, and S. W. Wagoner and Harry Evans, single men, took up claims in the county. In August, 1855, came in Eugene Criss and family, locating near Sac City. A few days later William H. Hobbs located in the same neighborhood. During the autumn the population of Sac county was augmented by the arrival of John Condron, Joseph Lane, Joseph Williams and S. L. Watt and families, all of whom became permanent settlers. So far as can be now learned, this constituted the population in the county up to the close of the year 1855."

So much for the early settlement as given by those who have lived out side the county, but a more definite, and perhaps comprehensive, statement is the following gathered from such men as those now living in the county, who were among that pioneer band and ought to know:

In 1854; on the 4th day of September, there came a little colony from Jones county, Iowa, made up of the families of F. M. Cory, W. V. LaGourge and his family, David McAfee and family, Leonard Austin and family, and Joseph Austin, the first blacksmith in Sac county, who was a single man, and who had a dog which troubled the Indians who roamed back and forth here, and they told him he most kill his dog or they would kill him. He refused at first, but seeing they intended to kill him unless he did, he wisely killed the dog, which doubtless saved the entire settlement from being murdered, for they dare not kill one and not the whole settlement.

The winter of 1854-55 was an open, mild season throughout.

The winter of 1855-56 was without much snow, but quite cold.

The winter - the memorable "hard winter" - of 1856-57, was one of universal severity throughout the entire West. Snow was from three to four feet on a level all over western Iowa and many of the deer were lost by breaking through the crusted snow banks, which caused their slender little limbs to be snapped like pipe stems. It is stated upon the best of authority that literally thousands were thus destroyed.

The next settlement was that of 1855, when a larger number found their way to Sac county and became permanent settlers. Among these may be recalled the following: Along the Coon river, upstream from Sac City, as far as Lee's Grove, in what is now Douglas and Delaware townships, the settlers were the two Vetalls, William and Adam, who brought in a large herd of cattle from Illinois; William Wine, who operated the first store in the settlement at Lee's Grove; William Allen and family; James Davis, William Davis, Eugene Criss and family, and a Mr. Ayers and a Mr. Joiner; also William Fulks and Judge S. L. Watt, who became the first county judge here in 1856. This doubtless made up all the settlement in this county up to the end of 1855.

In 1856 the additions to the settlement included the Tiberghiens, still residing here; Henry Evans, Asa Platt, Robert and George Browning, Mr. Wren, William Impson, Messrs. Condron, W. H. Hobbs, George Stoerer and D. Carr Early, with possibly a few more.

Hugh Cory and many others, hereabouts, verify the statement made above concerning the first actual settler, Otho Williams, the roaming trapper and hunter, who must have been here as early as 1852 and remained but about four years, and moved on to a country where civilized life would not molest him. Nothing is known of him after leaving this county. While he was the first white man to inhabit this county, the first to set stakes with the intention of becoming permanent were those of the 1854 colony, the Corys, etc.

One pioneer experience is related of the late Hon. D. Carr Early, who, in about 1856, came from Ohio by river to Burlington, Iowa, thence to Waterloo by stage coach and on foot to Fort Dodge, and on to Sac City. He was two days coming from Fort Dodge, a distance of fifty miles. He preempted the northwest quarter of section 12, township 89, range 36, it being necessary to visit the land office, then at Sioux City, a distance of ninety miles, which he made in three days. On reaching Sioux City, Mr. Early (then a young man) was surprised to find this "city," the headquarters for the United States land office, which consisted of

a one-story frame house, one log cabin and three canvas tents. The first named was the land office, and the log house was the "city hotel." Returning to his claim, he built a log cabin, completing it about June 1st the same year (1856), and he lived in it until the end of three months without either flooring or chinking it. The house was simply the bare logs laid together. He also raised an acre of potatoes that summer and also was compelled to raise a small amount of corn in order to make his pre-emption claim good. In January, 1857, pioneer Early sold his pre-emption of a hundred and sixty acres for six dollars an acre, netting him in cash nine hundred and sixty dollars. The land was not worth more than this sum in 1879. This gentleman was later known far and near as "Judge Early." He took the cash named above and had a load of flour brought from Anamosa, for which he paid seven dollars per hundred weight and had to sell the same at eight dollars, so did not make anything clear for his speculation. Worse still, he sold part of the load of flour to people on credit and never received the pay for it.

POSTAL FACILITIES

At that early day, 1856 and 1857, Fort Dodge was the nearest post office to Sac county. In the autumn of 1856, when Sac county was organized, there were but eighty-five votes in the county and at that date mail had to be carried by able-bodied men, taking turns in going to Fort Dodge. They had to swim or ford several streams and get through Hell slough and Purgatory slough, on the way there and back. One pioneer who has gone through this experience describes a trip during which he had to swim Purgatory slough on a horse with the United States mail for Sac county in one hand and his clothing under his arm. Another pioneer states that not far from the same place, and at about this time, a man was hired to carry the mail at twenty-five cents a letter. Papers would not be carried only when the roads were in suitable condition.

In the spring of 1858 the settlers in congressional townships 87, 88 and 89, in range 36, now forming the civil townships of Wall Lake, Jackson and Delaware, thought there was good reason to fear that all vacant land in those townships would be bid in by speculators at the annual land sale at Sioux City, thus preventing its immediate settlement. Nearly all the settlers, though not ready at the time to buy, wanted some of this land for their own use. They, therefore, met together and arranged matters, and when the day of sale came, the room in which the sale was held was filled with these settlers, and no others could force their way in. No bids were made, and the land was thus kept open for pre-emption - really a wise movement on the part of the pioneers of this county. While it was possibly a little "shady" in its looks, it certainly worked to the betterment of Sac county and its first settlers, who had no use for "land speculators," who usually held lands for high prices and thus delayed advancement in all new countries.

The first mill in this county was erected on the Coon river, near Grant City, late in the autumn of 1856, the season that has ever since been styled in Iowa the "hard winter of 1856-57." The snow of that never-to-be-forgotten winter was fully three feet on a level, and in places it completely filled the deepest ravines and valleys, and when crusted, after a February thaw, the crust was so hard that a team and heavy load could be, and was, drawn for miles without breaking through. That was the winter in which tens of thousands of deer perished by reason of having no grass to eat and because of broken limbs caused by breaking through the icy crusts of the snow. It was during that winter that pioneers in Sac City and its vicinity hauled grists of corn to Grant City to the mill just mentioned. Other provisions were usually hauled from Fort Des Moines, as our state capital was then known.

It is related by Asa Platt, that he shot and killed a buffalo over the line in Buena Vista county, and that while several were seen in this county, it is not known now that any white man ever killed one in the county.

The Corys and others were compelled to split rails all one winter to secure sufficient rails with which to fence against the deer and elk which would otherwise have destroyed the growing crops. They seemed to be very numerous and not altogether as wild as such animals usually are. Great droves of them would congregate on the ice at Hell slough and other lakes in Calhoun county, and there browse upon the wild prairie grass of which muskrats had built their homes. During the latter part of August, 1857, a party of surveyors found a man dead in a slough on the prairie, who was supposed to have been murdered, as a

ball had passed through his back. The remains were not identified, and at the date of discovery the affair created great excitement.

The nearest post office was at Fort Dodge. The early settlers would frequently meet at Sac City and hire some one to go up after their mail, paying twenty-five cents for each letter or paper received. They also had to go there for their blacksmithing and much of their early milling.

OTHER SETTLEMENT DATES

At the fiftieth birthday anniversary of the twins, Lamont Lee and Mrs. D. B. Keir, children of Mrs. M. F. Lee, which occurred in the summer of 1913, in Douglas township, this county, the following roster of early settlers was made up, and from the large number mentioned as still surviving, it naturally finds a place in this "early settlement" chapter. It is as follows: C. Everett Lee, editor, of Lytton; Mrs. D. Carr Early, 1856; J. W. Tiberghien, 1856 ; Mrs. J. W. Tiberghien, 1860 ; Mrs. Eugene Criss, 1855; Orville Lee, 1860; George I. Cory, 1854; Mrs. George I. Cory, 1859; Mrs. George A. Heagy, 1856; G. L. Stocker, 1856; Asa Platt, 1856; Mr. and Mrs. James Staton, 1859; Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Cory, 1854; Mrs. Amos Comstock, 1856; S. L. Watt, 1855; Mrs. John Stocker, 1835; Mrs. William Conley, 1855; Elias Tiberghien, 1856; J. E. Austin, 1863; Abe Basler, 1856; C. Everett Lee, 1862; Mrs. W. G. Wine, 1855.

Judge Samuel L. Watt, who died in 1878, was a settler in 1855. He was the first county judge of Sac county, and was here at the organization of the county; he issued the first marriage license in this county to William Montgomery and M. E. Wine. He also issued the first naturalization papers in the county to a foreigner.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Concerning the natural resources, etc., of this county, the following was written in that well-known publication, the *Western Rural*, by their special correspondent at Wall Lake, in 1878:

"Our county is rapidly settling up, car loads of immigrants arriving almost daily. There are townships in the county already where the land has all been sold; still there is any quantity of excellent land still on the market in other portions of the county. To men in the East, who are living (or trying to live) on rented farms, we would say, sell what you have for cash and come West, buy a farm of your own, say eighty acres, at a cost of about five hundred dollars, or an improved farm at twenty dollars per acre. Our soil is of the very best quality, society good, educational advantages most excellent - no state in the Union being superior. We have pure water at from twelve to thirty feet; the climate is very healthful - we have never seen a case of fever and ague here yet. Every description of farm produce brings remunerative prices; stock raisers do the best here, however. Iowa ships more stock to Chicago in one week than all Illinois does in four. Cattle do well from being herded from May 1st to October 1st; the price for herding is seventy-five cents, and salt thrown in. Any amount of wild hay may be had by simply cutting it."

LIST OF HALF CENTURY SETTLERS

At the Fourth of July celebration held at Sac City in 1906 a call was made through the *Sac Sun* for all to report who had lived in Sac county fifty years and more, and all who did so would be furnished free conveyance in automobiles to the grounds and given seats of prominence and honor on the speaker's stand. The following registered their names as having resided here fifty or more years: J. W. Wren, J. S. Tiberghien, Elias Tiberghien, J. W. Tigerghien, Mrs. J. W. Tiberghien, E. D. Whitney, Abraham Basler, Mrs. Anna Comstock, George I. Cory, W. G. Wine, S. L. Platt, James Basler, H. W. Cory, Mrs. Eugene Criss, G. L. Stocker, Asa Platt, Mrs. George A. Heagy, Andrew Impson, Mrs. George Hicks, John Condron, Mrs. Asa Platt, Mrs. W. A. Irvine, William Impson, Jr., Mrs. William Impson, Sr., James Shelmerdine.

PROSPERITY OF COUNTY IN 1880

The Sac Situ said of the prosperity of this county in 1880 - a third of a century ago - that "the most prosperous year in the history of Sac county is this year (1880). The vote has increased forty-three per cent



RESIDENTS OF SAC COUNTY FIFTY YEARS OR MORE
Top row from left to right—George I. Cory, Mrs. George I. Cory, Mrs. Olive Conley, Mrs. Lydia Stocker, S. L. Watt, Mrs. George A. Heagy, Abe Basler. Second row—J. W. Tiberghien, Mrs. J. W. Tiberghien, Mrs. James Staton, Mrs. Eugene Criss, Mrs. W. G. Wine, Mrs. D. Carr Early, Mrs. Mary Comstock, C. Orville Lee. Bottom row—Elias Tiberghien, James Staton, H. M. Cory, Mrs. H. M. Cory, Mrs. Duncan B. Keir, C. Everett Lee, William Lamont Lee, Asa Platt, G. L. Stocker, Elmer E. Austin.

over 1879. The population of the county has been added to the old number to the amount of two thousand. Many new farms have been opened up; a large number of buildings have been erected. In way of factory industries have been added this year a flax mill at Odebolt; a steam flouring mill, with four run of stones, by Henry Reinhart. Flour from these mills is sold all throughout this section of Iowa, and as far east as Dixon, Illinois. Crops ranging from seventeen to twenty-two bushels of spring wheat; oats, from thirty to forty bushels per acre; corn, from forty-eight to sixty bushels; flax, eleven bushels. The average of wheat for the county was seventeen and a half bushels per acre; average of corn was forty-four bushels; oats, forty-one bushels; flax, twelve bushels.

"Land sales were reported by Schaller & Early and D. Carr Early amounting to more than fifty thousand acres - all to actual settlers - equal to two full townships, or one-eighth of the entire county.

"Stock has been shipped to the amount of one hundred and seventy-five car loads; E. Criss shipped eleven cars of wheat; Criss & Hanger, thirty-five car loads of wheat, five cars of corn; five of oats; two of barley; eight of flax; three of rye; while J. E. Robbins shipped thirty cars of wheat, and twenty-six of corn. Condron & Woodward shipped out thirty cars of wheat; thirty of corn; seven of oats; six of flax. The total of one hundred and six cars of wheat; ninety-one of corn; twenty-four of oats; two of barley; twenty of flax seed; three of rye, making a grand total of two hundred and forty-six cars of grain from Sac City.

"The total rainfall for 1880 was twenty-three inches; highest temperature, one hundred degrees; lowest twenty degrees below; mean temperature, fifty-six and one-half degrees."

BURNING CORN

The *Sac Sun* of December 6, 1872, said: "Several families in town, and we believe many more in the country, are burning corn for fuel. It is considered cheaper than wood, and it is almost impossible for those who do not own timber land themselves to obtain a supply of fire wood. The day for stealing timber

from non-resident timber land owners is about gone forever in Sac county, as most of the timber is now owned by actual settlers themselves and they don't care to part with much of it. It seems to us a good plan for farmers to burn corn and sell their wood if they have any timber. They can't sell corn for even fifteen cents in cash now and that is less than it costs to raise it."

LAND VALUES

After having gone over the early settlement question, in this connection it may be well to insert what prosperity had come to Sac county in 1912, as shown by a letter from Omaha by an early pioneer of this county, the same being published in the Sac Sun in October, 1912: "Having been a reader of your paper since 1872, I would like enough space to say a word concerning the present high priced lands in Sac county, which is now about two hundred dollars per acre. I saw this same land sell at from three to five dollars per acre in 1877. I sold two hundred and forty acres in 1902 for thirty-six thousand dollars, it being the first to reach so high a figure. I said at that time it would sell for two hundred dollars per acre in less than five years. The same fall I bought a two-hundred-acre tract in Washington county, Nebraska, for one hundred dollars per acre and only last week refused one hundred and fifty dollars for it, and I predict it will be worth two hundred and fifty dollars before it is transferred again. Only last week Arthur Brandeis, of Omaha, sold two hundred and ninety acres to an Iowa man for sixty thousand dollars. This is going some and the end is not yet."

THE SWEDISH SETTLEMENT

The history of the Swedish settlement in the southwestern part of Sac county cannot be written without repeating a part of the history of the Swedish settlement in Crawford county, where, only, a mile or two south of the county line, we find the first Swedish settlers in the year 1867, when C. J. Star, C. P. Frodig and N. F. Rodine, who had been living in Webster county, decided to locate here, after a trip to the Missouri bottoms, which land they thought too flat. They were joined by five of their friends in the fall of the same year and in 1868 Mr. Star wrote to his friend, A. Norelius, in Minnesota, and told him of the rich country they had found. Mr. Norelius started across the country in a "prairie schooner" (covered wagon), accompanied by H. Buller, E. Ward and J. Nordell.

Mr. Norelius informed the writer that the first settlers did not know to whom to apply for deeds to the land they had selected until in the fall of 1868, when the enterprising and courteous agent of the Iowa Railroad Land Company, William Familton, appeared among them. He at once decided to reserve a number of sections for Swedish settlers, including the southwest corner of Sac and the southeast of Ida counties. Mr. Familton brought Swedish landseekers to this locality from time to time. Being located so close to the less rolling and richer prairies in the western part of Sac county, it did not take the settlers long to cross into the new counties near by.

A post office was established in 1873 one mile south of the Sac county line, which Mr. Norelius and Lars Olson decided to name Kiron, which is an abbreviation of the scriptural name of a brook called Kidron.

Among the first to erect buildings in Sac county at this point at that time were the families of John Nordell, John Larson, Erick Olson and N. Lindblad.

Sol Peterson, representing the Swedish people who worked in the coal mines of Boone county, built his house in 1874, and soon came in Andrew Dolk and family; also Henry Hanson and wife, from New York state. John Baker was one of the first to break the virgin sod and raise a crop. None of the first settlers were rich, but they had some means acquired by hard work either in the mines or on the farm. As a rule their earthly possessions were strong arms, good health, ambition to succeed and faith in God. They were of an intense religious temperament, having separated from the state church in Sweden after the big revivals which spread over that country in the middle of the last century. The community spirit was strong and after the building of the new railroad north of the settlement a society was organized called the Swedish

Farmers' Society. They bought and shipped grain and live stock at the new town of Odebolt. Henry Hanson was chosen as manager, and John A. Stolt as secretary. Another evidence of the progressive spirit of this community was the organization of the Mutual Insurance Association in March, 1879. A. Norelius was president, N. F. Rodine, vice-president; L. J. Johnson, secretary; and August Lundell, treasurer. This association has enjoyed a steady growth and at present time (1914) has twelve hundred members scattered throughout eight counties, including Sac. Andrew Norelius, after being secretary for many years, resigned in 1913, owing to old age, and P. G. Lundell was elected. August Lundell is president; John A. Pithan, vice-president, and W. .T. Sandburg, treasurer.

The farmers of this locality were among the first to organize a mutual telephone company, which they did in 1901. Kiron has had two rural free delivery routes, a year before some of the older towns near by. Many of the farm homes are now lighted by acetylene or gas and heated by the most up-to-date methods. Automobiles can now be seen on most of the farms. No people from the continent of Europe are quicker to learn the language and adopt American customs than the Swedish people.

The first Swedish people of this community were Baptists. They organized a church in 1869, holding services in a school until 1876. When a church building was erected two miles south of the Sac county line. Upon the completion of the Mondamin branch of the Chicago and Northwestern railroad in 1899, the Baptist church was moved to the new town of Kiron, which the railroad company located one mile west of what is now known as old Kiron.

The influx of new-settlers brought in many Lutherans, the state church of Sweden being of that denomination. On July 28, 1875 a congregation was organized by Rev. J. Telleen, of Des Moines, and in the fall of 1878 a church was built in the township of Wheeler, Sac county, one half mile north of the Crawford county line. The first regular pastor was Rev. P. A. Philgren, who came from Clinton county, Iowa, in 1881. He was succeeded in 1887 by Rev. SA. J. Liljegren, of Algona. He was removed by death in 1890. Then came in their order the following pastors: Revs. A. M. Broleen, Julies Manritzson, J. A. Benander, E. C. Jessup and J. A. Christianson, present pastor in charge. The church edifice has been remodeled twice and enlarged, with basement and reception parlors. A twelve-hundred-pound bell was placed in the tower of the church in 1891. The present membership is nearly three hundred. Both the church and parsonage are lighted by acetylene and the church is heated by a furnace and the parsonage by hot water radiators. The value of the church property is eight thousand dollars.

In addition to the Baptists and Lutherans, there are the Covenant Mission and the Free Mission societies, which erected church buildings in the early eighties. The Covenant Mission built a church just across the Sac county line in Ida county. This was sold in 1908, the members uniting with the mission at Odebolt. The Free Mission church was moved to Kiron in 1899, from its location a mile and a half southeast of the new town. A Baptist church and also a Free Mission church were erected five miles north of Kiron in Hays township, Ida county, in the early eighties. This made six county churches in the settlement prior to the advent of the railroad.

Sweden was one of the first countries in the world to make education compulsory. All the first settlers could therefore read and write in their own language. And schools were erected among the settlers just as soon as districts could be organized and enough children located to attend them. The school houses were used on Sundays for public worship by the various denominations, until they were able to erect church buildings of their own.

Among the trials of these early pioneer settlers came the grasshopper plague, in the late seventies, and the diphtheria epidemic at about the same time in which almost forty children perished, some families losing four or five of their members. A cyclone struck through the south part of this Swedish settlement in the spring of 1878, destroying considerable property and killing one of the settlers, John Larson. Three or four settlers in Wheeler township lost their lives during the small pox epidemic in the winter of 1881-82, which started at the house of Doctor Stevens in Levey township.

At the present date from sixty to eighty percent of the population of the townships of Stockholm and Otter Creek, in Crawford county; Hays township, Ida county, and Wheeler township, Sac county, are of

Swedish nationality. The people, as a general rule, are now thoroughly Americanized, the younger element using the English language, except at their religious services, in which both languages are used.

Many of the settlers have bestowed upon their children the benefits of a higher education. Ministers, lawyers, doctors and successful business men can be named who were born and reared in this Swedish community, now conceded one of the best and most prosperous in all western Iowa.

CHAPTER V

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

When Sac county was organized the county judge system – a one-man form of government – was in vogue. A change in this system went into effect in all counties of Iowa on January 1, 1861, and the first board of county supervisors met the first Monday in the month of January. Before that the county was really governed after this manner: The county judge had to perform most of the duties now devolving upon the board of county supervisors and the county auditor. When any public improvement was needed the citizens and tax-payers got up a petition and presented it to the county judge, and then came long remonstrances from those in the county opposing such measure and it was up to the judge to determine the legality and validity of such petitions and remonstrances. This applied to roads, bridges, court houses, etc. Certain cliques would get together and scheme to elect a man favorable to their crowd and then the judge so elected was under a certain moral obligation to do the bidding of this clique. His administration was called the "one-man power."

In 1861 came the system of electing a supervisor from each of the townships in the county. A county having sixteen civil townships had sixteen supervisors and they usually met once in three months, sometimes much oftener. What a majority of these men said was the law of the county. This proved cumbersome and very expensive, so in the seventies this was changed and in the counties having a certain population, the number of county supervisors was cut down to three, and these were to be elected from certain districts. One was to be elected each year, thus allowing two old members to be on the board when the new man took his seat. This still prevails in Iowa. Three good men can dispatch more real business for the county than can a larger number. The county auditor acts as clerk ex-officio of the board and looks after the affairs of the county in the absence of the board members who meet whenever there is sufficient business to warrant their meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY COURT AND BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The record shows that on November 6, 1856, at the house of William Wine, in Sac county, Iowa, were united in marriage William Montgomery, of Sac county, aged thirty-five years, and Mary J. Wine, of Sac county, aged sixteen years. The ceremony was performed by Esquire Eugene Criss, (later known as judge Criss), and certified to in the return by County Clerk Henry A. Evans, January 31, 1857.

Among the first members of the grand jury who received warrants for such service were the following: William Montgomery, \$4.60, paid in warrant No. 117; Joseph Williams, warrant No. 118 for \$5.20; warrant No. 119 to Joel Austin for \$4.20 and warrant No. 127 to F. M. Cory for \$4.30.

December 7, 1857 - "And now comes the citizens and tax-payers of Sac county, Iowa, praying for an increase of salary of the following officers: County judge, clerk of the district court, and recorder and treasurer. It is asked in the petition that the salary be raised from fifty dollars to ninety-nine dollars per annum, and the petition was granted and the court hereby orders and decrees that the foregoing officers receive ninety-nine dollars per annum commencing with August, 1857."

In 1859 - It appears of record that among the first foreigners to receive their naturalization papers and be made citizens of the United States, was one Charles Oldfield, who was naturalized October 6, 1859, by W. J. Wagoner county judge, and W. H. Hobbs, county cleric.

May, 1860 - At this term of court, a petition was presented, with thirty-six signatures thereto, asking for a bounty of one cent on each blackbird killed within Sac county. The petition was granted and many birds were killed, and thus the former damage to newly planted corn was greatly appreciated by farmers. This came under the head of what was styled the "Blackbird Law" and the bill was offered to the Legislature by Hon. S. B. Rosenkraus, of Hamilton county, residing at Webster City, and for which reason he was forever afterwards styled the "Blackbird Representative from Hamilton."

In 1864 bounties of five dollars were offered on timber wolves and three dollars for wildcats and prairie wolves.

In January, 1865, on account of President Lincoln's call for three hundred thousand more soldiers, the board of county supervisors of Sac county offered the following bounty for volunteers: Five hundred dollars for one year men; seven hundred dollars for two-year men and nine hundred dollars for three-year men.

On February 10, 1865, the county board ordered a well put down on the public square at Sac City.

About the same date it was ordered that the one-acre graveyard tracts at Sac City and Grant City both be enclosed within a good fence.

In February, 1866, R. Ellis, of Grant City, was appointed superintendent of public schools for Sac county.

In 1873 a reward of five hundred dollars was offered by the county for the discovery of a vein of coal not less than two feet in thickness within the limits of Sac county. It was not discovered.

On July 1, 1889, the county refunding bonds were sold to Ira C. Calef, of Washington, Vermont, at a premium of six hundred dollars. These bonds drew interest at the rate of five percent per annum.

In August, 1892, the minute book shows that the supervisors met at the poor farm to invoice the stock and holdings of the place and to settle with the contractors for erecting the poor house, built by B. F. Shultz.

In May, 1899, the supervisors offered the following bounty to any person or corporation who might discover coal within the limits of the county: "For a vein of coal two feet thick, \$500; for a vein three feet thick, \$1,000; for a vein four or over feet thick, \$1,500." This offer was to last for a period of three years. It appears that nature had not stored away this material in the county, and none has ever been discovered in paying quantities.

In the matter of refunding bonds of Sac county, the minutes for June, 1899, state that twenty-seven thousand dollars worth of refunding bonds were floated at three and a half percent interest per annum. This was the amount of the county's indebtedness at that date.

On April 3, 1900, the board of supervisors contracted with C. W. Welman to serve the county as a tax ferret, to investigate and if possible collect unpaid taxes due the county. He was to receive the sum of fifty percent as collection fees for such work. In 1903 this was reduced to fifteen per cent.

COURT HOUSE HISTORY

Sac county's first court house (the present is the third building) was erected as a result of an election held July 7, 1860, when bonds to the amount of ten thousand dollars were voted. The same drew ten percent per annum. The following is the record concerning the election above named:

A petition bearing date of June 5, 1860, reads as follows: "Whereas, a petition signed by the legal voters of Sac county, Iowa, has been presented to me asking that measures be taken for the erection of a courthouse in Sac county, and whereas it being prescribed by law that in all such matters the question may be submitted to the people of the county. Now, therefore, be it known that I, Eugene Criss, county judge of said Sac county, in compliance with the law made and provided, do hereby give notice to the legal voters of said county that the question will be submitted to them on the 7th day of July, A. D. 1860, at which time there shall be an election held in the several precincts of said county, at the usual places and hours for holding elections in said county: whether or not a courthouse shall be erected in said county to cost \$10,000, in bonds bearing ten percent per annum. The interest due and \$10,000 of the principal to be paid annually until the debt is paid and whether a tax shall be levied annually, to liquidate the demands as they become due."

"And I do further declare the manner of voting shall be as follows: Upon each ballot shall be written or printed, 'For the erection of a courthouse,' or 'Against the erection of a courthouse.' 'For the levy of a tax,' Or 'Against the levy of a tax.' And I do further declare that if a majority of the votes are cast affirmatively that such votes shall be deemed to be in favor of the proposition above submitted, and if a majority of

the vote cast are in the negative, it shall be a rejection of the above proposition. The votes are to be returned by the judges of the different precincts to this court to be then canvassed according to law.

"Given under my hand with the seal of the county affixed, at Sac City, Iowa, this fifth day of June, 1859 A. D.

"E. CRISS, County judge."

The legal returns of this election was made by judge E. Criss, July 7. 1860, and the result was as follows: Total number of votes cast, forty-one. For both propositions, twenty-three votes; against both propositions, eighteen votes. W. H. Hobbs, county clerk, certified to the above as being true.

The contract for building the court house was awarded to W. N. Meservey, of Fort Dodge, for ten thousand dollars. He took the county bonds that had been voted, the same bearing date September 2, 1860, running for ten years. The building contract was signed by Mr. Meservey and County Judge Eugene Criss, attested by County Clerk William H. Hobbs. The contract read, in part, as follows

"That it shall be built on the public square in the original town of Sac City. The front of said court house to face south and to be built on a line corresponding with the north line of Main street, provided said street runs to the public square on the same variation of the needle as said street is established. The center of said court house to be built on a line corresponding to the center of State street."

Signed the 31st day of December, 1860.

The contract for this court house included these words:

"To be thirty-four by forty-six feet outside to outside, to be built of brick; foundation walls to be six feet high - two feet under the ground and four feet above ground, to the first floor. The first story walls to be sixteen inches thick and nine feet between floor and ceiling. The second story walls to be one foot thick and thirteen feet between floor and ceilings. The first story is to be finished off in four rooms for offices, with a hall running through said building from end to end and six feet wide. At the back end of said hall there is to be two flights of stairs, one on each side to ascend to the court room.

"The second story is to be finished for a court room, with two jury rooms, one on each side of the stairway leading to the court room. The court room is to be furnished with judge's stand, bar, jury rooms, etc., at one end and to be seated with black walnut seats to be dressed and varnished. All the outside brick work of said building to be built of good, hard burned brick and the inside walls to be of such brick as are suitable for that purpose. The building is to have eight windows on each side - four on the first story and four on the second story. There are to be five windows on each end - two below and three above - all to be of twelve lights of glass, said glass to be twelve by eighteen inches each.

"The roof is to be a self-supporting roof and covered with good shingles laid four inches to the weather. The brick work is to be painted and penciled. The floors are all to be of good oak or pine, seasoned, dressed and matched. The wood work on the entire building is to be painted with three good coats of white lead and oil, save the varnished work. The walls are to be plastered by a three-coat work. The cupola is to be a good sized one of seasoned lumber, to be patterned after and as good as the one at Denison, Crawford county, Iowa.

"Said building is to be erected, enclosed and the lower story plastered by December 1, 1861, and the upper rooms to be finished as to admit of holding court in them by April 1, following, and the whole to be completed by August 1, 1862."

This court house served well its purpose until the erection of the second court house of the county, which was erected under the following circumstances, as seen by the county records

In 1873 it appears that the county was obliged to lease rooms of private individuals for the accommodation of the county clerk and recorder. The bids for the erection of the second court house were let March 13, 1873. Bonds had been issued according to the vote of the people and sold to the amount of \$30,000 to Jackson Orr, at ninety-three percent of their face value. The contract was awarded to O. J. King at \$26,800, and subsequently there were changes and extras as follows: Cement foundation, \$1,500; four vaults, \$400; additional painting, \$68; two base-burner stoves, \$82. This building was first used by the

county January 1, 1874, and the square was ordered fenced, the contract being let to Orson Lee the same year. The old court house building was ordered sold, as well as the county safe.

This building is described in a work published at that day as follows:

"The new court house is eighty-four by fifty-six feet, solidly and handsomely built of brick, with limestone foundations, and is one of the best county buildings in the Northwest. It cost thirty thousand dollars. The first floor is fitted up for the county officers, with vaults for the county records. The upper story has the court room, jury rooms, etc. With the court room fitted up for a term of court there are about four hundred sittings, but in use as a hall for lectures or political meetings, there is ample room for six hundred people. One room in the basement is used for a jail. A cage of boiler iron, containing two cells, fills about half the room and makes the jail a pretty secure one."

THE PRESENT COURT HOUSE

By 1888 Sac county people had about decided to issue bonds and clear an overhanging debt, thus saving interest and making the future generation do their share towards caring for such legitimate obligations. Just when this was about to be brought about the court house then in use was burned (October 3, 1888) and this stopped further talk of refunding. A new court house must of necessity be quickly provided for the safety of the public records of the county. It was thought the fire was caused by an incendiary and a reward of two hundred dollars was offered for the arrest and turning over to the county authorities of one Carlson, supposed to be the party who fired the building. The record shows: "Whereas, H. A. Hutchinson, constable of Lake City, did capture and return him to Sac City, therefore, be it resolved, that we, the board of supervisors, consider him entitled to the reward and instruct the county auditor to issue him a warrant for the amount of two hundred dollars."

Carlson had been incarcerated in the jail and set fire to it, burning the court house. He was tried and sentenced to twelve years in the penitentiary. He was a Swede farm hand, aged twenty-three years and worked on the Cook ranch. The county clerk's books were the worst burned. The treasurer and recorder got off better, and the sheriff's books and papers were all destroyed. Also the county law library was lost. Carlson was tried before judge Macomber.

Concerning the present court house structure and its construction, the county records say:

"May 2, 1889 - Order No. 1.. Resolved, that county court house for the use of Sac county, Iowa, be at once erected on the site of the one recently burned in said county and on the plat of land known as the public square in the town of Sac City, at a cost of not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars." All three county supervisors voted for this, and all subsequent measures relative to this building. The board then consisted of the following citizens: H. H. Fitch, C. H. Babcock and C. W. Marcy.

"Order No. 2 - Resolved, that the sum of fifteen thousand dollars of the money received from the insurance companies, as an indemnity for the loss of the former court house, in said county, recently destroyed by fire, be appropriated to erect a new court house."

"Order No. 3 - Resolved, that the plans and specifications furnished to Sac county by J. M. Russell for a court house building be adopted, and the new court house built in accordance with said plans and specifications, as now filed in the office of the auditor of Sac county."

"Order No. 4.- Resolved, that the bid of fifteen thousand dollars for the erection of a court house building to be erected in Sac county, Iowa, according to plans and specifications furnished said county by J. M. Russell, made by Asa Platt, D. E. Hallett, D. C. Early, James N. Miller, A. D. Peck, Myron Childs, J. E. Bobbins, John M. Fox and W. C. Shall, be accepted, and that the contract and bond tendered by them for the completion of the work by January 1, 1890, be accepted." A tower surmounted the building, but was taken down in 1900. In July, 1911, a new roof of slate was placed on the entire roof and other improvements made, including the repainting of the inside. The corner stone, laid by the Masonic fraternity, bears this inscription: "Laid by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A. F. & A. M., July 13, A. D. 1889, A. L. 5889."

Just at this time, when the county was without a court house, the citizens in the south part of Sac county, especially in and near the Town of Wall Lake, sought to have the county seat removed and a new

court house erected at Wall Lake. A great fight was put up and remonstrances and petition galore were circulated here and there over the county. The citizens at Sac City got together and formed a home company and pledged themselves to duplicate the new court house then just finished at Storm Lake, for the consideration of the fifteen thousand dollars insurance due the county, they making up the balance toward building a thirty-thousand-dollar structure, which in the end was accomplished. This company of Sac City citizens deposited the collateral with the county auditor, who issued them the following certificate:

"This is to certify that there has been deposited with the auditor of Sac county, for the use of said county, a contract signed by A. Platt, D. E. Hallett, D. Carr Early, A. D. Peck, James N. Miller, J. E. Robbins, Myron Childs, John M. Fox and W. C. Shull, agreeing to build on the court house square in Sac City, on a new foundation, a court house according to the plans and specifications to be furnished by J. M. Russell, of Storm Lake, said court house being estimated to cost thirty thousand dollars, to be built under the direction of said architect and the board of supervisors, to be a duplicate of the one recently erected in Buena Vista county; to furnish the same with steam heating apparatus and to deliver said court house, so built and furnished to the county for the sum of fifteen thousand dollars. Said contract is accompanied by a bond of sixty thousand dollars, signed by the above parties as principals. Said contract is subject to acceptance by the county at any time prior to January 1, 1891, and cannot be withdrawn by said contractors before that date.

"(Signed) by C. W. MARCY, for the Board of Supervisors

"Attest: C. C. Cleveland, County Auditor.

"January 26, 1889

THE COUNTY JAIL

The first real jail for Sac county was in the basement of the court house, which was erected in 1874, but the records show that in September, 1893, the supervisors made the following entry in their official proceedings:

"Whereas, Sac county, Iowa, being without a jail, is compelled to send prisoners and persons detained by law, to other counties for imprisonment and detention, etc., etc., hence it is deemed expedient by the board of supervisors of Sac county, in the management of the business of said county, to erect a jail and, therefore, be it resolved by the board of supervisors, in regular session this 13th day of June, 1893, that there be submitted to the qualified electors of said Sac county, at the next general election, the following question: 'Shall the board of county supervisors of this county erect a jail, the cost not to exceed ten thousand dollars.'

(Signed) "C. H. BABCOCK, Chairman of the Board."

In September, 1893, the following was entered on the board's minute book: "Resolved by the board of supervisors of Sac county, Iowa, that said county will cause to be erected in the court house square at Sac City a jail having the necessary cells, cages and rooms, at a cost not to exceed ten thousand dollars, and that said county raise the said amount by levying a tax on the taxable property of the county in sums as follows: In the year 1893, two and one-half mills on the dollar, which tax shall be levied and collected by law as other taxes in the county. The direction of said jail shall be under the supervision of the board of county supervisors of said county, but these provisions shall not be binding unless ratified by a majority of the legal voters of said county voting for or against the proposition, submitting the same at the general election to be held in November, 1893, at which election it is ordered that the propositions herein contained shall be submitted to them, etc." This jail was to be completed in 1894. The election named was held, but the measure was lost by a majority of over three hundred.

Then the matter was up to the board to provide a safe jail, so in June, 1894, a contract was awarded to the Pauly Jail Building Company, of St. Louis, at four thousand two hundred and thirty-six dollars. It is situated on the northwest corner of the court house square and stands on a good foundation four feet in the earth. It is a red brick structure and now looks the worse for wear. It was so located that a jailer's horse

could be added thereto, but none has ever been erected there. A jail office is found at the south end of the building. The jail has two of the best steel-plate cells, with a steel corridor for the use of prisoners. It is really, today, a safe, but ugly looking jail for so rich a county as Sac

It is, however, probably an improvement over the old jail that was under the court house, from which several prisoners made their escape, including two horse thieves, as noted in the following as appearing in the *Sac Sun* of November, 1878: "The jail breakers, in escaping, first set fire to the ceiling of the jail and burned a hole up through the floor into the treasurer's office. They, no doubt, intended to make a hole through, when they discovered the ventilating pipe could be pulled apart and thus give them an easier access to, the outside and to final freedom. It was lucky that they did not get the whole court house on fire. We suggest to the board of supervisors that it is hardly worth while to spend more money on the jail for the purpose of keeping prisoners from other counties. We have furnished Buena Vista and Ida counties with rooms, food and fuel and attendance long enough. Sac county has had few criminals confined there, compared with other counties. The jail should not be under the court house, but as it is, it would be safer and cheaper to hire a watchman than to expend money to make this one saw and file proof."

THE COUNTY FARM

The care which any people display towards the unfortunate poor within their midst is an almost sure index of what class of citizens they are. From the earliest date, the taxpayers in Sac county have sought to provide for and, as far as possible, relieve the distress and absolute needs of their poorer classes. While the authorities have never been in the habit of caring for the lazy and shiftless classes, they have ever desired that those who had not the means with which to provide for themselves should not want and suffer. Up to 1891 the pauper element, and those who needed some aid, were cared for in and by the different townships of the county, but during the month of December, that year, the supervisors purchased, at thirty-five dollars per acre a quarter section of land in section 14 of Boyer Valley civil township, for the purpose of establishing a county farm, which has since been maintained. In 1905 the proceedings of the county supervisors included an invoice of the stock, implements, supplies and products of this county farm, and it was shown that the total value of the farm and its contents and belongings amounted to about \$17,035. Of this amount, the land was placed at \$12,800. That year the receipts of the farm amounted to \$3,045. The cost of keeping the eight paupers that year amounted to \$906.40.

In the year 1912 the county auditor's report shows the following concerning the county farm, usually styled the "Poor Farm." Valuation, \$23,200; produce raised, \$1,617; implements owned, \$983; furniture, \$452; live stock and poultry, \$3,065 ; pantry stores, \$120; total, \$30,351. For the same year the expenditures were: Salaries and labor, \$1,135.50; subsistence, \$1,461.20; medical expenses, \$45.58; fuel and light, \$568.18; improvement and repairs, \$428.74; feed, \$123.95; feed bought, \$518.21; miscellaneous, \$227.46; total expenses, \$4,508.82. Cost of keeping the inmates for 1911, \$972.79.

Of recent years the farm has not been a very profitable investment to the county. Not all of the poor are cared for there, as much aid is given outside, while the inmates and the stock of the place has not been fully up to former standards, but at this date (1914) efforts are being made to stock up and run the farm on a better basis.

In 1890 a resolution was passed by the county board of supervisors to this effect: "Whereas, the American Educational Association proposes to take the homeless children coming under the charge of the county, that are of a sound mind and of good body, and place them in suitable homes and become responsible for their future maintenance and support, upon the condition that the said county pay to said association the sum of twenty-five dollars for each child so taken charge of." This proposition was accepted.

COUNTY FINANCES

Sac county, like all Iowa counties, has had its own financial history. It has, like its individual members, had its years of despondency and gloom and accompanying debts hanging over its treasury like a pall,

but, with the passing of those earlier and more trying years, came the spell of prosperity that makes glad every taxpayer's heart. At one time more than thirty-five thousand dollars would not fully cover the indebtedness of this county. Bridges, roads, ditches, school houses and three court houses all had to come in for their full share of improvement, before the county could boast, as she does today, of her one-hundred-and-fifty and two-hundred-dollar land for agricultural purposes.

During the never-to-be-forgotten Civil war days, soldiers' bounties, wild animal bounties, even "blackbird bounties," had to be cared for. But the good citizen kept steadily pressing onward, shouting with the songster, "Deliverance will come!" There was a period in this county when county warrant; were not at par by any means, and there were men who took advantage (possibly legally) of such conditions and profited thereby to the detriment of taxpayers and warrant holders. Then there came another period, when men served on the board of supervisors, and were elected to county official positions, who stood squarely for the right, and under their administration a "clean-up" process was undertaken, which worked well for all concerned in the upbuilding and prosperity of the "Kingdom of Sac." There has never been a real defalcation in the county's official record.

In passing, it may be stated that the county first got in debt to provide the ten-thousand-dollar court house, for which bonds were issued in the sixties, and over which there arose a long-drawn-out litigation from the local courts to the United States supreme court. The latter court decided that the county must stand by and pay the bonds issued to Mr. Meservey, of Fort Dodge, for the erection of the court house, which was ordered done under judge Eugene Criss's administration as county judge.

The county treasurer's semi-annual report for the period extending from June 1, 1912, to January 1, 1913, shows the revenues collected and disbursed for that six-month period, round numbers only being carried in this statement:

Funds	Collected	Disbursed	On hand Jan 1, 1913
State	\$13,378.00	\$13,409.00	\$114.00
State University	600.00	602.00	7.00
State College	600.00	602.00	7.00
State Normal	300.00	301.00	3.22
County	22,472.00	21,722.00	348.59
County School	3,000.00	4812.00	1,085.64
County Road	2,360.00	5,233.00	340.03
County Bond	1,500.00	3,441.00	528.69
County Bridge	15,303.00	29,047.00	1,580.27
County Poor	3,300.00	3,983.00	1,847.78
Insane	3,200.00	3,331.00	4,871.68
Temporary School	1,600.00	860.00	1,141.87
Permanent School	1,500.00	1,250.00	250.00
Institute	254.00	397.00	262.20
Domestic Animals	614.00	1352.00	387.68
Farmers' Institute		75.00	
Motor Vehicles	1,603.00	2,626.00	1,461.90
Soldiers' Relief	907.00	1,024.00	1,659.00
Totals	\$61,491.00	\$94,067.00	\$15,906.16

The county treasury had on hand enough funds, on July 1, 1912, to make the difference in the above figures, hence the county finances now stand as above stated.

Figuring from the county books and reports it is also shown that counting in all the township finances, debit and credit, up to January 1, 1913, the county had on hand \$34,856.06 in its treasury, a show most excellent indeed. It was not a score of years ago that this county had an indebtedness equal to the amount on hand today.

TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH LINES

There are at present more than thirty telephone lines operating in Sac county, having a mileage of 854 miles, and of telegraph lines, 107 miles, assessed at \$80 per mile. The total assessment for telegraph lines in county, \$8,602.40. With these various methods of communication the county's people are in touch with one another, as well as with the outside world.

DISBURSEMENTS FOR DRAINAGE PURPOSES

The following shows the drainage districts in 1913 that had the amounts indicated disbursed in the year 1912-13:

Drainage District No. 1, eighty-one cents; drainage district No. 2, \$2,166.76; drainage district No. 3, \$63.78; drainage district No. 5, \$43.94; drainage district No. 7, \$31.26; drainage district No. 11, \$7.66; drainage district No. 16, \$24,551.16; drainage district No. 20, \$201.45; drainage district No. 28, \$20.00; drainage district No. 29, \$10,700; drainage district No. 31, \$437.39; drainage district No. 34, \$2,008.76; drainage district No. 36, \$95.17; drainage district No. 38, \$2,124.71 ; drainage district No. 39, \$950.30; drainage district No. 40, \$2,649.98.

This makes a grand total of \$73,203.00 paid out for drainage purposes in Sac county for a single year, and it was money well expended, as it has reclaimed thousands of acres of fertile land, besides materially increasing the agricultural and commercial value of much more, indirectly.

CHAPTER VI

THE BAR OF SAC COUNTY

By Charles D. Goldsmith

With but one or two exceptions, the attorneys who have practiced in Sac county came from other states or other parts of our own state. The bar, as a whole, has been, comparatively speaking, a strong one. Of course, here, as elsewhere, there has been much abuse of the law and the lawyers; but, candidly, would not the abolition of both spell chaos? A community without lawyers would be a community without order, without government, without progress, peace, stability or happiness.

To be sure, lawyers are not all high-minded men, but neither are all those who follow other walks of life. A lawyer is much like his fellows, whatever their occupation. He is subject to the same environment; the same temptations, the same inexorable sway of demand and supply, and if he sometimes stoops to the mire, the dishonest client will be found upon his shoulders, bearing him clown in the filth. The lawyer is no better and no worse than men in other lines of work, but he is a necessity. Blot out the law and the lawyers, and civilization dies with them. The standing of the bar is high today, but, as in all human affairs, there is room for improvement. However, it is gratifying to know that its character is certainly being elevated to a higher plane.

THE FIRST LAWYER IN SAC CITY

John T. Alexander was Sac county's first lawyer. He located at Sac City in 1868, having before been in the practice at Vinton, Benton county, this state, where he had served the judicial district in which Benton county was embraced; as district attorney. He was not what is called a "case lawyer," but was well grounded in the fundamental principles of the law. It was his intention to discontinue the practice upon his removal to Sac county. He found it difficult to do this, and for a while took part in the small amount of court work which came up at the time in the county. "Uncle John" was a gentleman in every sense of the word, kind and considerate of every one. After a few years, he retired and lived loved and respected by all until his death, in 1882.

Eli R Chase settled at Sac City in 1869, removing from Wausau, Wisconsin, where he had been a prominent lawyer and citizen for many years. He served upon the board of supervisors of the county. He was a lawyer of much ability and strength of character. The law business of the county at this time was of such meager proportions that it was not inviting, and in 1875 he removed to California.

Hon. Ed. R. Duffle came to Sac City in 1870 and shortly afterwards formed a partnership with Eli R. Chase, the firm being Chase & Duffle. He served as a member of the board of supervisors and was county treasurer, was afterwards elected to the Legislature, and later became judge of the fourteenth judicial district. Representing the county in the Legislature, he was without doubt the best equipped and ablest member the county has ever had. After serving upon the bench eight years, he retired to the practice at Sac City. He outgrew the practice here and removed to Omaha, Nebraska, in 1883. For several years he served as a commissioner of the supreme court. Retiring from that position, he removed from Omaha to Scott's Bluffs, Nebraska, and became a member of the firm of Wright & Duffle and continued to practice until the year 1913. His health then failed him and he went to California, hoping to find a climate beneficial, but died shortly after reaching there.

Hon. S. M. Elwood, formerly of Tama county, Iowa, and S. E. Stanfield formed a partnership to practice law and located during the year 1876, and as a firm practiced until 1879, when it dissolved and Mr. Stanfield removed to Odebolt. Mr. Elwood then formed a partnership with Levi Davis, the firm being known as Davis & Elwood. This firm afterward dissolved and Mr. Davis removed to Montana. Mr. Elwood continued in the practice and in the fall of 1895 was elected to the district judgeship of the sixteenth judicial

district and occupied the bench for eight years. After retiring from that position he resumed practice. He is a good lawyer and the most plausible of gentlemen.

Mr. Stanfield, as before stated, removed to Odebolt, where he continued to reside and practice law for a few years, and then removed to Ida Grove, in Ida county, where he practiced until his death; a few years later.

D. E. Voris and I. Wheaton, two young men of good native ability, located at Sac City in 1876 and remained a few years. Mr. Voris afterward removed to Marion, where he has since continued in a very successful practice. Mr. Wheaton removed to Lincoln, Nebraska, and died after remaining in practice a few years.

D. J. McDaid commenced the practice of law at Sac City in 1881, and very soon afterwards received an appointment to a judicial position in Indian Territory, after the expiration of which he removed to West Virginia.

W. H. Hart commenced the practice of law in Sac City in 1880. In 1885 the partnership of Goldsmith & Hart was formed, of which Mr. Hart was a member until 1889, when Mr. Goldsmith was appointed by Governor Boies to fill the vacancy on the district bench caused by the resignation of judge J. H. Macomber. Mr. Hart has filled the office of county attorney for two terms. In this office he was safe and reliable and no one performed the duties of that office better to the satisfaction of the people. He now ranks among the leading lawyers of the county.

J. H. Tait first located at Wall Lake, in this county, in 1879, as the junior member of the firm of Edson & Tait. The firm continued in the practice a few years and dissolved. Mr. Tait removed to Schaller and continued in the practice until he was elected county attorney, when he removed to Sac City. During his incumbency of that office he formed a partnership with W. Jackson, which partnership existed until his death, in 1913. He was one of the lawyers who forged his way to the front and was quite prominent in the politics of the county.

William Jackson has long been numbered among the trustworthy members of the Sac county bar. His specialty has been that of an abstracter and real estate lawyer. He attended to that branch of the practice of the firm of Tait & Jackson, while Mr. Tait gave his attention to such litigation as came into the hands of the firm.

R. L. McCord located here in 1908 and since has been appointed and elected two terms as county attorney. Upon the expiration of his last term he engaged in general practice. He is possessed of good ability, much industry and holds the esteem of all in this county.

Malcolm Currie, having held the office of sheriff of Sac county, took his examination and was admitted to the bar in 1910, since which time he has been elected county attorney, an office he now holds. Still young in the practice, his energy and industry is fast leading him to the front.

J. B. Tourgee located in Sac City in 1913 and formed a partnership with S. M. Elwood. He is being known as a careful and industrious young man, possessed of studious habits that are sure to give him high rank in his profession.

THOSE PRACTICING IN 1914

A list of those practicing in Sac City in 1914 includes the following, as they rank with age: Charles D. Goldsmith, S. M. Elwood, William Jackson, W. H. Hart, R. L. McCord, Malcolm Currie, J. B. Tourgee. There are many more, who have come and gone, but their sojourn has been so short and uneventful that it can hardly be said that they should be considered as members of this bar.

IN OTHER TOWNS OF THE COUNTY

Ed. Hatch commenced the practice of law at Grant City in 1875. One would be authorized in saying that no young man has appeared at the Sac county bar with more natural ability and better presence than he. He was genial, eloquent and quick to see a point in litigation. He grew boastful and dissolute and at a time

when he should have been meeting with a success rightfully due him and within his reach, he was murdered by brawling associates. .

The firm of Zane & Helsell located at Odebolt in 1878 and was composed of John M. Zane, who made a specialty of making abstracts and law connected therewith, and W. A. Helsell, who did the court work and attended to the general litigation. Mr. Zane afterwards removed to Sac City and continued in abstracting work for a time, and then removed to Des Moines, where he engaged in the insurance business. Mr. Helsell continued in practice at Odebolt and has since remained there, and, while a few others have come and gone from Odebolt with little success, Mr. Helsell has built up a remunerative practice which he still enjoys. He is the only lawyer now in Odebolt. Among others who have at times been members of the bar at Odebolt, C. E. George and Del Coy, should be mentioned. Mr. George was a young man, well educated and had he possessed stability of character could, it would seem, have reached a high rank in his profession. Being ambitious to enter a larger field he removed to Chicago. His career in Odebolt was not a brilliant one. Mr. Coy, while somewhat successful at Odebolt, after a few years removed to Pierre, South Dakota, where he was elected to the office of clerk of the courts. He filled this office and practiced his profession for a few years and died. He was a man of excellent character and respected by all.

R. M. Hunter was a member of the bar residing at Wall Lake for a number of years. He was a good lawyer, neighbor and citizen, and while there he was elected county attorney and made an excellent official. Soon afterward he removed to Sibley, Iowa, where he met with success in his practice and there died. During his practice he accumulated considerable property. Another attorney at Wall Lake was S. E. Stanfield, now of Rockwell City, who was for a time a partner of judge Elwood, in Sac City. A. B. Barclay, a young lawyer of much ability, a clean, loveable man, located at Wall Lake in 1900. He had held the office of county attorney one term and part of another, when, in 1908, he moved to Jerome, Idaho, where he took up the practice. Wall Lake now has but one lawyer, E. S. Whitney, who recently entered the profession. He is a young man with good ambitions and appearances. His geniality and manner appeals to all and there is little doubt that he will meet with success.

Besides the members of the bar in Sac county named by Mr. Goldsmith there should also be mentioned the following: Charles D. Goldsmith is the oldest resident attorney at Sac City with the exception of S. M. Elwood. He has been practicing in Sac and adjoining counties since the latter part of the seventies, except during the time he was upon the bench of the district court of this district. He was selected by Governor Horace Boies to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of judge Macomber, of Ida Grove, and was also elected to succeed himself at the election, though a Democrat in politics and in a Republican district. He has been and is one of the most successful practitioners in this part, of the state, having a large clientele. He has always been a very aggressive lawyer and stands high in his chosen profession. He was admitted to the bar in the state of New York, came west to Webster City, Iowa, then to Newell, in Buena Vista county, and finally to Sac City, where he has since remained. He stands high in this community as a citizen as well as lawyer and counselor.

About 1880 A. B. Mason began the practice of law in Sac City and a few years later was joined by E. G. Thomas, the firm being then known as Mason & Thomas. The partnership continued for some years, when it was dissolved, E. G. Thomas going to Omaha and later to Chicago and then to his former home in Indiana, where he died. A. B. Mason continued in Sac City until his death, some years later.

J. Koder came to Sac City about 1882 and engaged in the practice of law for a short time only. He was editor of the paper known as The Democrat for a while and moved to Omaha, where he engaged in legal work again.

Miles W. Newby began the practice of law here, in the office of S. M. Elwood, in the nineties. He was elected county attorney of Sac county for two terms, and soon after his last term expired he moved to Onawa, where he now lives and is actively in the practice. He was a conscientious young lawyer and a hard worker.

CHAPTER VII

MEDICAL HISTORY OF SAC COUNTY

By Z. Fuller, M. D.

The first physician, Doctor Bence, arrived in the frontier hamlet of Sac City in 1856, but remained only a short time.

The next physician, Doctor Rising, came the next year, 1857, and remained about five years, and then removed from Sac City to Grant City, Sac county, where he died and was buried.

The next physician was Dr. Frank Stiles, who located in Sac City in 1858 or 1859, remaining perhaps ten years, part of this time being at Twin Lakes, Calhoun county. In the late sixties he ran a general merchandise business in Sac City.

Dr. R. G. Platt, a brother of Asa Platt, came in 1868, locating in Sac City Doctor Platt remained five or six years, but, being in poor health, was unable to endure the hardships incident to the practice of medicine in a pioneer community, and therefore moved to Hillsdale, Michigan.

Dr. A. T. Brenton was the next physician to locate in Sac county, coming to Sac City in 1869, where he remained in active practice almost continuously for more than thirty years, the first medical man to identify himself permanently with the community. A more extended biographical mention of Doctor Brenton will be found at another place in this chapter.

Since the time of Dr. Brenton's arrival and up to the present (1914) many physicians have, from time to time, located in Sac City and at other points in the county, a good many remaining for only a brief period, hardly long enough to warrant more than noting the date of their arrival, where the latter can be ascertained. Those remaining a longer time, long enough to warrant being considered permanent citizens, will have more extended biographical sketches in the following pages.

Perhaps no class of people in any pioneer country sees more of hardship and the strenuous life than does the physician. The homes of the pioneers were widely scattered over the desolate prairies, necessitating long and tiresome - and sometimes dangerous - drives, usually on horseback in all kinds of weather in their professional ministrations. And for such services the doctor's pay was often in the form of the possessions which are at least reasonably satisfactory, earning as well the genuine gratitude and respect of the communities in which they have labored.

The writer had a share in some of these experiences during the later pioneer days, many of which he looks back on with pleasure and no small degree of satisfaction, not the least of which comes from seeing a good many of those pioneers of the strenuous years now in comfortable homes and in possession of every other reasonable need for their declining years. All of which seems a fair compensation for the struggle of those early days. Returning now to the personal history of some of Sac county's physicians, it may be said that

Andrew Thomas Brenton was born in Johnson county, Indiana, September 15, 1848, and came by covered wagon, with his parents, to Dallas county, Iowa, in the fall of 1853, when but five years of age. Of the ancestry it may be said that the father, James Baird Brenton, was born in Kentucky. He was the son of Rev. Henry Brenton and Esther Baird and the grandson of Major James Brenton and Mary Woodfield. Major James Brenton served during the Revolutionary War from Virginia. His commission as major, signed by Governor Patrick Henry, of Virginia, is in the family and very highly prized.

His mother was Elizabeth Glenn, daughter of Archibald Glenn and Lydia Rhodes, granddaughter of Archibald Glenn, Sr., and Sarah Furgason and Jacob Rhodes and Elizabeth Furlow, and great-granddaughter of Robert Furlow, and Kittie McGuire. Archibald, Sr., came to America from Scotland in 1770. He served from Pennsylvania during the Revolutionary War, as did Jacob Rhodes and Robert Furlow from Virginia. With such Revolutionary ancestry, one would not wonder that Doctor Brenton was one of the most patriotic citizens.

The Doctor received his early education in the district schools, and later in the Adel schools. He read medicine with his father and attended the Medical College of Keokuk, Iowa, and later took a post-graduate course in St. Louis. He married Harriett Ella Wright, and they had four children, Glencora, Maude, Fay and Max. He practiced medicine at Dallas Center, Iowa, one year and then located at Sac City, Iowa, in the fall of 1871. Notwithstanding the wild prairie country, the unbridged streams, bad roads and dark stormy nights, the Doctor never let these things prevent him from answering the calls of suffering humanity. He frequently took his gun and dog along and, in season, killed many prairie chickens on his trips.

Doctor Brenton was the first physician to become permanently identified with the county in its pioneer days, locating as he did in 1871. For more than thirty years he was continuously engaged in practice. For a large part of his time his practice extended over a wide range of territory, frequently into the adjacent counties. During the more active period of his life he doubtless had the most extensive clientele of any physician who has ever practiced in this county. This, being in the days of riding horses, meant almost continuous riding, night and day, sometimes for weeks together. But during all those strenuous years of widely scattered practice, in storm and snow and mud, he faithfully ministered to the people, a highly useful and much appreciated citizen.

Doctor Brenton did his work with energy and enthusiasm; he was in love with his work, giving always of the best that was in him, and without regard to rank and station. He was a man of more than ordinary native ability, of excellent judgment in his professional work; quick to see the essentials and the main points in a case, and resourceful in treatment. The writer was twice associated with him in practice, and was many times with him in consultations, and this experience fully warrants the above statements.

Doctor Brenton was of quick wit and possessed a keen sense of humor. He enjoyed a good story, either as a listener or raconteur; and not a little wide popularity came from these qualities-qualities which are also at times invaluable at the bed side of the sick. In his later years he greatly enjoyed recalling from the rich fund of his pioneer experiences those incidents particularly which had an element of humor and drollery with which he would entertain his listeners. Of such, he had acquired a large collection, which, with his natural wit and humor, made him an entertaining talker. Not a few good stories about the Doctor are still current among the "old-timers," and a sketch without any of these would hardly seem fitting, which perhaps is sufficient warrant for the following

During the latter part of the Doctor's practice, when not a few of the early settlers had become well-to-do, one of the latter, becoming seriously sick, summoned the Doctor, who, when he visited the patient insisted that he should remain with him continuously until he "was out of danger." This the Doctor was reluctant to do, as it was a busy season and to give his entire time to a single patient meant considerable loss to himself, not to mention the inconvenience or worse to others of his patrons. When this was intimated to the wealthy patient, he remarked that the Doctor "wouldn't lose anything" and that there were other doctors whom the people could employ. The Doctor finally consented, and henceforth for about ten days remained in the patient's house, giving him his exclusive professional attention. When the sick man was at last convalescent and the Doctor announced that his services were no longer needed, the grateful patient asked for the amount of his bill that he might show his gratitude by prompt payment. The Doctor answered that his bill was four hundred and ninety-nine dollars, which amount seemed so large that the gentleman remonstrated, to which the Doctor exclaimed that during so busy a season he might have lost even a larger amount than this from other practice, remarking that the "exclusive services of a busy doctor" come high. But the wealthy patient still remonstrated, expressing his unwillingness and finally his positive refusal to pay such an exorbitant bill, to which the Doctor replied that "God has made you able and I will make you willing to pay that bill," and, getting into his buggy, started to drive off, but he was recalled and his bill was paid. When someone later asked the Doctor why he had not made the fee a hundred dollars, he dryly answered that "Five hundred dollars would have been too much."

Doctor Brenton was a steadfast Republican, all his life taking an active interest in political matters, both local and general, but never showing any desire for office himself, his whole practical interest being centered in his profession. He was a member of the Masonic order, having membership in the blue lodge, chapter and commandery at Sac City.

During the last dozen years or more of his life, Doctor Brenton spent the winter seasons in Florida. His health had failed and he could no longer stand the rigors of the Northern winters. The last two or three years he remained in the South continuously at the home of his daughter. He died October 26, 1912, at Havelock, Iowa, in the home of his son Max, whose sick wife the Doctor had come north to attend professionally.

Doctor Brenton was twice married, first to Harriett Ellen Wright, in Dallas county, Iowa, to whom were born two sons and two daughters. Mrs. Brenton died in Florida in the winter of 1895. His second wife, to whom he was married in 1898, was Mrs. Sarah E. Allen, widow of a Sac City pioneer, who survives him.

Being human, very human, Doctor Brenton had faults, his most serious faults, however, making him "his own worst enemy," and it would seem that generosity should restrain comment here at length, remembering rather the many good traits and the valuable service he rendered this community for so many years.

Thomas Browning Mansfield, M. D., was born in Unionport, Jefferson county, Ohio, June 15, 1844, where he lived until the outbreak of the Civil War, when, at the age of seventeen years, he enlisted in the Fifty-second Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Col. Dan McCook, serving therein until mustered out at the close of the war. This young soldier showed special aptitude for nursing and otherwise caring for the sick and wounded, and was early assigned to the hospital corps where he remained throughout the service. This experience led him to decide to adopt the profession of medicine as his life work. At the close of the war he entered Harlen College, from which he was graduated in 1867, after which he taught school for some years, utilizing every spare moment in the study of medicine under the guidance of two physicians. Later he engaged in the drug business, at Smithfield, Ohio, in connection with Doctor Clancy of that place, afterward attending Ohio Medical College, Cincinnati, from which he was graduated.

Doctor Mansfield commenced the practice of medicine at Jefferson, Greene county, Iowa, in 1873. A year or two later, having occasion to be in Sac City, he became so favorably impressed with the place that he removed there in 1875. Throughout all the remainder of his life there was no other place so dear as Sac City and surroundings. Here nearly all the remainder of his life was spent, although circumstances led to his absence at times for considerable periods. On September 30, 1879, he was married to Cornelia Kate Taylor, a daughter of Samuel C. and Jane H. Taylor, pioneer residents of Cedar township, Sac county. In 1892, because of his wife's failing health, he removed to Denver, Colorado, where they remained about two years. From there they moved to Harrison county, Ohio, to care for his aged parents, where they remained until the death of his father in 1900. The Doctor and his wife then returned to Sac City where he resumed his practice. His wife's failing health induced him to remove to California in 1906. They located first at Ocean Park, but later went to the Sierra Nevada mountains, near Yosemite Park, but returned to Ocean Park in September, 1909, where he died of apoplexy, February 11, 1910. His widow survives him (1914) and lives at Ocean Grove, California. They had no children.

In the words of her who perhaps knew Doctor Mansfield best, "He was a man of fine presence and generous to a fault in his professional life. The qualities of character which were fundamental in him, led him to the places where the work was hardest, the strain heaviest, the need greatest. It was a part of his very nature to help the poor, to relieve the distress of those who had little with which to repay him. Doctor Mansfield was genial, generous, and had many and steadfast friends in the community where he so long labored, having an extensive practice during all the years of his residence here."

In politics, Doctor Mansfield was a life-long and steadfast Republican and was at various times honored with positions of trust and responsibility. The one which he, perhaps, prized the highest, was as a member of pension examining boards, which he held in Iowa for more than twenty-five years, during Democratic as well as Republican administrations. He was also a member of an examining board during his residence in Harrison county, Ohio.

Doctor Mansfield was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and also a member of the Methodist church.

Doctor William Warren came to Sac county in 1870, settling on land in section 17, in Boyer Valley township, where he henceforward lived for thirty years, managing his farm and also serving as physician in

the surrounding community. During the pioneer days, especially when physicians were few and far apart, Doctor Warren's professional services were much in demand, without which the pioneers should have been obliged to depend for such services upon physicians much farther away - Sac City, Storm Lake and Ida Grove - which in those days, before telephones and automobiles, would have necessitated travel of from twelve to twenty miles, usually on horseback. To have a physician in their midst was certainly a great convenience to that rather isolated Boyer Valley community, which was well appreciated, and Doctor Warren had an extensive practice. Doctor Warren was born in Rutland county, Vermont, December 29, 1817. When he was thirteen years old his parents removed to Genesee county, New York, remained two years, then to Orleans county and later to Niagara county. At the age of about twenty-one years young Warren commenced the study of medicine with Doctor Pratt, of Somerset, New York. In 1857 he came west, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he remained three or four years, then to Dodge county, coming from there to Sac county, Iowa, where he remained until his death. June 20, 1901.

B. F. Stevens, M. D. was born in Montrose, Pennsylvania, where he lived until fourteen years of age, when he came with his parents to Illinois, settling near Elgin. He remained there until he came to Sac county in 1871, settling in Levey township, on section 21, where he resided about ten years, then removed to Odebolt where he died in 1891.

Doctor Stevens was graduated from Bennett Medical College Chicago, in 1869, and practiced about two years before coming to Iowa. He wished to abandon practice, but several of his Illinois neighbors settling near him in Levey township, being remote from other doctors in the early days, they naturally called upon him for professional services. He was thus called upon so frequently that he became actively engaged in practice, having little or no time left for the business of farming, to which he had intended to devote his entire attention on coming to Sac county. After about ten years' residence on his farm, he removed to Odebolt, where he was engaged in the practice until his death, March 20, 1891.

Doctor Stevens' eldest son, A. E. Stevens, also took up the study of medicine and was graduated from the same college as his father (Bennett) about 1878. He located at Wall Lake, where he was in practice about two years, then removed to Odebolt, where he practiced with his father for a time, removing to Malino, Florida, and there practiced until his death in 1908.

J. W. Cannon, M. D., was among the pioneer physicians of Sac county, who located in Grant City, October 12, 1874, where he remained in practice until October, 1883. Doctor Cannon was born in Carthage, Illinois, April 15, 1849, graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Keokuk, Iowa, June 17, 1873. He also attended lectures at the same college during the winter of 1876, and in 1889 did post-graduate work at the Post-Graduate College and Hospital of New York City. During his residence in Grant City, Doctor Cannon was married to Jennie Dobson, a daughter of one of the most estimable Sac county families. After his removal from this county, he was engaged in practice, for a time, in Atlantic, Cass county, Iowa, from whence he removed to Canyon City, Colorado, on account of his wife's health. Later he removed to Boise, Idaho, where he is now located.

Dr. W. S. Duncan, came first to Sac City, July 3, 1874, remaining perhaps a year or so, was elsewhere four years, and then returned in 1878, remaining several years and acquiring a considerable practice. He received his medical education at the Cincinnati Medical College and Eclectic Institution (now extinct). Doctor Duncan possessed considerable natural ability, as well as professional skill. During his later residence here he became interested in the profession of law, and read law for a time with a thought of changing to that profession, but that was never done, so far as known to the writer. He left Sac City sometime in the eighties and located in Sheldon, Iowa.

D. C. Cook, M. D., located in what was then Fletcher (now Lake View) in 1881, being associated with L. A. Chapman in a drug store at that place. He received his preparatory education at Mount Vernon, Iowa, and was graduated from the medical department of the Iowa State University in March, 1873. He commenced practice at Calamus, Iowa, from whence he removed to Sac county, and remained several years.

Caleb Brown, M. D., was born January 27, 1830, on a farm in Knox county, Ohio, where his boyhood was passed. He received his early education in the common schools of the state and from a private

tutor, who gave him instruction in Latin. In 1870, he came with his parents to Iowa, where the first year he was engaged in teaching school; the next year he entered the Iowa State University in the classical department. While so engaged, he began the study of medicine, entering the medical department of the university



HOSPITAL AT ODEBOLT

in September, 1874. He received his degree in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Keokuk, Iowa, in 1877. For two years, beginning in September, 1892, he held the chair of chemistry, toxicology and microscopy in that college, but resigned that position on account of interference with other professional work. A part of two years he spent in postgraduate work in Chicago. He was a member of the Northwestern Iowa Medical Society, the Medical Society of the State of Iowa, the

American Medical Association, the International Association of Railway Surgeons, and in 1894 was elected a member of the American Electro-Therapeutic Association, of which he was made second vice-president in 1897. He was an active worker in all these societies, having prepared and read papers of merit before each of them at various times, having special interest in electro-therapeutics, some of the papers prepared by him in this latter eliciting very favorable comment, from men of note in this specialty. Doctor Brown held the position of local surgeon for the Chicago & Northwestern railway for several years preceding his death; had been health officer of Sac City; had been county coroner, and was a trustee of the Sac City Collegiate Institute, in which he was lecturer on physiology and chemistry. He took not only an active interest in this but in all other educational matters. He was a member of the United States pension examining board for this district. Doctor Brown located in Sac City, 1882, where the remainder of his life was spent in active practice of his profession. On November 7, 1884, he was married to Elizabeth Prindle Baxter, who survives him. They had no children. Five weeks before his death, the Doctor was attacked by pneumonia and, his vitality being a good deal reduced by overwork and his general health having been somewhat impaired during several weeks preceding, there was apprehension from the first as to the result. The attack proved to be comparatively mild, however, but during convalescence catarrhal jaundice supervened, then gastritis and other complications resulting in death, June 4, 1899.

Doctor Brown was a man of marked ability, a close student and a hardworking practitioner, keeping fully abreast of the advancement of his profession; a man of the strictest honor and integrity, with an active interest in all that is good and right; a gentleman in the best sense of the word; a valued and much appreciated citizen of the community. He had a wide acquaintance with many fast friends and an extensive practice. He had good business ability, an attribute lacking in most physicians. During the later years of his life he owned and conducted a drug store in Sac City, which was a profitable business. He acquired considerable means, all of which was invested in Sac City property.

SURGICAL WORK IN THE COUNTY

Like most similar communities having no hospital facilities, very little major surgical work has been done in Sac county, excepting such as comes under the head of emergency surgery, of which there has been perhaps about the usual amount, though not large, incident to communities almost wholly agricultural. When such emergencies have arisen they have been met and such service rendered as was possible by general practitioners. They have necessarily done a very wide range of surgical and medical work, anything which came in the line of duty, and usually with creditable success, and in some cases with results that were really brilliant.

Such other surgical procedures as needed hospital facilities for their proper care have been sent away, a good deal of such work going to Dr. A. L. Wright, of Carroll, Iowa, who established a small private hospital at that place about 1893. His hospital was later superseded by St. Anthony's, a general public hospital, where Doctor Wright continued to do his surgical work during the remainder of his life. A good deal of such work has been sent to Chicago, Des Moines, Omaha and Rochester, Minnesota. At the present, probably the most of it is going to Des Moines; some of it, chiefly from the western part of the county, going to Doctor Crane's hospital, which was established at Ida Grove, and later moved to Odebolt. Doctor Speaker, at Lake View, recently fitted up some hospital facilities in connection with his office, where some surgical work is being done. Doctor McCray, of Schaller, is doing more surgical work, perhaps, than is usual with general practitioners having no hospital facilities. He operates at patient's homes for appendicitis, as well as doing some other major surgical operations. But the medical men in this county generally hold to the common opinion that, aside from minor and emergency surgery, it is usually preferable and more satisfactory to send surgical cases to surgeons of special training and experience doing their work in the general hospitals of the larger cities.

The following is a list of physicians, of various schools of medicine who have registered under the state law of 1885, in and for Sac county:

Adams, Charles B., Sac City, born in New York, graduated Cleveland, Ohio, certified in this county December, 1886, eight years in practice.

Andre, T. J., Schaller, born in Ohio, graduated at Rush Medical, certified here December, 1886, four years in practice when coming here.

Acres, Lois F., (homeopathic) Sac City, born Pennsylvania, graduate of Chicago Homeopathic College.

Brown, Caleb, Sac City, born in Ohio, certified here September, 1886, nine years in practice when he came here.

Brenton, Thomas Andrew, born Indiana, certified April, 1887, eighteen years in practice before coming here.

Berry, Joseph P., Auburn, born Illinois, certified May, 1891.

Brookhart, Edward W., (eclectic) Ulmer, certified April, 1906.

Behrens, George W., born Illinois, certified here 1911, graduate of the Chicago Medical College.

Blackstone, Bigelow P., (homeopathic) born Iowa, certified here May, 1899, graduate of Iowa State University.

Duvall, W. H., Schaller, born Kentucky, certified August, 1886, in practice at time of coming here nine years.

Dunkelburg, B. C., (regular) Schaller, born New York, graduate of University of New York, certified 1889.

Dobson, William C., Sac City, born in New Jersey, certified April, 1910, when four years in practice.

Duncan, William Cass, (regular) Sac City, born Wisconsin, certified November, 1898, graduate of Iowa State University --- medical department in practice fourteen years -when he came here.

Denny, B. F., Nemaha, born Missouri, certified October, 1909.

Francis, William H., Sac City, born Ireland, certified 1886, in practice at time of coming twenty-six years.

Farquhar, Thomas, (regular) Early, born Pennsylvania, eighteen years in practice at date of coming here.

Duller, Z., (regular) Sac City-, born Indiana, certified here March, 1876, eleven years practice before coming here.

Farquhar, Elwood M., (regular) Early, born Pennsylvania, certified Nov, 1897, graduate of Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Findley, William John Kennedy, Sac City, born Iowa, certified May, 1904, graduate Chicago Medical College, five years in practice when he came.

Graham, J. W., (regular) Early, born Iowa, certified November, 1886, six years in practice at date of coming here.

Groman, August, Odebolt, born Indiana, certified here July, 1887, graduate of Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, in practice eight years when he came here.

Gannon, W. L. (eclectic) Grant City, born New Jersey, certified September, 1886, graduate of Bennett Medical College, Chicago, in practice twenty-seven years at date of coming here.

Gibson, George G., (regular) Odebolt, born Ohio, certified May, 1898, graduate Iowa College Physicians and Surgeons, Des Moines.

George, Albert B., (regular) Lake View, born Illinois, certified May, 1890.

Gregg, Orion Russell, (regular) Nemaha, born Iowa, certified July, 1908, graduate of Kansas City Medical College.

Green, Loren, (osteopath) Sac City, born in Wisconsin, certified August 1912, graduate of Still College, Des Moines.

Hopkins, Christopher M., (regular) Wall Lake, born Illinois, certified January. 1887, graduate of Chicago Medical College, eleven years in practice at date of coming here.

Higgins, J. W., (regular) Grant City, born in Vermont, certified here January, 1887, in practice nine years.

Hall, A. A., (regular) Odebolt, born Iowa, certified July, 1889, twelve years in practice then.

Hayden, A. S., (homeopath) Wall Lake, born Illinois, certified May, 1894.

Hendricks, J. M., (osteopathy) Sac City, born Missouri, certified August, 1902, now in Woodbine, Iowa.

Iwerson, J. C., (regular) Early, certified October, 1904, graduate of University of Nebraska, six years in the practice at date of his coming here.

Johnson. Frank S., Odebolt, born Iowa, certified here May, 1887, graduate Iowa State University, in practice at date of coming here eleven years.

Lanyon, William H., (regular) Wall Lake, born in England, certified August, 1894, graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago; in practice fifteen years at time of coming here.

Mansfield, Thomas B., (regular) Sac City, born in Ohio, certified here December, 1886, graduate of Medical College of Cincinnati, Ohio, sixteen years in practice at date of his coming here.

Maker, Louis G., (regular) Sac City, born in Iowa, certified May, 1897, graduate Iowa College of Physicians and Surgeons.

McCrary, Frank H., (regular) Schaller, born Iowa, certified May, 1897, graduate of Sioux City College of Medicine, one year in practice when he came here.

Mereness, H. D., (regular) Carnarvon, born in Iowa, certified May, 1898, graduate of Iowa State University.

Pierce, Edward F., (regular) born Pennsylvania, certified 1889, graduate of Iowa State University.

Presnell, James F., (regular) Lake View, born Iowa, certified May, 1894, graduate Iowa State University, seven years in practice at date of coming here.

Petersmeyer, William, (regular) Odebolt, born in United States, certified May, 1898, graduate of College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago.

Ray, Newton D., (regular) Lake View, born Illinois, certified here May, 1889, graduate of Iowa State University, seven years in practice.

Roberts, Thomas G., (osteopath) Odebolt, born Iowa, certified here July, 1911, graduate Still College, Des Moines.

Stevens, Allen E., (eclectic) Odebolt, born Illinois, certified here December, 1886, graduate of Bennett Eclectic College, Chicago, eight years in practice when he came here.

Stevens, Benjamin, (eclectic) Odebolt, born Pennsylvania, certified December, 1886, graduate Bennett Eclectic College, Chicago, seventeen years in practice at date of coming here.

Sitzer, George D., (regular) Sac City, born New York. certified June, 1887, graduate of Iowa and New York State Universities, eleven years in practice when coming here.

Stalford, John H., (regular) Sac City, born in Iowa, certified here May, 1892, graduated at Iowa College of Physicians and Surgeons, in practice two years at date of coming here.

Slemmons, William T., (regular) Odebolt, born Iowa, certified June, 1893, graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago, thirteen years in practice at date of coming here.

Speaker, E. E., (homeopathy) Lake View, born in Illinois, graduate Iowa State University.

Selby, I. Milton, Odebolt, born in Ohio, fifteen years in practice when coming here.

Stensgaard, N. C. J., born in Denmark, certified December, 1898, graduate Keokuk Medical College, four years in practice when he came here.

Sebern, Richard C., Odebolt, born Iowa, certified July, 1904, graduate Iowa State University.

Shaffer, Raymond C., Odebolt, born in Iowa, certified July, 1912, graduate of St. Louis College of Medicine and Surgery.

Swearingen, Guy H., (regular) Sac City, born Illinois, certified July, 1911, graduate of Drake University, Des Moines.

Timm, John F., (homeopathy) Schaller, born Germany, certified here June, 1895.

Townsend, William H., (regular) Sac City, born Iowa, certified here May, 1897. graduated at Iowa State University.

Gysbert, Peter Van Marcel, (regular) Odebolt, born Iowa, certified here August, 1896, graduate of Sioux City College of Medicine.

Warren, William, (eclectic) Early, born Vermont, certified November, 1886, thirty years in practice at date of coming here.

Williams, William C., (osteopathy) Sac City, born in California, certified here June, 1901, one year in practice at date of his coming here.

Wilcutt, Clarence F., Schaller, certified 1909.

Dr. Elwood M. Farquhar, son of Dr. Thomas Farquhar, studied medicine with his father, graduating from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago, class of 1898, entered practice with his father at Early, where he remained about ten years, removing thence to Denver, Colorado, and later to some point in Nebraska.

Dr. Christopher M. Hopkins located at Wall Lake soon after the founding of the town, in the seventies, engaging in practice for a number of years, and then took up other business, retiring from active practice. He died at his home in Wall Lake about 1900.

Dr. George W. Anderson located in the new town of Nemaha June 12, 1901, where he continued in practice perhaps five or six years, then moved to Colorado.

Dr. Orin Russell Gregg located in Nemaha, July 29, 1908, but remained only a short time.

Dr. Benjamin F. Denney located in Nemaha, July 6, 1910, remained a short time.

Dr. William J. Herrick located in the new town of Lytton, June 12, 1901, and remained about four years.

Dr. David W. Wheelwright was in practice at Wall Lake a number of years, perhaps eight or ten.

Dr. William H. Williams, a young physician who had grown up in Sac county, located at Wall Lake and soon acquired a large practice, but after a few years died of appendicitis.

Dr. Newton D. Ray located at Lake View, March 4, 1898, and remained three or four years.

The following named physicians have been located at the several towns of this county at different times, in most cases for only short periods of time, and of which the writer has no further knowledge: Al-

fred G. Hopkins, John H. Hovenden, Peter Jauss, Samuel I. Kirby, William H. Lanyon, Ambrose M. Longel, Ray S. Leadingham, Carl P. Mueller, Charles E. Orelup, Edwin F. Price, William Petermeyer, Thomas G. Roberts, William T. Slemmons, I. M. Selby, Neils C. J. Stensgaard, Richard C. Seborn, Raymond C. Schaffer, William M. Tigner, John F. Timm, Edward W. Bookhart, J. J. Crider, Henry A. Cobb, W. H. Durrall, William C. Dobson, William H. Francis, W. T. Garmon, George G. Gibson, Abel B. George, J. W. Higgins, Elijah H. Hall, Edward T. Twining, Peter Van Marel, Augustin H. Warren, William Claude, Clarence E. Willcutt.

Dr. (Miss) Meta Davis, whose parents were long-time residents of Sac City, graduated at the State University about 1899, locating in Sac City the same year, for a short time associated with Dr. Adams; remained about two years, then moved to Fremont, Nebraska, where she married, gave up practice and removed to California.

Dr. (Miss) Arnot located in Nemaha about 1908, remained two years and returned to Chicago.

Dr. George A. Behrens, of Nemaha, this county, was born October 16, 1883, in Chicago, Illinois, eldest son of Henry A. and Nathalie Behrens, both natives of Cook county- (Chicago), Illinois. The Doctor's early education was obtained in the Chicago public schools. He was a member of the Bancroft school and class of 1902, Northwest Division high school. He then entered Valparaiso University (Indiana) as a medical student in 1904, and after one year's preparation entered the medical department of that University, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine in May, 1909. He received an appointment on the house staff of physicians at St. Anne's Hospital, Chicago, December, 1909, served there one year and received a St. Anne's Hospital diploma, dated December, 1910. He then engaged in the general practice in Chicago, coming to Iowa November 17, 1911, locating at Nemaha, Sac county. He was married to Rose Ellen Panzer, of Chicago, November 1, 1911.

Dr. L. H. Jones, practicing at Wall Lake, Iowa, is the son of James H. Jones and Ortha A. (McFall) Jones. He was born in Plattsville, Wisconsin, March 28, 1870, and came to Iowa with his parents in 1878, settling on a farm near Odebolt, Sac county. He graduated from the Odebolt high school in 1889, and later attended the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, Iowa, graduating from the State University in 1894. He located at Wall Lake the year of his graduation, and has built up a lucrative practice at that place. He is a member of American Medical Association, Iowa State Medical Association, Missouri Valley Medical Association and American Railway Surgeons' Association, and is the surgeon for the Chicago & Northwestern and Illinois Central railway companies.

THE TRANSIENTS

This is an account of the physicians of Sac county whose stay has been brief. Of the physicians who have located in Sac county at various times in its history have remained for a variable time and then have sought other fields, the following list, while possibly not complete, includes all of whom there is any satisfactory record.

Dr. Lewis F. Akers*practiced in Sac City for a time, registering August 15, 1887.

Dr. Frank S. Johnson located at Odebolt May 25, 1887, where he was engaged in practice ten years or more, removing thence to Sioux City.

Dr. George D. Sitzer registered at Sac City June 30, 1887, remaining perhaps three or four years.

Dr. Birt C. Dunkelburg located at Schaller May 31, 1889, and remained eight or ten years.

Dr. C. E. Maker located in Sac City about 1900, and after two or three years removed to Sibley, Iowa; later he retired from practice, returned to Sac City, engaged in farming a number of years, and then removed to Grimes, Iowa, where he resumed practice.

Dr. Hubert D. Mereness, who studied medicine in Sac City, graduating from the medical department of the Iowa State University about 1898, located at Sac City, but remained only a short time, removing to Carnarvon, where he remained one year or possibly longer, and then moved to some northwestern Iowa town.

Dr. James F. Presnell located at Lake View August 21, 1894, remaining from three to four years, and then received an appointment in the medical service of the United States government.

Dr. Bigelow P. Blackstone located in Sac City March 9, 1900, forming a partnership with Dr. C. B. Adams, remaining two or three years, when he removed to some town in northern Iowa. He later returned to Sac City, practiced with Doctor Adams for about three years and then removed to Montana.

Dr. William C. Duncan located in Sac City November 24., 1903, being associated for a time with Doctor Adams; he remained about two years.

Dr. Thomas Farquhar located at Early December 29, 1886, where he remained in active practice about fifteen years, then retiring from practice, being succeeded by his son. He removed to Montana, where he died in 1913.

PRESENT PHYSICIANS OF THE COUNTY

In addition to what Dr. Z. Fuller has written concerning the medical profession in this county, the following should be added. Here will be found a list of the doctors now in active practice

Drs. Z. Fuller, Guy H. Swearngen, William H. Townsend, Charles B. Adams, William J. W. Findley, Sac City, Arthur S. Hayden, L. H. Jones, Wall Lake; John Christianson Iwerson, J. W. Graham, Early; Frank H. McCray, T. J. Andre, Schaller; Richard C. Sebern, Raymond C. Schaller, E. Thomas Crane, August Groman, Odebolt; ; Fred Leroy Blair, Lytton; George W. Behrens, Nemaha ; also the osteopath physicians, Loren Green, Sac City, and possibly a few not identified with regular schools of medicine.

THE SAC COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

A county society has been organized several times, the first being in the seventies, perhaps in 1878. But the number of physicians in the county were so few, and a sufficient interest was so difficult to maintain, that after a few meetings had been held, with but small attendance and little enthusiasm, interest in the matter would soon wane, and the organization would quietly die. But following the reorganization of the American Medical Association, in 1903, when membership in state and national organizations was made obligatory on membership in the county society, the county society being the unit, the present society was organized.

A meeting was called for the purpose and the organization effected in the court house at Sac City September 29, 1903. At that meeting the following physicians were present: Thomas Farquhar and J. W. Graham, of Early; W. Y. Herrick, of Lytton, F. H. McCray, of Schaller; A. T. Brenton, Z. Fuller, J. H. Stalford, W. J. Findley and W. H. Townsend, of Sac City. Dr. Thomas Farquhar was elected president; Dr. Herrick, vice-president; F. H. McCray, secretary, and Dr. Stalford, treasurer. Meetings were to be had quarterly.

Fairly regular and satisfactory meetings were held for a year or more, attendance being almost wholly by those present at organization, although considerable effort was made to secure attendance of all physicians in the county, social features being added for the purpose, but with little or no success. Meetings were later made semi-annual, still later they became irregular, until during the last three years or so there have been only annual meetings, at irregular times, with hardly more done than was really necessary to maintain the organization.

This seems to be about the common experience with county medical societies, at least in Iowa. Sufficient interest cannot be maintained to keep up an active and efficient society with so few members or regular attendants; meetings soon become monotonous when there are so few to prepare papers and take part in their discussion, with the result which seems inevitable. The fundamental fault seems to be lack of appreciation of the benefits possible from county societies; the press of personal work and difficulty in getting away from the daily grind, doubtless has much to do with the matter. Possibly plain indifference has no small part.

At the present time (1914) the officers and members of the Sac County Medical Society are as follows: President, J. C. Iwerson; secretary, F. H. McCray, of Schaller; treasurer, J. H. Stalford, Sac City; members, W. J. Findley, W. H. Townsend, Guy H. Swearingen and Z. Fuller, Sac City, and L. H. Jones, of Wall Lake.

CHAPTER VIII

THE EVOLUTION OF AGRICULTURE IN SAC COUNTY

By Orville Lee

Webster defines evolution as the act of unfolding or unrolling; the process of growth or development. In treating this subject, I shall take occasion to note some of the beginnings, some of the first efforts and their results. I shall be privileged to record some splendid success that has attended these efforts and must needs tell of many failures that have come under my own observation, a few the results of my own labors, but many more those of the earlier pioneers in agriculture. I might here say that the earlier experiences of these pioneers was many times far from encouraging. However, there was always the one argument, "our land is good for something," that encouraged the early comer to try again. The question always uppermost in the pioneer's mind was, What shall I raise that will help supply the family need? When shall I plant, where shall I plant it, how shall I plant, as well as what shall I plant? All of these questions must be largely answered by experiment.

What about corn? No one knew that corn would produce a crop here, and it took ten or fifteen years of experimenting before that fact had been established, and even then few, if any, believed that any but the smaller varieties could be depended upon. I believe that prior to about 1870 the failures very much outnumbered the successes in corn culture. As an explanation for this result I might offer the following

First, the soil seemed to lack the subdued character necessary for the proper development of the corn plant. It was the common belief that in order to have a corn crop the land must have been cultivated for a number of years. As I remember the early crops of corn they would grow and grow, but very much of the time fail to ripen. This, at that time, was largely attributed to soil conditions. I can now see that the trouble may have been due to a number of causes. Seed was being



CORN HARVESTING IN SAC COUNTY

introduced from many states. No one had thought of the damage that might be done from deep cultivation. In fact, no surface cultivators had been invented and prior to the year 18'68 nothing but single and double-shovel cultivators had been used. No methods of drainage had been used or tried before this. The early stirring plow would only be called a makeshift at the present time. The gophers in the spring and the swarms of blackbirds in the fall kept the farmer busy if his own corn crop was ever to materialize. These, together with the weed pest, which was ever present and must be fought with the implements then in use, made the production of a corn crop very uncertain.

WHEAT

What was true of corn was largely true of the other cultivated crops. Wheat might be classed as an exception. For, while there was no standard variety of wheat that could be depended upon, and no special method of cultivation that had proved itself superior. Yet the early crops of wheat were as a rule satisfactory. True, many times the yield was only nominal, yet as a whole the wheat crop showed good returns for the labor bestowed. Among the methods of cultivation the one which provided for the breaking of the soil in early spring as conditions would admit of, was the one that best results came from. As long as unbroken sod was available, a wheat crop could be fairly well depended upon.

OATS

Oats were not a reliable crop. When sown on late breaking they usually made a fair crop, but when sown on older ground that had been fall plowed, they very often lodged badly. When sown on corn stalk ground some good yields were secured. The crop of 1869 might be cited as being especially good. Many heavy yields were reported this year, and the grading of the Illinois Central railroad from Fort Dodge to Sioux City provided a good market for the crop.

BARLEY AND BUCKWHEAT

These crops, with a small amount of rye, were sown about this time, all showing more or less merit as crop producers.

GARDEN TRUCK

Potatoes and all kinds of garden truck did well from the very first. There were few, if any, insect pests to interfere with growth and the crops of potatoes, melons, turnips, cabbage and other garden crops were all that could be desired. In fact, everybody had all they could use and as there was no market for anything of this kind, no one worried about the yield.

POPCORN

A little popcorn has been grown ever since farming has been carried on, but not until about 1888 was there any thought of producing this crop in a commercial way. About this time, a farmer near Odebolt succeeded in producing a fine crop of popcorn from a small piece of ground, which soon led others to make experimental plantings. A few years demonstrated that Sac county soil was especially adapted to the production of the best quality of this cereal. Its production was found to be remunerative and so the industry has grown to be the greatest of the kind in the world. It has not been many years since the popcorn product of the whole world was not as large as that produced in Sac county at the present time. Mr. Colton, C. J. Cook, August Reuber and H. C. Wheeler, of Odebolt, might be mentioned as among the pioneers in this line.

LIVESTOCK

So much for the cultivated crops; what about stock raising in the early history of the county? Here was a land covered with the most luxuriant grasses, which would furnish unlimited pastures during the summer months and an abundance of hay for winter feeding, a condition ideal for the herdsman. Here was a wealth of natural resources that needed only to be garnered. Why, then, should any fail to reap the harvest? The reasons were many. First, none had money with which to buy the stock; second, there were few cattle, horses or sheep to be bought anywhere in the country; third, the markets, except for breeding stock, were far away and hard to reach. The new comers furnished a good market for what few horses and cows

that were for sale. The horses were little fellows, scarcely ever weighing more than twelve hundred pounds, and the cows were of questionable breeding, but were usually good milkers and brought good prices.

SHEEP

The early ventures in sheep husbandry proved a losing deal. Many sheep were sent to this county immediately after the war closed. While the prices were not high as compared with the former sheep products, yet the declining wool market, with the lack of knowledge of the business, resulted in heavy losses of flocks and made the venture a most unprofitable one.

HORSES

While the horses that were first used were small, they were hardy and only wanted the infusion of some good blood to bring them up to the standard that would attract Eastern buyers. Among the first to secure some good sires might be mentioned Ed. Armstrong, T. B. Mansfield and S. T. Lewis. A. H. Hendrickson and D. H. Rove organized a company of breeders at Sac City, while another similar company was started at Odebolt. Thomas Scott, of Early, and later D. Corsant & Sons were the leaders in draft horses. However, the change was a slow one and not until the early nineties were there any marketable horses ready to be shipped. These all found a ready market and the raising of standard bred horses has steadily grown to be one of the principal industries.

STOCK CATTLE

About the year 1866 some drovers from Greene county found their way into Sac county and bought some cattle. They were for the most part four-year-old steers of the raw-boned, old-fashioned type. These were driven overland to the place of destination where they were fed. The first cattle fattened for the Chicago market were fed by Eugene Criss in 1871, and consisted of a car of work oxen that had been used by the settlers to break prairie. I remember this car of cattle as being big, fleshy fellows, and to me, a boy who had never seen such a sight, they looked "awful fat" as I saw them driven across the country to Newell, where they were shipped via Illinois Central railroad. This, I believe, marked the beginning of what has grown to be the great cattle feeding industry of today for Sac county. This venture of Mr. Criss was soon followed by others who sought to find a market for some of the corn crop which had now come to be a principal feature of the farming industry. Among other early feeders might be mentioned A. H. Hendrickson, M. S. Lee, J. O. and Asa Platt. A little later Allen and Stewart, of Marshalltown, fed a big bunch of heavy cattle on what was known as the Peck farm, in Douglass township, which was followed by a like operation by Miller and Chaney, of Newell. The latter used the feed yards on the old Hendrickson farm.

HOG INDUSTRY

The year 1871 and 1872 saw the beginning of what has grown to be the great hog business in a commercial way. During these years a number of droves of hogs were driven across country to Newell by different buyers. From Sac City to Newell took about three days and unless the weather conditions were favorable the losses were often heavy. Probably not necessarily so, but with the unexperienced help and sometimes too much "free spirits" many "fat backs" were left dead by the way. Prior to this time the general method had been to butcher the fat hogs during the winter and haul the dressed hogs to dealers in Cedar Falls or Des Moines. I well remember my father taking such a load on a bob-sled to Cedar Falls, during the winter of 1863. This load of dressed hogs brought one dollar and sixty-five cents per hundred weight. Among the things bought with this load of pork, I remember was a wagon which cost one hundred dollars, and a full bolt of muslin which cost sixty cents a yard. Say, how proud we all were soon after with our new

home-made shirts and underwear, while that new red wagon was looked upon at that time with as much admiration as the finest automobile would be today.

TAME GRASSES

The spring of 1868 saw the first tame grasses sown in Sac county. Asa Platt had secured sufficient clover and timothy seed with which to sow forty acres and M. S. Lee had brought a full bag of common red clover seed from Indiana. The season proved a favorable one and the experiment proved a success. In the words of Mr. Platt: "Stock in Sac county land advanced one hundred per cent., when it had been demonstrated that clover could be raised here." While since that time there has never been a question as to the splendid possibilities of the crop, yet as late as 1875 there was scarcely more interest being taken in clover than is now shown in alfalfa.

CREAMERY

About the year 1877 Washington Allen started the first creamery on his farm one mile north of Sac City. This seemed to supply a much needed want. The method was to gather the milk daily from the patrons during the summer months and twice a week in the winter time. This necessitated a lot of hauling and, while it proved fairly successful, the conditions soon required that the milk be left on the farm, which resulted in the home skimming process. This plan continued in practice until the advent of the farm separator which soon supplemented the old methods. A good beginning was made in butter production by the establishment of the creamery and farmers over the county were encouraged to engage in the dairy business to the extent that creameries were soon in operation in the county. Yet we notice that the growth of this industry was not very great, for while the number of milk cows, as shown by the census of 1885, was 9,071, as late as 1905 this number had only grown to be 13,240. There are a number of causes that have probably contributed to this, among which might be mentioned the introduction of butterine and oleomargarine about the year 1885, which took twenty years of legislative activity to bring under proper regulations so that it would not come in direct competition with honest butter. Then there was the "acre craze" that has swept over the country which seemed to fill every farmer with a desire to cultivate (or partially cultivate) the largest number of acres possible. Then there has been the easier farming methods, which required less help, whereby one man has been able to dispose of the crop through the feed yard, or by the direct market way, which would have required many more had it been fed to dairy cows.

ORCHARDING

The first apples raised in Sac county were grown on a graft set in a wild crab tree by Eugene Criss in Sac City. This was about the year 1865. This achievement was followed by one of similar character by M. S. Lee on his Douglas township farm about two years later. While the apples grown were few and of very ordinary quality, yet this result encouraged the fruit-loving New Englander who had settled along the Coon river to plant some fruit trees. While many of the settlers planted a few, M. S. Lee was a leader in this line prior to 1871, when Washington Allen planted the first commercial orchard, it being a tract of ten acres, which was followed by a similar tract being planted by M. S. Lee in 1877. Mr. Lee's former plantings had comprised about four acres and had proved that such varieties as the Red June, Yellow Transparent, Red Streak, Golden Russet, Parry Russet, Willow Twig, Wine Sap and some of the other old standard varieties could be depended upon to make a crop. Lee had always insisted that this was to be a fruit country. In support of this claim he would cite the fact that all along the creek were to be found abundance of wild apples, plums, cherries, grapes, gooseberries, currants and strawberries. So, disregarding the discouragements that were ever appearing, he kept steadily on, making use of the little knowledge he had gained by hard, actual experience until he lived to see apples in Sac county selling cheaper than potatoes. I have referred to knowledge gained by actual experience in horticulture lines. In fact there was no other source

whereby one could gain a knowledge of what varieties were best to plant. Later, however, or about the year 1870, the Iowa Agricultural College, as it was then called, began to give out some suggestions that proved of great value to the fruit growers in later years. Hundreds of varieties were tested by this institution and only those that showed merit were recommended for planting. Mr. Allen made use of the information so furnished, which resulted in his making selections which proved very prolific. The Ben Davis, Jonathan, Wealthy, Tolman Sweet, Utter's Red, Dutchess, Whitney and a few others were included in his list. Since these orchards came into bearing there has never been a question as to whether apples could be grown successfully or not, but the question has been would it pay. Could a farmer afford to devote his time to fruit raising when labor spent in the production of corn and other farm crops brought such satisfactory results. What was true of apples was equally true of the other fruits.

The first planting of cherries consisted almost entirely of some variety of the Morrello family. The old English Morrello was the favorite. Experience soon demonstrated that this was of no value for this locality. When the Richmond cherry was introduced the results proved more satisfactory. In fact, among the many good cherries that have been tried. I doubt whether there has been one that has given so good satisfaction. There seemed to be no question from the first but that plums would succeed, for here were found some of the most delicious wild plums with variety ranging in season from early August to late September.

The census of 1885 gives Sac county credit for 10,663 trees and 5,032 bushels of apples gathered, while in 1904, there were \$36,000 worth of tree fruits harvested and \$6,861 of other fruits.

SUMMARY

Thus in a brief way I have tried to note some of the beginnings made in the bringing of Sac county out of the wild grass state to that of a county of beautiful homes and productive fields. The task has not been an easy one, but a final part in this great work has been a pleasant one. The consciousness that we were leaders, discoverers, proving our faith in the country by the works we were able to perform, has been an inspiration to push on to greater success.

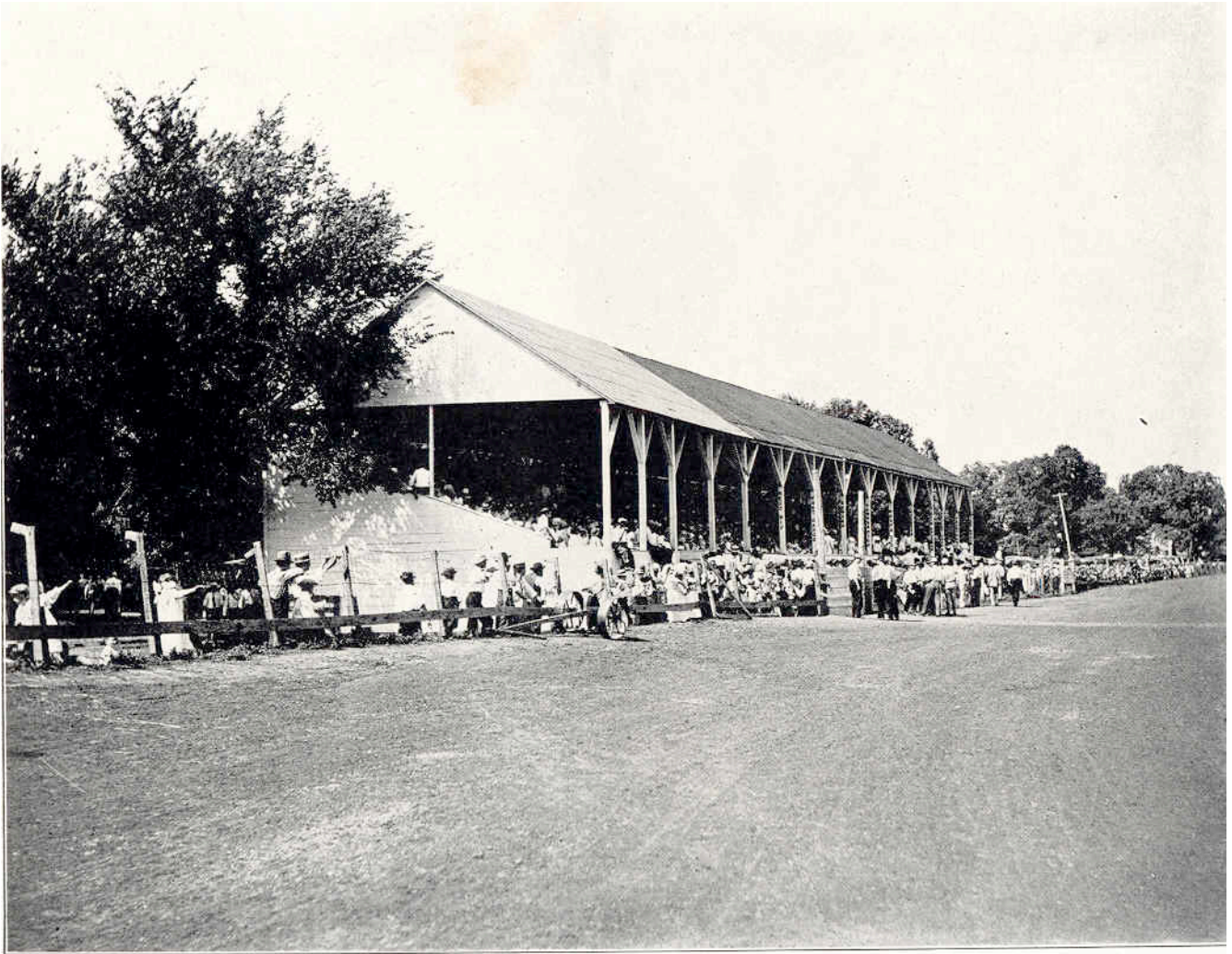
But what of the future? Will the same measure of success attend the efforts of the coming generation as has rewarded those of the past? Yea, I verily believe they will and greater yet. And why not? A few things we have already learned and proven - many more are yet to be tried. I am aware that when comparison is made, the task of keeping pace with past achievements seems a gigantic one. But, with the improved farm equipments, the better dissemination of knowledge of farming operations, the agricultural press, experimental extension departments, with better machinery, unproved seeds, drainage and better transportation facilities, I believe the coming years will see improvement equal to the best of the past. Sac county owes this to the great state of Iowa.

Along many lines we must do better than in the past. In 1880 there was raised in Sac county 1,931,335 bushels of corn from 52,648 acres, or an average of about thirty-six bushels per acre, while in 1905 we had only succeeded in producing 4,692,590 bushels of corn from 120,083 acres, or an average of about thirty-nine bushels per acre. Thus we see that it took twenty-five years to increase the average yield of corn three bushels per acre. Will the farmers of Sac county be content to do no better during the next quarter of a century, or will they insist that not only thirty-nine bushels average be produced, but that not less than fifty bushels of corn be the average crop for the whole county?

In the matter of oats we have done little better. In 1880 we cultivated 9,772 acres of oats, which produced 317,602 bushels, or an average of less than thirty-two bushels per acre, while in 1905 we harvested 51,405 acres of oats, which returned 1,834,687 bushels, making an average of about thirty-five bushels per acre. Is there a farmer who will be content to produce but thirty-five bushels of oats per acre during the coming years, or will he insist that improved seed be introduced, that the best methods of treatment for smut be adopted, that the cause and prevention of rust be discovered and the average yield of oats be brought up to the fifty-bushel mark?

In the matter of farm animals we are not doing our best, but we are making some progress. In 1880 there were 1,330 farms in Sac county, consisting of 222,948 acres, or an average of 167 acres to the farm.

The number of cattle on these farms was 18,168, or an average of fourteen head to each farm, giving each



SAC COUNTY FAIR, AUG. 14, 1913—GRANDSTAND AND RACE TRACK

head of cattle twelve acres. In 1905 there were 1,887 farms, covering an area of 58,486 acres, or an average of 187 acres in each farm, which supported thirty-one cattle and giving each head of cattle about six acres. I am wondering if it will not be found profitable to maintain a head of cattle for each three acres of Sac county farm land before many years have rolled around.

And we might make many suggestions of improvement that may reasonably be expected to come, and must come, if we are to keep pace with the growing demand. This is a mighty hungry world and needs to be fed - yea, well fed! Sac county must do her part. The early settler has done his part. The progress has been slow, but the difficulties were many. Naturally a large part of the county was the home of the muskrat and water-fowl. Timber was scarce and the early means of transportation prohibited the use of coal as fuel. The matter of drainage has been solved by the introduction of tile and the steam dredge. The problem of adequate supply of water has been simplified by the well auger and drill. Fencing is no longer a serious matter, while the matter of harvesting, haying, the distribution of fertilizers and the planting of the crop has become an easy task through the introduction of improved machinery. Improved methods of road building, together with the general use of the automobile, the rural mail, the parcel post and the telephone will all tend to make farm life more pleasant and the farm a better institution for the county and state.

New varieties of crops will be grown. Alfalfa and sweet clover will be the leading forage crops. Silos will be found on almost every farm and electric power - will do the work on many farms. The rural school will be the best school and the farmer's children will no longer envy the city-bred child his position.

You ask when will this all come to pass? My answer - Just as soon as the farmer finds himself; knows his position; learns that the world must look to him for better things and that a mighty responsibility rests with him.

AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS-FAIRS

In Sac county, as well as in nearly all Iowa counties, the matter of conducting and keeping up annual farm exhibits, county fairs, has been one fraught with much perplexity, yet there have been numerous associations that have been instrumental in doing much good. In 1871, under a provision of the statute of Iowa, the Sac County Agricultural Society was organized. They purchased ten acres of land for fair ground purposes for the sum of five hundred dollars. The society held numerous fairs at that spot, but in 1898 it was deemed advisable to move to larger and better suited quarters, so they leased of judge Eugene Criss twenty-five acres of land, at the same time disposing of the twenty-acre tract that had been acquired at the first location. It now became a stock company, with shares placed at ten dollars each. At the new grounds many excellent annual exhibits were had, but the society did not prosper. There was the matter of two factions, one wanting horse races and no farm exhibits and the other wanting a purely agricultural fair and not so much attention paid and money spent on the race track, the horse premiums, etc. After a long, hard struggle, the society was reorganized in 1906 as it remains today.

Touching on county fair associations in this county, the following from the files of the Sac Sun may throw a little historic light:

"The Sac County Agricultural Society was incorporated in 1871 and the organization expired by limitation in 1891 and the fact was not discovered until two years later, when it was duly reorganized. Among the incorporators the second time were: Messrs. W. P. and E. Drewry, H. H. Fitch, D. M. Lamoraux, C. E. Lee, A. Ingrain, R. E. Colburn, D. Carr Early, Asa and J. O. Platt, S. I. Watt, E. I. Ahrens, James Fleming, D. Cordeman, S. M. Brant, James Neal and J. W. Scott. Of the first society, the members included D. Carr Early, Messrs. Platt and Watt."

The association now owns about twenty-two acres of the judge Criss land above mentioned, having sold off some to the Chautauqua Association along the Coon river. It has a half mile track, said to be one of the finest in Iowa. The buildings and grounds are fine property and the association is free of debt and has money in its treasury. The 1914 officers are: L. E. Irwin, president; George A. Heagy, vice-president; Gus Strohmeier, secretary, and F. S. Needham, treasurer. The directors are S. L. Watt, L. E. Irwin, George Heagy, Robert Leach, D. B. Keir, George Zimmerman and C. W. Irwin.

Other sections of this county have had their fairs and annual exhibits. In the spring of 1881 the Western Iowa District Association was formed at Odebolt, and it is found in files of the newspapers that in September, 1895, it was holding its fourteenth annual exhibition. For many years this proved a decided success.

CHAPTER IX

NEWSPAPERS OF SAC COUNTY

By S. M. Stouffer

The newspaper, along with the family doctor and the postoffice and flouring mill, are among the first evidences of a thrifty new settlement in the opening up of any new country. While it is true that the pioneers did not have the advantages the present generation has in way of literary attainments and privileges, and that daily papers and magazines were quite scarce, it was not long in any enterprising, intelligent community before there was a demand for a good county weekly paper. This need was usually supplied by some man who cast his fortunes with the common pioneer element and at once sought to build up the best interests of the community. Indeed, without such potent agencies the western Iowa counties would not have advanced in settlement and prosperity to the degree that they did. Sac county is no exception, although perhaps the weekly newspaper was supplied in most new countries sooner than in Sac county.

The following chapter will serve to show the circumstances of the founding of most all the publications within Sac county, as seen by a veteran in Iowa journalism, S. M. Stouffer of the *Sac Sun*.

The pioneer newspaper of Sac county was the *Sac Sun*, which was established at Sac City by James N. Miller in 1871. The first number was issued on July 11th, and contained an elaborate narrative of the Fourth of July festivities at Sac City that year. The settlement was yet only a small village, but it was the county seat and was looking forward to the early completion of a railroad.

The newspaper man was given a warm welcome to the town. The art of advertising, as it is now practiced, was unknown to the pioneer merchants. Nevertheless the newspaper was given a fair advertising patronage and a number of the enterprising men of the village subscribed for copies of the newspaper to send their friends in the East. It is no disparagement to others who encouraged the new enterprise to say that D. Carr Early's large real estate advertisements and generous patronage in other ways, besides his words of encouragement, probably ranked foremost in the support of this pioneer journal.

Mr. Miller was not only a good printer but was also an unusually clever writer and, like most of the pioneer newspaper men, unhesitatingly wrote as he thought on matters personal, political or otherwise. He continued to manage the newspaper he founded until he sold it to S. E. Barnard and B. W. McKeen, publishing his valedictory on September 30, 1891.

In 1873 Mr. Miller was elected representative in the General Assembly from a district comprising several counties and, before he began his service in the Legislature, he made a trip to Pennsylvania, thus taking a vacation of four months from editorial duties, during which time Al. M. Adams, since the widely-known publisher of the *Humboldt Independent*, had charge of the *Sac Sun*.

Owing to an accumulation of outside duties, with the beginning of the fourteenth volume on July 4, 1884, Mr. Miller announced that he had taken a partner in the person of Sidney Smith, and for more than six years the newspaper was conducted under the firm name of Miller & Smith, Mr. Smith participating in the business and editorial work. On October 1, 1890, the firm name of *The Sun Printing Company* was adopted and this continued until the sale of the newspaper to Barnard & McKeen.

Mr. Miller was a thoroughgoing Republican, a foe of the liquor-traffic and a warm friend of the soldiers of the Civil War, in which he had seen service. The editorial policy of the newspaper was continued with little change during the ownership by Barnard & McKeen.

The *Sun* was sold by Barnard & McKeen to S. M. Stouffer, of Toledo, Iowa, and F. E. Stouffer, of Dillon, Montana, who issued their first number August 30, 1893. In their announcement the Messrs. Stouffer hinted at their intention of making the *Sac Sun* a newspaper for the whole county, gathering the news from each community and treating all communities fairly rather than to make the newspaper an advocate of any particular community in the county as opposed to another, and to this end they have worked in the building of their newspaper, the circulation of which has trebled under their management, an edition of more than three thousand copies per week having been necessary at the beginning of the year 1914.

The first eight volumes of the *Sac Sun* appeared as a seven-column folio, two pages printed at home. For three years it was published as an eight-column quarto, with four pages printed at home and four pages auxiliary.

For three years it returned to the eight-column folio form. In 1890 it was issued again as a six-column quarto, that time all printed at home, and that form was adopted by the publishers last mentioned until the erection of a new building and the enlargement of their plant, as well as the installation of a linotype machine, enabled them in 1907 to issue it as a seven-column quarto. It is now entirely printed at home and deals almost exclusively with news of local interest, together with the affairs of state and nation handled from the standpoint of local interest.

The second newspaper established at Sac City was the *Sac County Reporter*, a Greenback organ published by W. W. Yarham, the first number of which was issued October 28, 1877. Only five numbers of the paper were published at Sac City. It was found that the field was too small for two newspapers and Mr. Yarham moved his plant to Odebolt and published the first newspaper in that town, getting out a very creditable sheet.

The third newspaper published at Sac City was the *Sac County Democrat*, which was started by J. Koder, a lawyer, on September 8, 1882. Mr. Koder continued the publication of the newspaper, which he edited with no little ability, until March 25, 1887, when he sold it to the Cory Brothers, who published it with I. A. Cory as editor and manager.

On June 26, 1891, the newspaper appeared with the *Democrat Publishing Company* as proprietor, Cory Brothers having sold it to C. Everett Lee, who constituted the company. On October 1, 1893, Mr. Lee's nephew, Lamont Lee, became associated with him. On October 6, 1893, Lamont Lee sold his interest in the paper and it was issued with C. Everett Lee as publisher. Mr. Lee bade good-bye to his readers in the issue of January 11, 1895, he having disposed of the plant to John L. Barter. The three and one-half years of the newspaper under the management of Mr. Lee were marked by an advance in the circulation and patronage, as he was both a good printer and a ready writer.

John L. Barter, who had charge for nearly two and one-half years following Mr. Lee's retirement, proved to be an aggressive editorial writer. He obtained the newspaper in the days when the free coinage of silver was a burning question and promptly aligned himself with the Bryan wing of the Democratic party. Mr. Barter sold the *Democrat* plant to Bert Maxwell, a young printer from Illinois, who took charge June 18, 1897, and employed I. A. Cory as editor.

Mr. Maxwell soon tired of the field and on February 28, 1898, sold the newspaper and plant to W. M. Ward, who had been a school man in Jackson county, Iowa. The newspaper was published under the firm name of the Ward Bros. The name of the paper was changed to *The Sac Democrat*, beginning with the issue of October 17, 1902. Mr. Ward was a vigorous writer, especially ready to take part in the discussion of local politics and educational questions, and had he been able to give close attention to the details of business he would have made a marked success.

The Wards disposed of their plant April 7, 1905, to H. H. Fitch, who associated with him in the publication of the newspaper his son, John H. Fitch, and issued the newspaper under the firm name of H. H. Fitch & Son. Owing to poor health, Mr. Fitch sold the plant on June 5, 1907, to Ross Mayhall, who at this writing, March, 1914, is continuing the publication of the newspaper and the management of its auxiliary job business with apparent success.

While, like his predecessors, Mr. Mayhall is a Democrat, he has not been disposed to pay much attention to partisan politics, and consequently was not pleased with the name borne by the newspaper, changing it with the issue of February 17, 1909, to *The Sac County Bulletin*. Mr. Mayhall equipped the office with a junior linotype machine and a better press, reduced the price to one dollar a year and issues it as a six-column quarto, all printed at home.

The first newspaper at Odebolt was the *Reporter*, published by W. W. Yarham, who moved his plant from Sac City about the first of December, 1877. Under the management of Mr. Yarham and under the management of Frank Kelley, who succeeded him, it was a Greenback newspaper. Finally the *Reporter*

passed into the hands of the Bennett Brothers, who made it a live Republican sheet, but they did not find the field sufficiently profitable for two newspapers, a Democratic newspaper, first called the *Observer* and later the *Herald*, having been established in the town and published under different managements. On March 28, 1887, the Bennett Brothers sold the subscription list and plant of the Reporter to the publisher of the *Wall Lake Journal* and went to San Diego, California, to publish a daily newspaper.

However, Odebolt was not to be long without an aggressive Republican newspaper. In May 1887, the first number of the Odebolt Chronicle was issued by William E. Hamilton, who previously had been employed in the law office of W. A. Helsell. Mr. Hamilton was a writer of ability, fearless and forceful with his pen, a shrewd planner and active mover in local political matters, and in the more than twenty-three years that he conducted the newspaper was unquestionably the most influential factor in the political affairs of Sac county. Owing to failing health, he sold his newspaper on August 1, 1910, to Frank J. Stillman of Riceville, Iowa. Mr. Stillman also had been in poor health, having suffered a nervous breakdown, and before he ran the paper many weeks he discovered that he could not endure the office work. He then leased the plant to John E. Chrysler, who lately had returned to Sac county from Cody, Wyoming, where he was in newspaper work, and Mr. Chrysler has continued the newspaper with exceptional ability, proving a strong business better, an alert news gatherer and a good editorial writer. In all of its history the newspaper has been Republican in politics, with a marked progressive tendency.

It is scarcely necessary to follow the history of the various other newspaper ventures at Odebolt. After the establishment of the *Chronicle* it dominated the situation. Publishers came and went. One of the most interesting of the journalistic enterprises was the *Odebolt Record*, started as an amateur sheet by Ray Graham. The *Record* continued to grow under his management until it became a full-fledged newspaper. At the time of the sale of the *Chronicle* the publication of the *Record* also was discontinued and Mr. Graham entered into newspaper work elsewhere.

A new aspirant for honors appeared in the field on March 12, 1914, the *Odebolt News*, a Progressive newspaper, with David Phillips as editor and publisher. In his initial number Mr. Phillips stated that he had installed an outfit costing about five thousand dollars, including a monotype, a type-setting and type-casting machine, a Potter two-revolution press, a power paper cutter and other up-to-date machinery. The newspaper possesses typographical and editorial excellence and, on its merits, will make a strong appeal for support.

The first newspaper at Wall Lake was the *Journal*, established August 29, 1878, by Frank L. Dennis, of Wheatland, Iowa. It was published under a number of different owners, among them Cook & Gregg, T. J. Newburg and J. L. Kroesen. The ownership passed to T. B. Hotchkiss, of Lake City, who did not conduct it in person, but a long-distance management appeared to be unsuccessful and the newspaper went out of existence in 1890, to be succeeded very shortly afterward by the *Wall Lake Blade*, with A. L. Schultz as editor and publisher. The first number of the *Blade* was issued in December, 1890, and the paper has been published continually since. Mr. Schultz was succeeded by John H. D. Gray and Mr. Gray, after conducting it many years, sold it to F. A. Brown, formerly of the *Buena Vista Vidette* at Storm Lake. Mr. Brown sold it to W. O. Howard, who is in charge of it at this writing. Mr. Howard is an all-around newspaper man of good ability and is giving the people of the town very good service. Politically, the *Blade* has ranged from independent to Republican. At present writing, it appears to be espousing the cause of the Progressive party from an independent standpoint.

About the middle of May, 1885, the *Schaller Gazette* was started by H. E. Moles. In the autumn of the same year the ownership of the plant passed to A. S. Bassett, of Kewanee, Illinois. The fortunes of the Schaller newspaper were somewhat doubtful until Bert Mill took charge and published it successfully as the *Star*. He sold the newspaper to Charles Brandon, who changed the name to the *Herald*. In October, 1892, W. K. Whiteside, who had been an employee of the *Sac Sun*, bought the newspaper and has conducted it ever since. It is a five-column folio and under Mr. Whiteside's management was always Republican in politics until 1912, when its publisher became affiliated with the Progressive party. Under Mr. Whiteside's management it has enjoyed a good patronage and has always been a tastefully printed little sheet.

The *Early Enterprise* was started in 1885 by E. H. McGinty, of Hardin county. McGinty did not make a success of the newspaper and he transferred it to H. W. Cory, who published it until December, 1887, when he moved the plant to Storm Lake and merged it with the plant of the *Buena Vista Vidette*. The *Sac County News*, later called the *Early News*, proved to be the permanent newspaper venture at Early. It was started by Clarence Messer, and later was published by George Brown, C. E. Stallcop, H. W. Cory and T. E. Chrysler and eventually, in March, 1906, passed into the hands of J. C. Blair, a veteran newspaper man who fits admirably into the community he is serving. The *News* has had varying fortunes politically. Its present publisher has been a lifelong Republican, but shows a Progressive leaning. He not only furnishes the news locally in an acceptable manner, but also takes occasion to discuss political matters editorially.

At Lake View, the *Resort* was started in the early summer of 1889 by Wilson M. Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton leased or sold the newspaper several times, but retained an equity in the plant for about twenty years. He was a capable writer and labored persistently for the upbuilding of the little town by the lake. When he finally sold the newspaper, the name was changed to the *Argus*, but when it passed into the hands of the present publisher, Edwin C. McSheehy, he wisely restored the pioneer name of the *Lake View Resort*. Mr. McSheehy came to Lake View with a successful newspaper experience on the city press, and is proving an energetic factor toward the upbuilding of his community.

At Auburn the first newspaper was started by Jones & Hotchkiss, as the memory of old settlers runs, in 1886. It was still published in May, 1887, but probably was discontinued shortly afterward. The permanent newspaper at Auburn was *The Recorder*, which was established September 16, 1893, by Fred L. Ellis. He conducted it a few months, and then sold it to E. H. Merrill, who has published it ever since, with the exception of a few months, utilizing his opportunities quite creditably.

The *Nemaha Register* began publication in the winter of 1900 to 1901. It was established by D. H. Roush, who sold it to C. E. Evans. Ownership then passed to C. C. Keeny, the present publisher, who makes it strictly a local newspaper.

The only newspaper venture at Litton has been the *Star*, which was established about the beginning of the year 1905 by G. A. Craig, an original but somewhat illiterate genius from Missouri. Mr. Craig sold the newspaper to C. Everett Lee, who at one time was publisher of the *Sac County Democrat*. Though well along in years, Mr. Lee is as active as a youth, writes vigorously, expresses his opinions freely and shows an active interest in all of the affairs of the town, making the *Star* one of the best newspapers published anywhere in a town the size of Lytton.

Two newspapers were established at Grant City in 1872 to take advantage of the bonus for the publication of state laws. One of these was put in by the *Storm Lake Pilot* and was named the *Grant City Journal*, and the other was launched by James N. Miller, of the *Sac Sun*, and was known as the *Hornet*. Mr. Miller continued it until he headed off the *Journal* and then merged it with the *Sun*. It is recalled also that the *News*, publication of which at Auburn has been mentioned, was first established at Grant City in June, 1886.

CHAPTER X

BANKS AND BANKING

In Sac county, as in all new countries, there was little use for banking houses until long after the Civil War. Prior to the seventies the business was mostly confined to local barter-one man selling to another, and usually trading grain and wood and stock for sugar, tobacco, dress goods, and factory cloth for men's wear. Fort Dodge, Sioux City and Council Bluffs all had early banks and to such centers of money and population went the people from Sac county when any real banking business was necessary to be transacted. The land office was long located at Sioux City and a branch at Fort Dodge, and there the home and land seeker went with his ready cash, and in person paid for his lands, if purchased from the government. But as the county settled up and numerous towns sprang- into existence, it became necessary to establish a system of local banks and this was promptly accomplished when the demand for such place of business was made. Sac City had the first bank in the county, and is still the center of the county's financial institutions, although almost every town and hamlet within her borders has a bank of its own, and really able, financially, to do the business of their own respective communities. Wall Lake soon had a bank and has kept up the business since 1878 in what is now styled the German State Bank. This county has been free from any great bank failures, and for the most part the banks have been successful in paying out dollar for dollar their obligations to their patrons, through the numerous panics through which the country has passed.

PRESENT BANKS OF THE COUNTY

The following is a list of the various banking houses in Sac county in January, 1914, with the date and order in which they were established and their present capital:

Wall Lake, German State Bank, established in 1878, present capital \$25,000.

Wall Lake Savings Bank, established 1882, present capital \$30,000.

Schaller State Bank, established in 1887, present capital \$40,000.

Sac County State Bank, Sac City, established in 1887, present capital \$75,000, surplus and undivided profits \$87,176.32, equal to a total of \$162,176.32.

Early State Bank, established in 1888, present capital \$40,000.

Lake View State Bank, established in 1889, present capital \$25,000.

Sac City, First National Bank, established in 1890, present capital and profits \$165,000.

Schaller Savings Bank, established in 1892, present capital \$25,000.

Odebolt, First National Bank, established in 1899, present capital \$50,000.

Lytton, Farmers State Bank, established 1900, present capital \$25,000.

Odebolt, German Savings Bank, established in 1901, present capital \$50,000.

Auburn, Farmers and Merchants Bank, established in 1903, present capital \$25,000.

Nemaha State Bank, established in 1903, present capital \$25,000.

Sac City, Farmers Savings Bank, established in 1906, present capital \$50,000.

Ulmer, Farmers Savings Bank, established in 1911, present capital \$10,000.

Early, Citizens Bank, established 1911, present capital \$30,000.

The latest bank in the county is the Farmers Savings Bank of Odebolt, which was established in February, 1914, by many farmers. It starts with a capital of \$50,000.

This makes a total of \$835,000 as the capital held by all the Sac county banks, at this date.

SAC CITY BANKS

The Sac County State Bank, of Sac City, was organized and opened its doors for business February 21, 1887. This bank really succeeded to the first banking concern of this county, the "exchange" operated from 1871 on by judge D. Carr Early, who, in company with W. H. Hobbs and N. W. Condon, erected a

bank building in 1875, and in 1876 incorporated the Sac County Bank, with Messrs. Early, Hobbs and Condron, all ex-county officials, as incorporators. The officers of this pioneer bank were D. Carr Early, president; W. H. Hobbs, vice-president; N. W. Condron, cashier. It had a capital of \$50,000. When the change was made and the present Sac County State Bank was established in 1887, the Sac Sun had this item concerning the new bank: "The new bank opened for business Monday morning, taking formal possession of the Sac County Bank, and Messrs. Baily and Grotewohl may be found in their places ready for business. The State Bank succeeds the Sac County Bank and will confine itself strictly to banking business, doing no real estate business, only what may be absolutely necessary. Its capital is \$35,000 and will no doubt be increased to \$50,000 in a year or two."

On January 1, 1890, the capital of this bank was increased to \$75,000 and had a surplus of \$18,000. This was the third year after its organization. So, really, this is the site of the oldest bank in the county, and has gone through all the panics and paid out dollar for dollar to its thousands of depositors.

Their statement January 28, 1914, gave its deposits as \$635,710. Its capital is \$75,000 and its surplus and undivided profits \$87,176.32. The total amounts to \$162,176.32. This bank has headquarters in the same block in which it was first established in 1887, though about 1909 it was overhauled and remodeled, making it one of the finest banking buildings in the western part of the state. All branches of banking are here transacted. A few years ago a savings department was added, and this has greatly increased its business. The present officers and directors are: Asa Platt, president; E. N. Bally, vice-president; J. Y. Campfield, vice-president; C. C. Jameson, cashier; Frank Kessler, assistant cashier; directors. Asa Platt, T. Y. Campfield, Orville Lee, W. H. Townsend, E. N. Baily, Charles L. Early, Malcom Currie and C. C. Jameson.

This corps of men, each peculiarly fitted for the responsible position he holds, makes this a strong bank and is the reason that it has the confidence of such a large portion of the citizens of Sac and surrounding counties. Their correct business management has given them the liberal deposits they now have.

The First National Bank, of Sac City, was established October 27, 1890, and was the first bank of the national type founded in Sac county. It was organized by M. E. Hallett, Eugene Criss and H. H. Allison. The first capital was \$50,000, and it is the same today, but also has \$50,000 more as surplus and undivided profits. The original officers of this banking house were as follows: D. E. Hallett, president; H. H. Allison, cashier. The officers today are: George B. Perkins, president; Dr. C. B. Adams, vice-president; H. S. Barnt, cashier; E. D. Humphries, assistant cashier. The present bank building was erected in 1893 at a cost of about \$ 15,030. This fine structure has been the home of the bank, also of the United States postoffice, with law, medical and other offices on the second floor. The serial number of this the first national bank in Sac county is 4,450, showing that there had been 4,449 national banks organized and chartered before this one.

It may be stated that in 1885 D. E. Hallett and H. H. Allison came to Sac City and at once purchased the Commercial Bank of J. L. Watson, and changed its name to the Citizens Bank and operated it as such up to 1890, when it was chartered as a national bank. The old Watson, or Commercial Bank was established in 1879 or 1880. It had a capital of \$25,000. No bank in this section of Iowa stands higher in the minds of good business men and shrewd financiers than does this First National Bank of Sac City.

The Farmers Savings Bank, at Sac City, was organized in 1906. Its 1914 officers were: F. S. Needham, president; L. E. Irwin, vice-president; C. E. Handing, cashier; S. W. Shaw, teller; directors, F. S. Needham, L. E. Irwin, C. E. Handing, S. M. Elwood, William Block, J. T. Dollison and J. H. Grohe. The first capital was \$20,000; present capital, \$50,000; surplus, \$1,500; undivided profits, \$1,000. The bank was chartered in 1906 with the serial number of 521. This bank has had a phenomenal growth and is now accounted one of the excellent financial institutions in Sac county. Its managers and directors are conservative business men throughout. They study to please and want to be sure they are right and then go ahead. This has made them appreciated by all who transact business with them. Practically speaking, all the stockholders of this banking house are numbered among the thrifty farmers of the county.

BANKING AT ODEBOLT

At Odebolt there was for a number of years what was known as the Farmers -National Bank, but in January, 1914, it was merged with the interests of the First National Bank of that city. The bank referred to was established in 1901 with a capital of \$50,000.

The First National Bank at Odebolt was established as a state bank in May, 1886, but in January, 1891, was changed to a national bank by W. W. Field, W. J. Summerville, B. A. Coy, J. K. Ketterer, S. H. Bowman, W. F. Bay and George J. Low. It commenced on a capital of \$25,000, but now has a capital of \$140,000, with \$56,000 surplus and undivided profits. A new charter was granted this national bank in January, 1911, running until 1931. A good bank building was erected by the bank in 1895. The original officers of the bank were: W. W. Field, president; B. A. Coy, vice-president; George J. Low, cashier; W. F. Bay, assistant cashier. The officers in the month of February, 1914, were: Joseph Mattes, president; Henry Hanson, vice-president; W. F. Bay, cashier; A. H. Lunberg, assistant cashier. The directors are W. A. Helsell, J. R. Mattes, R. B. Adams, H. Hanson, J. A. Cranston, W. F. Bay, Henry Frevert, Joseph Mattes and B. C. Bowman. On January 13, 1914, this bank had deposits amounting to \$583,452.72. The resources and liabilities amounted at that date to \$923,464.04. Capital and surplus \$768,000. It is one of Sac county's most solid banking houses, where all are safe and secure.

The German Savings Bank of Odebolt was organized in 1901, succeeding the loan business established by John N. Schmitz in 1886. In 1901 Mr. Schmitz established a private bank and in September, 1905, the German Savings Bank was established by his sons. They occupy a handsome new brick building, thirty by forty-eight feet in size. It is a pressed brick structure: trimmed with Bedford stone, built at a cost of seven thousand dollars. It has modern fixtures throughout and carries a modern safety deposit vault system, containing one hundred and twenty-five boxes. The capital of this bank is \$50,000.

The Farmers Savings Bank, at Odebolt, was organized in January, 1914, with a capital of \$50,000. The founders of this bank were W. C. Cathcart, W. T. Down, A. E. Gunderson and Starr G. Wilson. The officers are: Starr G. Wilson, president; W. C. Cathcart, vice-president; Edna M. Hanson, cashier.

This bank was incorporated December 13, 1913, and formally opened its doors for banking business January 5, 1914. It is, practically speaking, a farmer's bank, the capital almost entirely having been taken by farmers in and around Odebolt. It has ninety-one stockholders, most of whom are good substantial farmers living near the town, and from its opening day the growth of the business has been rapid. Its future seems very bright and gives promise of becoming one of the county's strong institutions.

AT NEMAHA

The Nemaha State Bank was organized at Nemaha, this county, in 1903, by E. N. Baily, D. W. Graft and C. H. Townsend, with a capital of \$25,000, the same as it carries today. Its surplus and undivided profits is \$2,500. Its present (1914) officers are: E. N. Bailey, president; Harter Marquess, vice-president; C. E. Townsend, cashier; C. D. Deppe, assistant cashier. This institution succeeded the old Nemaha Bank, a private concern owned and operated by E. N. Baily and D. W. Graff. A bank building was erected in 1907. This bank is doing a good business and has the confidence of all the surrounding community because of its square dealing and correct business methods.

ULMER BANK

The Farmers Savings Bank of Ulmer was established in 1911 by the surrounding farming community taking stock. The first officers were: William Heptonstall, president; Charles O. Hill, vice-president; C. H. Townsend, cashier. The same are still officers, except the vice-president, who is now F. A. Meyer. The capital stock is \$10,000. The bank owns its own building. This is the first and only banking institution the town has ever had.

THE BANKS AT EARLY

The first attempt at banking in the town of Early was in what was styled in those days the "Exchange," a sort of banking business transacted in the general merchandise store of the place, but it did but little real banking business. The first bank proper in the town was the Early State Bank, organized about 1888, by S. K. Fuller, N. O. Fuller, A. Mason and a few other citizens. Its capital was \$30,000. Its first officers were: S. K. Fuller, president; A. Mason, vice-president; N. O. Fuller, cashier. It was conducted in the two story frame building in which the Early News is now situated. It was established as a private concern, but was soon converted into a state bank, and finally merged into the present State Bank of Early, which bank was organized in 1900 by Frank S. Needham, Phil Schaller, S. K. Fuller and A. Mason. Frank Needham has been president from the beginning; E. C. Fuller was vice-president and G. S. Needham, cashier. Its present (1914) officers are Frank Needham, president; E. C. Fuller, vice-president, and Walter Little, cashier. Its first capital was \$30,000, which has been increased to \$40,000, with something over \$3,000 surplus and undivided profits. It is situated in a fine brick banking house, erected about 1900. Its predecessor, as shown above, was the old Early State Bank.

The Early Building and Loan Association was established after a sweeping fire in Early in 1890, and worked under its charter twenty years and was finally sold to A. Mason, who had been its president for its twenty years of chartered life. Town loans was its specialty. Its capital was \$2,800, but was authorized to be as high as \$5,000. It was started to help build up certain properties destroyed by the conflagration of 1890. These building institutions are no longer as popular as they once were in this section of Iowa.

The Citizens State Bank at Early Was organized January 1, 1911, with a capital of \$30,000 by T. A. Barren, D. D. Canton, W. F. Yender, Byrhl Canton, W. P. Hirons, Will Drury, John Reiff, Jr., F. C. Brockman and others. It now has its original capital stock and \$2,000 in surplus and profits.

The original officers were: T. A. Barrett, president; D. D. Canton, vice president; A. F. Yender, cashier; Byrhl Canton, assistant cashier. The present officers are the same as at first, except E. Evans is now assistant cashier. The cost of bank building and fixtures was seven thousand dollars. This institution does a good, safe banking business and the people generally have the utmost confidence in the management of its business transactions, and the men at the head.

BANKING AT SCHALLER

The Schaller Savings Bank, at Schaller, yeas organized in 1892. Its present officers are: H. S. Needham, president; Charles W. Brimhall, vice-president; A. J. Martin, cashier; C. W. Brimhall, assistant cashier. The capital of this bank is \$25,000, with surplus and profits of \$2,000. In 1904 a bank building was erected, at a cost of six thousand dollars, on Second street. During the past year this institution has enjoyed an unusual and prosperous business and deposits have increased rapidly, showing the confidence with which the people of the surrounding country have in the institution as a safe place to leave their earnings.

The State Bank of Schaller was started as a private bank in 1887 and re-organized in 1889 into a state banking institution, under the banking laws of the state of Iowa. This bank was organized by F. H. Hahn, E. E. Hughes, J. T. Edson, W. J. Howard, C. O. Porter, J. W. McConkey, Charles A. Blossom, A. W. Buckl, W. R. Brooks, H. J. Hahn, G. Chandler, J. H. Denman and A. Porter. No bank in the county has made a better growth. The first officers were: F. H. Hahn, president; Charles A. Blossom, vice-president; A. W. Buckle; cashier: J. T. Edson, assistant cashier. The bank was started on a capital of \$6,000, and has been increased to \$40,000, with a surplus and undivided profits of \$10,000. The present bank building was erected in 1891 at a cost of \$12,000; it stands on lots Nos. 8 and 9, in block 4 of the town of Schaller. It was chartered as a state bank November 22, 1899, with the serial number of 6,688. Present officers are: W. J. Howard, president; J. H. Meier, vice-president; Samuel Hahn, cashier; E. W. Schafer, assistant cashier; M. E. Currie, teller.

BANKING AT LAKE VIEW

The Lake View State Bank was organized as the Lake View Bank in 1889 by Phil Schaller and F. S. Needham as owners. It merged into, or became, the Lake View State Bank in 1893, its stockholders and officers being Phil Schaller, F. S. Needham, J. P. Therkelsen, A. Armstrong and John Donahue, and several others. Its first capital stock was \$2,000, the same that it still carries, although to it should be added the \$2,000 in surplus and undivided profits. The original officers were: Phil Schaller, president; J. P. Therkelsen, vice-president; F. S. Needham, cashier; J. H. McCord, assistant cashier.

The present (1914) officers are: F. S. Needham, president; J. P. Therkelsen, vice-president; C. P. Therkelsen, cashier; E. P. Hartman, assistant cashier. The bank building was erected in 1889 at a cost of two thousand dollars. The date of this bank's charter is 1893 and its serial number is 180.

BANKING AT WALL LAKE

The beginning of banking at Wall Lake, this county, was on this wise: What is now the German State Bank, which was incorporated under its present name in July, 1910, was preceded by a small banking business transacted by A. Herrig in 1878 in a store, in connection with his other commercial business, there being no bank in Wall Lake up to that date. In 1890 he organized a private bank, and kept it in a separate building, doing business under the name of A. Herrig, Banker. In 1893 the concern was incorporated into the Wall Lake State Bank. In 1900 it was changed back to a private banking house again, under the name of the German Bank. A. Herrig died in 1910 and the bank was incorporated in July of that year by C. M. Herrig and others. Its officers were: C. M. Herrig, president; G. A. Mohr, vice-president; William Claussen, cashier. The present (1914) officers are the same as last mentioned. The capital stock is \$25,000, with a surplus and profits of \$2,500. The deposits are now, in round figures, \$150,000. The present bank building was erected in 1885 as a store building, but in 1893 changed to suit the business of general banking. The bank was chartered in 1910 at Wall Lake. This is one of the solid institutions of the southern portion of Sac county, and all the people have confidence in its management and officers, as is evidenced by its large amount of home deposits.

The other bank at Wall Lake is the Wall Lake Savings Bank, which sprung into existence in a rather unique manner, as will be seen by the following item kept among the private books of the present bank, which we have been kindly allowed to use in the make-up of this chapter.

About August 1, 1882, Nelson Wright and R. L. Goodenow formed a copartnership for the purpose of transacting a general banking business at Wall Lake, Iowa. These men agreed to invest an equal amount of capital and to share equally in the gain or loss as the sequel might prove. An invoice of notes and bank fixtures was taken showing that Nelson Wright had invested \$1,700 and R. L. Goodenow \$250, which he had on deposit. About the same time, Mr. Goodenow went to Maquoketa, Iowa, and there borrowed of Mr. Hubbell \$2,000, giving a note for the amount, signed by Nelson Wright and R. L. Goodenow, dated July 29, 1882, and due three months from date. The proceeds of said note were sent by express and was received at Wall Lake, August 1, 1882. The amount was placed to the stock account of the members of the firm, each being credited with \$1,000. Mr. Wright's share seems to be included in his investment of notes and cash. Again during the month of August, that year, Mr. Goodenow borrowed of Ed. Wooly \$2,000, giving a note signed by Mr. Goodenow and Nelson Wright, and this amount was placed to the credit of the stock account, each being credited with \$1,000.

On September 13, 1882, R. L. Goodenow invested \$1,000 and on August 20th R. L. Goodenow borrowed \$1,000 from Mr. Watson, giving his note signed by himself and Nelson Wright, due in one year, and this was placed to the stock account. Again on October 4th R. L. Goodenow borrowed from Watson \$450 for one year, which was cited to R. L. Goodenow as stock, and placed to his credit as his investment. Three years later, Goodenow bought the interests of Nelson Wright in the bank, which was conducted as a private concern, with R. L. Goodenow as its owner, until 1905, when it was organized into a state savings bank, with a capital of \$30,000. The first officers of this bank were: R. L. Goodenow, president; Charles Goodenow, vice-president; George Newby, cashier, with Alexander Johnson and L. A. Mueller as additional stockholders. The present (1914) officers are: Charles Goodenow, president; M. B. Goodenow, vice-

president; Charles W. Shaw, cashier. The first and present capital is \$30,000, to which has been added \$10,000 as undivided profits and surplus.

The present bank building was erected on the corner of Main and Second streets in 1913 at a cost of about \$8,000. Formerly it was kept in the brick building on the opposite side of the street. It was chartered in 1905 and its serial number is 12,205. When one contemplates the origin of this bank, it seems almost a marvel that the present standing of the concern could possibly be what it is. The stockholders and officers have just reason to be proud of their achievements. The people certainly have had confidence in the men "behind the guns" in this enterprise.

The Auburn Farmers and Merchants Bank, at Auburn, was established in 1902 and has a capital Of \$25,000, with a surplus and undivided profits of 821,250. The recent deposits amounted to \$168,000. The officers are: J. Kessler, president-, G. H. Parker, vice-president; W. E. Comstock, cashier; G. M. Parker, assistant cashier.

The Farmers State Bank, of Lytton, was established in 1900, and has a capital of \$2,000, with \$4,000 surplus. The present amount of deposits is \$175,000. The officers in 1914 were: Frank Coy, president; F. A. Ayers, vice-president; G. B. Willhorte, cashier.

CHAPTER XI.

EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

By Ex-County Superintendent R. Elks.

The present high standing of the public schools in Sac county grows out of the fact that the pioneers were from American neighborhoods in some one of the Eastern or Middle states and appreciated education; also from the untiring energy and tact on the part of a great majority of the county school superintendents, who have ever sought out the latest and most approved methods of instruction. It may not be without profit and interest just at this point to insert a list of the school superintendents of Sac county, with a few notes concerning this office. Up to 1858 the schools were managed by what was known as a school fund commissioner, and then came the "superintendent," who was elected by the people at the general elections, as were other county officers, but this was changed by the Legislature of 1872-73 and the superintendent is elected by the several school boards in the county. This is, of course, an experiment and time will tell as to the wisdom of such change in the manner of selecting a superintendent. The first and only school fund commissioner was William Todd, elected in August, 1856. G. F. Browning was the first to hold the office of superintendent, being elected in 1858. Following him were: William Todd, 1867 ; William Kromer, appointed by County Judge E. Criss, in July, 1867 ; William Kromer, elected 1868 ; William Chapin, elected 1865 ; William P. Drewry, elected 1867; R. Ellis, elected 1869 and 1877 ; John Dobson, 1873 and 1875; James Darling, 1877, 1879 and 1887; H. L. Martin, 1883; Clarence Messer, 1887; Clarence Messer, 1889; C. E. Stallcop, 1897 and 1893 ; J. W. Jackson, 1895 ; C. H. Jump, 1899-07 ; H. C. Coe, 1903-05; John R. Slacks, elected 1908 and still superintendent.

This office has grown to be one of much importance and none but capable men and women need hereafter apply for such positions.

Sac county was settled at a date a little too late in the history of educational advantages in the country to have known anything by experience with the subscription school system that had prevailed in the Eastern states up to about 1835 or 1840.

FIRST SCHOOLS OF THE COUNTY

As stated in the beginning, the first settlers in Sac county took great interest in education, most of them being by birth Americans. Among those coming in from the Eastern and Middle states were such men as Joseph Williams, Peter Basler and others of Sac township; Francis Cory and Eugene Criss, Asa Platt, D. Carr Early, William Hobbs and N. W. Condron, of Jackson township; S. Lee, John Alexander and William Montgomery, of Douglas township. Up to 1865 there were but five schools within the county, and these were as follows:

The first school taught in the county was the one taught in the winter of 1856-57 in a log cabin at Ross's Grove, three and a half miles south of Sac City. This building was erected by Enoch Ross for a residence. Isaac Cory taught this pioneer term of school and had about a dozen pupils. The second school was taught in a log cabin built by Harvey Slavin, whose wife was teacher. This was at Cory's Grove, two and a half miles south of Sac City, and it was taught in the winter of 1857-58. The third school in the county was the one taught at a log shack of a building by Seymour Wagoner. The fourth school was taught five and a half miles north of Sac City by Henry Hubbard, about 1860, in a log school house erected for such use. The fifth school was at Grant City about 1860. In 1865 these schools, except the Ross Grove school, were all running, and besides these there was one at De Camp's, five miles southeast of Sac City. The first school at Sac City was kept in a log building, but by 1865 a two-story frame was built for school purposes. This

stood where now stands Postmaster Early's residence, in the heart of the city. The next in Sac City was the two-story brick building, with five departments, and in which taught the writer. R. Ellis, who in all taught here seven terms.

Among those who were teachers and others deeply concerned in school matters may be recalled such names as B. W. Trout, William Chapin, Robert Browning and Levi Davis. A teachers' association was organized and meetings were alternately held at Grant City and Sac City.

In 1865 there were polled at the annual election about ninety votes in the entire county. I was elected county superintendent. served three terms and was succeeded by John Dobson, who took great interest in educational matters. After the close of the Civil War this county settled up very rapidly, settlers being attracted by the extra fertility of the soil and the most excellent character of the few pioneers who had already settled here and laid well the foundations for a good county government. It was about this time-1867 to 1870 - that other civil townships were organized and school districts established in each of them. There was a time here when it did not require a certain number of pupils in order to organize a school district and at least one was organized and a term taught with only two scholars and the wife and mother was the teacher. Today we have excellent school advantages on every hand and people universally take pride in their good schools. I have taught fifty years and it does my heart good to think that my successors in the office of superintendent of this county have been so faithful in the discharge of their duties, and among such I want to mention William Chapin, William Drewry and John Dobson.

It may be stated in this connection that ex-County Superintendent R. Ellis of Grant City, who furnished us with the above, was himself an educator of no small proportions at an early day in this county. He was superintendent of this county three terms, and taught seven terms of school in Sac City and many in his own town of Grant City, where he still resides, honored by all. He now numbers among his old pupils many of the old gray-haired men and women of this county, and in many instances taught the children of his former pupils here. He was no less a success as a teacher than as a county superintendent, when he had to go on foot and on horseback to visit the few schools within the county in the seventies. His methods were always practical and his discipline firm, yet sensible and tender. He governed by reason and only in extreme cases used the rod. He won his pupils by gaining their good will and confidence.

SAC COUNTY, IOWA

THE SCHOOLS OF THE COUNTY IN 1881

Thirty years ago the public schools of this county, as shown by County Superintendent Martin's report to the state department, were in the following condition, as to number, buildings, etc.:

Township

District.

Boyer Valley _ _ _

Buildings. Pupils.

177

7

Cedar _____ g 222

Clinton _ _____. _____ 9 218

Cook _____ 7
 Coon Valley _____
 Delaware _____
 Douglas _____
 Eden _____ 6
 Eureka _____ - 8
 Jackson _____ 8
 Levee _____ 6

7 7 7

Township District.

Richland _____

Sac _____ Viola _____ I92 Wall Lake _____ 210 Wheeler _____

I74 Early _____ I24 Odebolt _____ 105 Sac City _____ 105 Schaller
 _____ I78 Wall Lake (town) _____

I62 -

Buildings. Pupils.

211
 198
 226

7 9 9 9 I

Total _____ I27

275
 236

250 328 65

150

4,153

This was an increase of twenty-seven school houses and nine hundred and seventy-eight pupils in three years. In the winter of 1884-85 there were required one hundred and forty-seven teachers to teach the winter schools of this county.

In 1900 this county had a population of 17,639. There were three deaf and dumb children and two of feeble minds. The schools were divided into 132 sub-districts, in which there were 131 ungraded schools; 2,938 male and 2,890 female pupils. The value of all school property was estimated at \$116,075; apparatus, \$5,740; volumes in school libraries, 4,238; number of living, thrifty shade trees about school grounds, 2,342. The school building ranked: Fifty-four good, eighty fail- and seven poor.

Sac City became an independent school district in 1876, and J. N. Miller, in his Sac Sun, some years later, described the school house then in use as follows: "It is a fine brick edifice, with a stone foundation, built in 1871, at a cost of fourteen thousand dollars. It contains three rooms, the whole upper story being devoted to the high school department, while the intermediate departments and the primary are accommodated on the first floor. The building is well built and handsomely furnished, and is well ventilated, comfortable and more than ordinarily lighted. The schools are in a good condition, well disciplined and progressing most satisfactorily in the various branches of study."

Really, the climax in school buildings in Sac City was the erection of the present high school building (so called) which was built in 1903-04, at a cost of forty thousand dollars, including a five-thousand-dollar heating plant. It is about midway from the business center of the city to the Northwestern depot, on the south side of Main street. Its campus is indeed beautiful, while all the general surroundings are those calculated to inspire the youth who attend this school. The structure is thoroughly modern in all particulars. Its appointments meet with all the now known requirements of sanitary and student life. It is certainly an ornament to the county seat town of Sac county.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF SAC CITY

The following is quoted from an illustrated Christmas number of then Sac County Bulletin, published in 1911, and so befittingly covers the school system at the county seat town that it is here appended to other educational matters concerning the county

"Sac City gives ample proof of keen interest in her educational efforts, as is evidenced by the substantial public school and college buildings found here which would be a credit to a town twice the size of it. A very competent force of teachers has always been one of the features especially aimed at by the school board, and the product of the high school is ample proof of the success attained along this line. The pupils in attendance at our high school and college are drawn from a large extent of territory, presumably larger on account of the excellent reputation of the managing boards of both these institutions and the just pride of the faculty invariably secured. We place the educational interest in the first rank as regards importance in any town, because it is there that the lawmakers and statesmen are made. No feature of improvement stamps a town more distinctly than the school, and nothing else in the town makes so much for good government as the school. Sac City is liberal in this matter in a highly satisfactory manner, and stands ready to give the rising generation all the aids possible for the achievements of scholastic success.

"The explanation for the interest taken in all the matters relative to education in Sac City is not far to seek. The population of the town and immediate vicinity is largely made up of a practical, intelligent class, critical in a high degree when it comes to anything along the line of oratory or rhetoric, and pronounced in their approval of whatever comes near the high standard of excellency they have intuitively established. Every form of knowledge-producing publications are to be found in the hands or libraries of our people, and a true appreciation of everything worthy is always ungrudgingly given.

"A gentleman of high standing in educational circles, a lecturer who appeared on our chautauqua platform recently, in speaking of Sac City, said

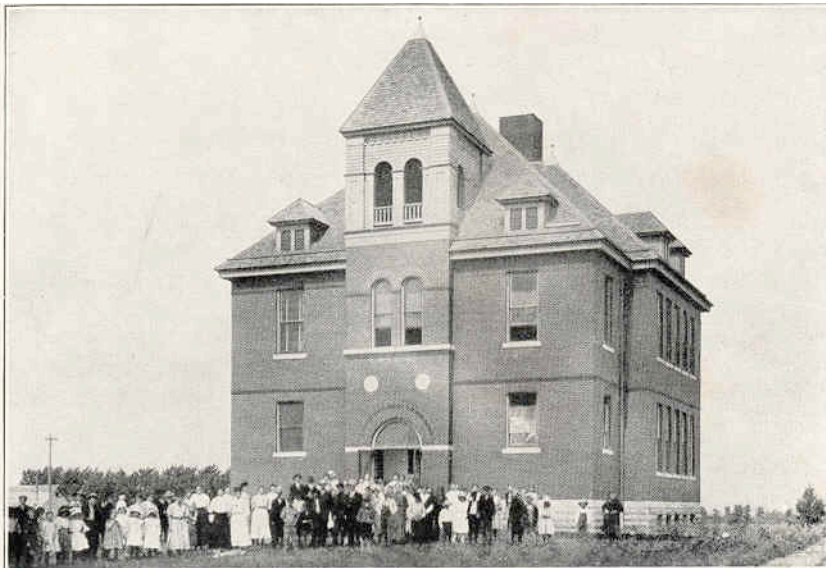
'I have never been in a town so small as Sac City where there was so much evidence of higher education generally distributed among the people.' This was no empty flattery, as some of the victims of Sac City's disapproval can tell, when they come to us with any form of entertainment that fell short of what was expected."

Sac City may justly boast of her public schools. No sooner had the hardy pioneer settled here on the banks of the Coon river than he took account (after first building a house in which to live) of the matter of caring for his children's education. The culmination is seen in that splendid educational monument-the Sac

City high school building. It is built upon honor, by competent craftsmen; it is well equipped with the latest improved appliances and apparatus. It really ranks well up in the scale of any school in the state. The Sac City school system provides for one year of training in the kindergarten, a four-year course of study in the primary department, a four-year course in the grammar department and an elective four years in the high school. Music, drawing and art work are also taught here.

In 1911 the total enrollment in all departments was about six hundred pupils. Of these a considerable number in the higher grades came in from outlying districts and not a few from other near-by counties.

In 1908 the Sac City high school was placed on the list of fully accredited high schools by the State University and colleges of Iowa. The following year, after a most thorough inspection, it was fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges, being accepted for thirty-two credits, or sixteen units, two more than required for unconditional entrance into any college or university of the fourteen states in the association. Sac City long since ranked as one of the best of the thirty Iowa schools on this association's accredited list.



HIGH SCHOOL, AUBURN



ONE REASON FOR SAC COUNTY'S PROGRESS

OTHER SAC COUNTY SCHOOLS

At Odebolt an independent district obtained in 1880; the first school was taught by Jacob Gable. A neat frame building was erected in 1880, costing three thousand dollars.

Away back in the eighties, Wall Lake was set off into an independent school district. In the summer of 1879 a neat frame building was erected at a cost of seven hundred and fifty dollars. It was twenty-two by thirty-six feet in size. In 1880 it was too crowded to do good school work and rooms had to be secured in outside rooms, the Masonic lodge room being used for one grade.

In all other towns in this county, as soon as they had been platted and a few families settled there, school houses went up and competent instructors were at once secured.

What was styled the County Teachers' Association existed many years proposition carried and the change was made in due time. Thus the township was back exactly where it had been at the beginning of the school agitation.

During the -winter of 1912-1913 a petition was presented to the board asking that the people be allowed to vote on the question of issuing bonds in the amount of ten thousand dollars for the purpose of building a union township high school. The election was held and the proposition carried. John C. Woodward, of Council Bluffs, was engaged by the board as architect, and the contract for the building was let to C. E. Axelson, of Harcourt, Iowa. The building was completed and dedicated on February I I, 1914. The schools of the township were dismissed for the day and all came together at the building to spend the day. Programs were held both in the forenoon and the afternoon, with a sumptuous dinner at noon. It was voted to make the day an annual affair.

The building is two stories, with high basement, and is built of brick. There are four recitation rooms and a principal's office or library, with cloak rooms for all. In the basement are two excellent rooms which can be used for school purposes if desired. The building is heated with steam throughout. The furniture is of the best, the seats and desks being adjustable to the height of the pupil.

The board of directors that has had charge of the erection of this modern building is composed of the following men: T. R. Puterbaugh, president; A. B. Domino, secretary; C. H. Townsend, treasurer; T. H. Carnine, T. A. Whitmore, V- illiam Hadley, Charles Hicks, James Mooney, Harter Marquess, H. A. Stephan and I. W. Scothorn. The teachers who had the honor of teaching the first day in the new building are as follows: Principal. John E. Hays; primary, Ella Toohey ; intermediate, Zaidee McQuirk.

CONDITION OF SCHOOLS IN 1913

As shown by the county superintendent's report to the state department of education, the following are the school statistics for Sac county for the school year ending September, 1913:

In 1913 the school board purchased the old Institute buildings, treated elsewhere in this chapter, from that institution and have converted the same into a school building, and in it now the high school department of the Sac City public schools is kept. The price paid for this property was six thousand dollars. It was much the cheapest piece of school property ever bought in the county.

TOWN AND CITY SCHOOLS

Name.

Auburn _____

Early _____

Grant City _____

Lake View _____

Lytton _____

Odebolt _____

Sac City _____

Schaller _____

Wall Lake _____

Rooms. Enrolled.

143
45
136
65

372
617
182
168

4 6

2 6

3 13

14 6 6

SCHOOL TOWNSHIPS

Houses. Valuation

1 \$ 4,000

4500

1,000

6, 500

2,400

35,000

60,000

20,000

10,000

Boyer Valley _____	8	129	8	8,000
Cedar _____	9	131	9	1,730
Clinton _____	9	103	9	4,800
Cook _____	9	152	9	4,500
Coon Valley _____	9	170	9	1,800
Delaware _____	9	154	9	3,000
Douglas _____	6	112	6	1,200
Eden _____	9	106	9	3,900
Eureka _____	8	98	7	1,900
Jackson _____	8	162	8	3,900
Levey _____	8	143	8	8,400
Richland _____	8	85	7	5,800
Sac _____	7	130	7	2,250
Viola _____	8	160	8	5,300

Wall Lake _____	8	174	8	2,500
Wheeler _____	9	log	8	3,200
Total _____	132	2,118	126	\$62,180

Total value of apparatus in county, \$3,376; volumes in libraries, 10,770. Total of school age in county, 2,767 ; male, 1,465 ; females, 1,302; total enrolled, both sex, 2,118. Wages for males in country, from \$35 to \$50; females, \$34 to \$49. Male teachers in town and city received \$90 to \$135; females. \$48 to \$60 per month.

GRADE SCHOOLS

Male Female Male Female

Location.	Pupils.	Pupils.	Graduates.	Graduates.
Auburn _____	10	20	I	q.
Early _____	20	25	q.	2
Lake View _____	21	13	a	z
Odebolt _____	48	52	z	g
Sac City _____	51	60	12	10
Schaller _____	23	31	I	I
Wall Lake _____	20	23	I	
Totals _____	201	227	23	27

THE SAC CITY INSTITUTE

This splendid educational institution was in existence up to within a year or two. Its general history may be summed up as follows: It was established through the co-operation of the progressive element of Sac City. These men and women saw the need of such a school and went forward to perform their known duty to the rising young about them. This start was made in 1892, and the school was first styled the Oak Park Normal College. Following this step, the board was reorganized, and in 1894 it was known as the Sac City Institute. Among the leading spirits in this laudable educational enterprise may be recalled the names of A. B. Mason, Dr. Caleb Brown, D. Carr Early, Phil Schaller, Asa Platt, E. N. Baily, D. E. Hallett, Judge Eugene Criss ("Father of the City"), Judge Elwood, W. Jackson and W. H. Hart. Many of these gentlemen are now deceased, but during their lifetime they gave time, money and personal attention to this institution. During the almost a score of years the institute had but three principals. Prof. H. C. Nash served four years, and was succeeded by Prof. Walter Guthridge, and he in turn by Prof. G. W. Lee, who was at the helm for more than a dozen years. These men were thorough educators and the school prospered to a good degree.

Soon after the founding of this school the Baptist denomination accepted the offer of the stockholders to turn the institution over to them, providing they would keep it up. The Baptists all over Iowa were, for a time, enthusiastic over the new school and much constructive work was done toward uplift prevent the extension of slavery, but one that would eventually be used to destroy slavery in those states in which it already existed.

In 1860 four presidential tickets were in the field. Abraham Lincoln was the candidate of the Republicans, Stephen A. Douglas of the National Democrats, John C. Breckenridge of the Pro-Slavery interests, and John Bell of the Constitutional-Union party. The latter party was chiefly made up from the old American or Know-Nothing party. Early in the campaign there were threats of secession and disunion in case Lincoln was elected President. But the people were so accustomed to threats from the South that little heed was paid to it.

On December 20, 1860, South Carolina, by a convention of delegates, declared "That the Union now existing between South Carolina and the other states of the American Federation is dissolved, and that the state of South Carolina has resumed her position among the nations of the earth as a free and sovereign and independent state, with full power to levy war and conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and do all things which independent states may of right do."

On the 24th Governor Pickens issued a proclamation declaring that "South Carolina is, and has the right to be, free and independent as a state, and as such has right to levy- war, conclude peace, and do all acts whatsoever that rightfully appertain to a free and independent state."

On the 26th Major Anderson evacuated Fort Moultrie and occupied Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor. Two days previously he wrote President Buchanan's secretary of war, John B. Floyd, as follows: "When I inform you that my garrison consists of only sixty effective men, and that we are in very indifferent works, the walls of which are only fourteen feet high; and that we have, within one hundred and sixty yards of our fort, sand hills which command our works and which afford admirable sites for batteries and the finest coverts for sharpshooters: and that besides this there are numerous houses, some of which are in pistol range, and you will at once see that if attacked in force, headed by anyone but a simpleton, there is scarcely a possibility of our being able to hold out long enough for our friends to come to our succor."

His appeals for reinforcements ,were seconded by Gen. Winfield Scott, but unheeded by President Buchanan, and entirely ignored by Secretary of War John B. Floyd.

On the 28th South Carolina troops occupied Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney, and hoisted the Palmetto flag on the ramparts. On the 29th John B. Floyd resigned his place in the cabinet, charging that the President, in refusing to remove Major Anderson from Charleston harbor, designed to plunge the country into civil war, and added: "I cannot consent to be the agent of such a calamity."

On that same day the South Carolina commissioners presented their official credentials at Washington, which on the next day were declined. Georgia declared secession January a, 1861, and took possession of the United States arsenal in Augusta and Forts Pulaski and Jackson. The Southern states, one by one, kept "going out of the Union," as secession was termed. On February 1st the rebels seized the United States mint at New Orleans. February 9th, that year, a provisional constitution was adopted at Montgomery, Alabama, it being the constitution of the United States "reconstructed" to suit their purpose. Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, was chosen president, and Alexander H. Stevens, of Georgia, vice-president of the "Confederate States of North America." Jeff Davis was inaugurated February 18, 1861, and President Lincoln on March 4th. April 12, 1861, the surrender of Fort Sumter was demanded of Major Anderson, but he stoutly protested. Fire was at once commenced upon the little garrison of about sixty men by thousands of guns in

the hands of the rebel troops. Sunday morning, April 14th, the news flashed everywhere over the country that Fort Sumter had been surrendered by the brave commander. Thus commenced the long-drawn-out Civil war.

"Slow to resolve, be swift to Do! Teach ye the False, how fights the True!"

On Monday, April 15th, President Lincoln issued this famous proclamation to the people of the country:

"Whereas, The laws of the United States have for some time past, and are now opposed and the execution thereof obstructed, in the states of South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, by combinations too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the powers vested in the marshals; now therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution and the laws, have thought to call forth the militia of the several states of the Union to the number of seventy-five thousand, in order to suppress said combinations and to cause the laws to be duly executed.

"The details for this subject will be immediately communicated to the state authorities through the war department. I appeal to all loyal citizens to favor, facilitate, and to aid this effort to maintain the honor, the integrity and the existence of our National Union and the perpetuity of popular government, and to redress wrongs long endured. I deem it proper to say that the first services assigned to the forces hereby called forth will probably be to re-possess the forts, places and property which have been seized from the Union; and in every event the utmost care will be observed, consistently with the object aforesaid, to avoid any devastation, any destruction of or interference with property, or any disturbance of peaceful citizens in any part of the country; and I hereby command the persons composing the combinations aforesaid to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective abodes, within twenty days from this date.

"Deeming the present condition of public affairs presents an extraordinary occasion, I do hereby, by virtue of the power in me vested by the Constitution, convene both Houses of Congress. The senators and representatives are, therefore, summoned to assemble at their respective chambers at twelve o'clock noon, on Thursday the fourth day of July next, then and there to consider and determine such measures as in their wisdom the public safety and interest may seem to demand.

"In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the city of Washington, the fifteenth day of April, in the year, of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-fifth.

"By the President.

"W. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State."

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Seventy-five thousand men were not enough to crush the South-no nor did ten times that number suffice, but the work of raising men under the numerous calls - 75,000, 200,000, 300,000, 500,000 and other calls - was pushed forward in order to raise a sufficient force to put down the Rebellion. Iowa furnished more than seventy thousand men, from first to last, in the civil conflict.

Coming now to the history made in that war by the people of Sac county, it should be stated that when Fort Sumter was fired upon in April, 1861, the population in this county was only two hundred and forty-six persons. At the end of the war it had only reached a few more than three hundred, hence it could not be expected that many soldiers could be mustered from Sac county in defense of the flag of the Union. During the civil conflict Sac county did all in her power to furnish volunteers and care for soldiers' families while such men were fighting at the front in the Southland. The minutes of the board of county supervisors in 1863 notes this: "Ordered, that Sarah E. Cory be allowed the sum of fourteen dollars out of the volunteers fund."

Another order in December of the same year reads: "Ordered that the board offer seventy-five dollars each. to any four men who shall volunteer in the United States service, by January 5, X864."

Other such entries include the following: That "Thirteen dollars be allowed from the volunteer's fund of Sac county to the wife of William Allen, a soldier's wife, who has four children to care for." This was protested by M. S. Lee, member of the board, on the ground that Mr. Allen was not accredited to Sac county by the military records of the department.

In 1864 the war was beginning to be more frightful and serious than at any time before that. In January of that year, the board made this entry: "Ordered that the county offer three hundred dollars to any four men who shall volunteer under the last call of President Lincoln for more troops."

In February, 1864, it was raised to three hundred dollars for any single man who would enlist in the Union army from Sac county.

The great war ended on April 9, 1865, and in August of the same year, thinking well of the valiant services rendered by Sac county soldiers, the board of supervisors made this resolution: "Ordered that Sac county pay the sum of three hundred dollars to each soldier volunteer accredited to this county, who has not already received a bounty for his enlistment." With this was the following patriotic resolution: "Therefore be it resolved, that the prayer of certain petitioners in Sac county, Iowa, be granted with the following expression of sentiment, viz : First, that three hundred dollars bounty be allowed to each soldier who served in said military service from Sac county, Iowa. as so accredited, in putting down the Rebellion-that is, he who really enlisted from Sac county. Second, that the board shall be the judges of who shall receive said bounty, when sufficient evidence is produced. Third, that said bounty shall be paid in the shape of orders drawn on the volunteer fund of said county and delivered after being drawn and shall draw interest from their dates at the rate of ten per cent. per annum until paid."

In September, 1865, it is shown that it was "Ordered that James P. Kromer and James Shelmerdine each be paid three hundred dollars bounty."

The last of such entries appears to be that of October, 1865, when

CHAPTER XII

MILITARY HISTORY OF THE COUNTY

While it should be remembered in reading this chapter that Sac county was unsettled to any great extent at the opening years of the Civil War period, and long after all the other great conflicts of this country had been fought, hence had no part in such wars as the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, yet it was not without loyalty to the flag of the country. When her people had an opportunity to speak and act in defense of the starry banner during the Civil War a goodly number responded to the call of President Lincoln, as well as to the call of President William McKinley during the Spanish-American struggle in 1898. But it is not without profit to the reader of local annals to be posted also as to the issues and final call to arms in struggles which have gone down into history, even though but few of the brave sons of the few men who resided on Sac county soil were permitted to engage in these wars fought for the upbuilding of the state and nation's honor and integrity.

Of the Civil War of the sixties it should be stated that the institution of slavery had long been a source of trouble between the free and and slave-holding states. The latter were always troubled with the thought that the former would encroach upon their rights, and nothing could be done to shake this belief. Compromise measures were adopted from time to time. Threats of secession were frequently made by the slave-holding states, but as some measures of a conciliatory character were passed, no attempts were made to carry out their threats. Finally came the repeal of the Missouri Compromise and the adoption of a measure styled the Kansas-Nebraska bill. This bill in Congress opened up territory north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes latitude to slavery, which, under the Compromise of 1820, was forever to be free. About the time of the passage of this act, the Whig political party was in a state of dissolution and the great body of that party were opposed to the passage of the bill. These, with a few Democrats, joined together and formed the Republican party early in the fifties. It had for its object the prevention of the extension of slavery into other territory. The people of the South believed, or rather imagined, they saw in this new party not only an organized effort to William Cory was allowed three hundred dollars bounty from the volunteer's fund of Sac county.

From year to year the needy soldiers have been cared for by the county, as well as by the general government. In 1910 the "relief fund" for soldiers in Sac county amounted to one thousand seven hundred and three dollars.

According to the state census reports of 1905, the classified list of Union soldiers residing in Sac county at that date is as follows: Total number soldiers, in county, 176 ; number who enlisted in Iowa regiments, 53 ; number in Illinois regiments, 45 ; number in Wisconsin regiments 21 ; number in Indiana regiments, 10; number in Ohio regiments, 10.

VETERANS IN 1884.

From a list published in the Sac Sun in 1884, the following appears to have been the correct list of Civil war veterans drawing pensions in Sac county, given by towns

Odebolt-H. W. Vandermark, B. F. Stearns, Mart Shelley, John D. Evans, George W. Johnson, widow of comrade McKinney, Cornelius Shea, Arthur H. Montgomery, George Long, William F. Bettis, Jacob Meyer, Catherine (widow of comrade) Mummy John H. Scott, Asa B. Smith, Charles R. Dingman, Owen K. Boort, John Guilford, John W. Savage, James Level, Hiram B. Smith, Marsh Duane, Simeon Bowker, James M. Stratton.

Sac City-Farnsworth Cobb, A. M. Cory, Denziel Clark, William E. Cooper, Joseph K. Staton, Henry W. Shumake, Byron Hovey, Charles W. Hammond, Harman A. Jones, Alexander Watterson, Catherine (widow of comrade) O'Shea, John T. Wallen, Johanna (widow of comrade) King, William L. Reed, Eli Haradon, Sarah B. (widow of comrade) Grimes, Francis M. Rother, David Ross, McClosky, James E. Armstrong, Truman Churchill.

Wall Lake-Adam Hovender, Wallace Bedford, George Blass, Horace B. Allen, Nathan Allen, William Johnston.

Early-James Magclin, Clarrissa (widow of comrade) McClure, James Shelmerdine.

Fletcher (now Lake View)-Charles Potts.

Grant City-Orin C. Crandall.

Total number, fifty-eight; total amount received monthly as pension,

\$476-33.

SAC COUNTY'S FIRST CAMP FIRE.

In September, 1884, , there occurred a splendid old soldiers' Grand Army campfire, in the beautiful grove of the late judge Eugene Criss, a half mile to the east of Sac City, lasting three days and over. It was participated in by many adjoining towns and cities, and thousands of comrades attended, besides as many more civilians. The grounds were in excellent condition and at their entrance there stood several brazen cannon ready to belch forth on a moment's warning. The program commenced on Tuesday morning, when cannon boomed and musketry was heard up and down the Coon valley, as it had been on Southern battle fields in the Civil-war period. The night was made noisy throughout the entire hours, the "boys" who had worn the blue were in evidence on every hand, in and out of town, with guns and without. It rained during the night, but that made no difference, the old veterans were not afraid of the elements, but kept thinking of other nights of rain and storm, far from home and friends, in a real enemy's land.

On the second day there was a great sham battle enacted and successfully fought between the North and South. This was on the Sac county fair grounds. The Union forces were in command of "General" P. H. Hankins, and the rebel forces were under command of "Lieut. -General" D. CarsIaddon. The following is a pen picture of the engagement by the editor of the Sac Sun James N. D-Idler, who was a veteran and took part in the battle

"Finding the fire from the fort too hot for the skirmishers General Hankins ordered up the reserve commanded by 'Brigadier-Generals' Webster and Goldsmith (assumed titles.) They presented a fine appearance as they marched in solid phalanx across the open field, flags and banners streaming and the band playing inspiring strains under a fearful fire from the rebels, who could be seen mustering their clans for the final conflict. Halting within a hundred yards of the fort, the order to charge was given and with fixed bayonets the boys sprang forward with wild cheers. But within twenty yards of the fort the fire became too hot for mortal men to endure, and for once they wavered, then halted. and finally fled, while the rebels poured out over the breast-works in pursuit. It seemed as if the day was lost, but it was only for a moment. By the superhuman effort of its officers, the line was halted and again formed for a second charge. It seemed like certain death to face the fierce fire from the fort, but it was death or capture to remain. The ammunition was almost exhausted and nothing remained but to charge. "General" Rother was ordered with his command on the left, which he proceeded to do with great success. Again the order to charge was given, and the boys

sprang forward with a wild cheer, answered from the rebel fort with a yell of defiance, and a fire that told of deadly effect upon the advancing foe. Not a shot was fired by the Union forces, until they sprang upon the breastworks, when they poured forth a volley with such terrible results that the gray coats turned and ran for their lives, leaving their dead and wounded. Allee Post captured the flag and Company E took the staff. Cheer after cheer rent the air and the victory was complete. General Carskaddon and all his staff were captured, with three thousand men, the balance of his force escaping across the Cedar river, the Union forces being too much exhausted to follow them. It was a glorious victory and settled the fates of the invading army, which only two days before had come flushed with high hopes of a conquest."

Following the battle, dress parade was held by Commander Hankins and the camp was formally disbanded. Most of the veterans departed by train or otherwise, and the night passed in peace and quietude. The next day the tents were struck, the flags furled and the camp (which was called Camp Eugene Criss, after him who owned the land) resumed the normal state. The old veterans of the Civil War returned to their homes refreshed and inspired by the stirring scenes and each resolved that so long as life lasted the memory of the great conflict should not pass away.

The commands that participated in this reunion of soldiers, and who fought the sham battle, included the following, with some others: Sac City Post NO. 284; Jeff C. Davis Post No. 44, of Carroll; Allee Post No. 113, of Manson; Sons of Veterans Post No. III, Scranton; Lander Post No. 156, Lake City; Col. Goodrich Post No. 117, Odebolt; McPherson Post No. 33, Manning; C. C. Washburn Post NO. 282, Grant City; N. P. Wright Post No. 291, Glidden-, Bud Hazen Post No. 237, Luck Valley; Belle Post, Kingsley; John T. Compton Post, Churdan; Opedyke Post No. 322, Rockwell City; Company E, Iowa National Guards, Carroll.

In 1886 a second reunion and campfire was held by the soldiers of this section at Sac City, at which almost five hundred veterans were in attendance. Among the features of the occasion was the hanging of a spy and the drumming out of camp of a supposed hog thief. Gen. Josiah Given, of Des Moines, was one of the prominent speakers. A sham battle was also fought this year, as on the former occasion. The gate receipts were about nine hundred dollars. Colonel Temple presented his famous "Union Spy," assisted by local talent. It was by all odds the finest event of all at that reunion. Among the persons who took part as actors and actresses in this play, may be recalled the mines of home-folk as follows: Messrs. Parker, Hart, Goldsmith, Derby and Mrs. Nutter, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Derby, Miss Lola Early and Charlie Woodward.

A campfire was held at Wall Lake in February, 1887, and, notwithstanding the fact that the mercury was twenty-two degrees below zero, the soldiers assembled from Sac City, Wall Lake, Lake City and Odebolt and, with the assistance of the ladies, had a most enjoyable occasion. A good supper was prepared by the ladies and the company listened to a rousing speech from Captain Head, of Jefferson.

A great soldiers' reunion for all northwestern Iowa was held at Sac City, in June, 1890, which brought its thousands of old veterans here.

SOLDIERS' MONUMENTS.

Among the beautiful soldiers' monuments in Sac county is the one at Sac City, in Monumental square, opposite the court house, erected by a onemill tax provided for by law, in 1892. It was built at an expense of three thousand four hundred and seventy-two dollars, and dedicated November 21, 1894, when it was unveiled in the presence of a large throng of people from all parts of this and adjoining counties. Hon. Philip Schaller acted as presiding officer of the day. The cord which held the draping of the statute was unloosened by little Miss Emily Needham, of Lake View. Chairman A. B. Smith, of Odebolt, presented the monument to the county, and was replied to by County Supervisor M. E. Wright. I. A. Cory, who

fired on the same spot in 1861 to recruit volunteers, was called out and played again the stirring music he had played thirty-four years before. The speaker of the day was Hon. George D. Perkins, member of Congress and editor of the *Sioux City Journal*, who made a long, telling and well-received oration. During his remarks he stated, "Sac county was a babe in the arms of Iowa when the Civil War broke out. It was little then that you could give. The federal census only gave you two hundred and forty-seven population in 1860, and of course not many could be expected from so few, but you sent some, even under the early calls and Sac county is thereby credited with ten or a dozen altogether. But after the war many soldiers returned and sought homes and fought here as pioneers. Iowa and Sac county owes to them a debt of gratitude. You have put up this monument here for the Union soldiers; a tribute to the defenders, in the name of the soldier citizenship of Sac county for the republic. In this broad spirit you dedicate your work and in this spirit it is to be remembered of you while its foundations endure."

So large was the throng in attendance that the opera hall would not hold the people and the Presbyterian church was used for an overflow place, and there Mr. Perkins spoke for a short time, as well as several others, including Reverend Whitfield, Chairman Charles Early and others. Campfires were held at the Methodist Episcopal church in the evening and also at the Baptist Institute chapel, W. J. Dixon presiding at the former and W. H. Hart at the latter.

This monument was erected by contractors Woods, McNeely & Company, of Marshalltown, Iowa, from Barre granite, and the bronze statue was by the world-famous Maurice J. Powers, of New York. The Hon. George D. Perkins secured through Congress four five-ton condemned cannon, which defend each of the four corners of the park, now so attractive to the passersby. The monument consists of four bases and the entire structure is nineteen feet high, with the volunteer infantrymen in bronze surmounting the granite shaft and spacious bases. The weight of the monument is thirtytwo tons.

The corner-stone was laid with Masonic rites, August 5, 1892. The Iowa State Band and several drum corps were present. Addresses were made by W. H. Hart, of Sac City, and pioneer E. Criss served as officer of the day. Many articles were deposited in the corner-stone.

The names of every soldier who served from Sac county in the Civil War has been inscribed upon this monument, except "Chan" Browning, Laws and John Bugr, and this list is as follows

George C. Browning, Company D, Sixteenth Iowa Infantry, died February 28, 1864.
William Cory, Company H, Tenth Iowa Infantry, died June 6, 1886.
Harvey W. Cory, Company H, Tenth Iowa Infantry.
Thaddeus A. Grey Company C, Eighth Iowa Infantry.
John Alexander, Second Battery of Light Artillery, died February 19, 1908.
J. W. Tiberghien, Company H, Eighth Iowa Infantry.
Henry C. Hubbard, Company A, Twenty-sixth Iowa Infantry, died January 2, 1863.
James Shelmerdine, Company A, Twenty-sixth Infantry.
James Kromer, Company A, Twenty-sixth Iowa Infantry
George W. Birch, Company A, Twenty-sixth Iowa Infantry, died December 79, 1881.
William G. Wine, Company I, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry.
Hugh Cory, Company K, Seventh Iowa Cavalry.
C. W. Tuffs, Company B, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, died November 10, 1876.
George W. Porter, Company L, Fourth Iowa Cavalry.
John Duncan, Company L, Fourth Iowa Cavalry, died October 15, 1903.
W. R. Nevin, Company M, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, died September 17, 1898
Jeremiah Bugr, Company E, Sixth Iowa Cavalry.
J. O. Tuffs, Company D, Sixteenth Iowa Infantry, died June 21, 1903.

On the sides of the base of the monument are the words "Shiloh," "Gettysburg," "Vicksburg," and "Winchester," while on the one side of the shaft is the inscription, "Erected by the Citizens of Sac County, Iowa, to the Memory of Her Soldier Heroes of the Civil War."

"Dedicated November 21, 1894."

Another fine monument to the heroes of the Rebellion is that erected in the new addition of Oakland cemetery, which is described in the city chapter of this work.

INSPECTION OF THE IOWA SOLDIERS HOME.

Under appointment, Hon. Phil Schaller, of Sac City, in 1906 inspected the Soldiers' Home, at Marshalltown, and in his report he gives the following as the daily allowance for food stuffs at that state institution: 355 pounds of beef; 300 pounds of mess pork, bacon or sausage, or 380 pounds of pork loin, or 350 pounds of ham, along with 40 pounds of sugar, 200 pounds of flour, 20 pounds of coffee, two pounds of tea, five bushels of potatoes, 760 gallons of milk, 40 pounds of butter, and two bushels of beans and pickles and other relishes.

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

In the spring of 1898 war was declared against the government of Spain, and President William McKinley issued the following proclamation

"Whereas, a joint resolution of Congress was approved on the twentieth day of April, 1898, entitled 'Joint resolution for the recognition of the independence of the people of Cuba, demanding that the government of Spain, relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba, and to withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and directing the President of the United States to use the land and naval forces of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect,' and

"Whereas, by an act of Congress entitled 'An act to provide for temporarily increasing the military establishments of the United States in time of war and for other purposes,' approved April 22, 1898, the President was authorized, in order to raise a volunteer army, to issue his proclamation calling for volunteers to serve in the Army of the United States

"Now, therefore, I, William McKinley, President of the United States, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and the laws, and deeming sufficient occasion to exist, have thought fit to call forth volunteers to the aggregate number of one hundred and twenty-five thousand in order to carry into effect the purpose of said resolution; the same to be apportioned, as far as practicable, among the several states and territories and the District of Columbia, according to population, and to serve two years, unless sooner discharged. The details for this object will be immediately communicated to the proper authorities through the war department.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the City of Washington, this twenty-third day of April, A. D. 1898, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-second.

(Seal.)

"By the President

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

"JOHN SHERMAN,

"Secretary of State."

At the date of this war Sac county had two thousand two hundred and ninety-nine men subject to military duty, and many were only too eager to participate in the war with Spain, but owing to the fact that the number of men required to suppress the Spaniards in their attempt to hold Cuba ' in enslavement and tyranny was so limited only a few were permitted to enlist from Sac county. Among such were those of the Forty-second Regiment, who had been citizens of this county at one time or another, or were at the date of the war, namely: Samuel B. Culp, of Company C; Daniel S. Spangler, Company D ; Harry S. Blackman, Company H ; David C. Conner, Company I ; B. Hutcheson, Company B ; Eugene R. Allen, Company C ; Richard M. Schoonmaker, Company D ; Claude G. Bennick, Company M ; Roy S. Parker and Gib Mason.

COMPANY M, IOWA NATIONAL. GUARD.

In the summer of 1900 Company M, Iowa National Guard, was organized at Sac City, and in June, 1901, a fine armory was provided for them, but in a few years things changed about and the company was disbanded and organized at Cherokee. The armory was later used for a tobacco warehouse and finally destroyed by fire.

Upon the return of the Spanish =American soldiers to Iowa, the Sac Sun had the following editorial on that event: '

"The Fifty-first Iowa Regiment reached Council Bluffs on Monday last (November, 1898) and a royal welcome was accorded them by a vast multitude that had assembled from all western Iowa. At the parade were seen Governor Shaw and his staff, and many prominent low ans, a dozen bands of music, with the officers and men of the Fifty-first Regiment in full uniform. At the formal ceremony of welcome, Hon. John N. Baldwin, of Council Bluffs, presided. Governor Shaw addressed the throng, as did Congressman Hull, Fred White, Lafayette Young, Judge McPherson and Mayor Jennings, of Council Bluffs. The 'boys' were given a big dinner and then. took the train for Des Moines and other southern Iowa points. There were only eight companies that took part in the parade and ceremonies: the others, including the Council Bluffs company, arrived later in the day and were enthusiastically welcomed. As the train reached the towns, namely, Council Bluffs, Villisca, Glenwood, Knoxville, Shenandoah, Oskaloosa, Creston, Bedford, Corning, Red Oak, formal greetings were accorded them taut the best of all was having the privilege of embracing friends at home and sitting at home with loved ones. There are homes in Iowa in which the return of the brave boys call up fresh sorrow for some soldier lads whole life was yielded in his country's cause; but happily these sorrowing homes are fewer than could have been expected when the call for troops was made. Iowa soldiers return to civil life crowned with honors, filled with patriotic zeal, and no doubt glad to resume the vocations they pursued before their enlistment."

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The first post of the Grand Army of the Republic in Sac county was that organized at Odebolt, No. 117, in the fall of 1882-at least that seems to be the opinion of the few surviving comrades in the county today. Its number indicates that Odebolt was first to form a post here. The history of this post runs as follows

At Odebolt, Col. Goodrich Post No. 117 was organized December 22, 1882, by Col. C. G. Wright, of Denison, Iowa, with the following charter membership: W. W. Stanfield, II. W. Stratton, D. H. Waterman, D. Leshner, W. E. Mill, J. Austin, William Graham, H. H. Bangs, H. W. Vandermark, Henry Keck, J. W. Burnside, Asa B. Smith, D. W. Flack, George Conant, M. D. Fox, Oscar Draper, N. Kenady, H. Hovender, J. 112. Stratton, F. F. Webster, S. Bowker, W. H. Hess.

This post has carried on its muster rolls one hundred and eight veterans of the Civil War. At one time it was the strongest post in Sac county, and there is only one old soldier in the vicinity of Odebolt who has not joined this post. It has been reduced by removals and deaths until only eleven now remain. Twenty-four are buried in the Odebolt cemetery. Soon the last soldier of that terrible conflict, who settled in Odebolt will have answered the last call!

In passing it should be stated that the first elective officers of this post of Grand Army men were as follows: D. W. Flack, commander; W. W. Stanfield, senior vice-commander; J. W. Burnside, junior vice-commander; William Graham,, adjutant.

The officers in February, 1914, are: W. H. Hess, commander; L. Olney, senior vice-commander; AV. H. Mitt, junior vice-commander; M. D. Fox, adjutant.

Probably the second post to organize in the county was the one at Grant City, known as No. 282, which for years was a strong post, but, its numbers having been cut down by death and removals, the charter was given up and what few soldiers there are left in that vicinity attend meetings and belong to the Lake City Post in Calhoun county.

Gen. W. T. Sherman Post No. 284, at Sac City, was originally organized under the name of Sac Post NO. 284, and retained that name until the death of General Sherman, and in 1891 was changed, by order of the state department, as will be observed by the following record

"Cedar Rapids, Iowa, March 11, 1891. "Special Order No. 113 (series of 1890-91).

"Post No. 284, Department of Iowa, G. A. R., having made the first and earliest claim to assume the name of Gen. W. T. Sherman, which the death of that eminent and esteemed commander made possible to do so, and having by vote of said post duly certified to these headquarters adopted such name of Gen. W. T. Sherman in lieu of 'Sac,' by which it has since been known, such change in name is hereby approved and the said post will hereafter be enrolled and known as the Gen. W. T. Sherman Post No. 284, Department of Iowa, G. A. R.

"Officially signed
"CHARLES J. LONGLEY,
"Assistant Adjutant-General."

"M. P. MILLS,
Deputy Commander.

In 1889, through the generosity of D. Carr Early, this post was provided with an eighty-dollar historical record book, which was large, well ruled and planned to last many years. It was made the subject of a lengthy set of resolutions. The book contains the history and record of the post from first to last.

By public subscription and a stock company, known as the Gen. W. T. Sherman Hall Association, organized in July, 1891, with Phil Schaller as its president and Sidney Smith its secretary, the present beautiful post hall that adorns the west side of the city park, known as Monumental park, was erected of brick at a considerable expense. It is the home of this post and here the Grand Army, the Sons of Veterans and Woman's Relief Corps have always met since its construction. It is well furnished, and its walls are embellished with flags, banners and charters of the several orders.

This post had for its charter members: Harlow J. Baxter, private in Company K, Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry; Hayman A. Jones, private in Company D, Fifth Iowa Infantry; Thomas B. Mansfield, private in Company E, Fifty-second Ohio Infantry; John T. Watson, corporal in Company I, Twenty-second Ohio Infantry-, Phil Schaller, sergeant in Company E, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry; David W. Graff, private in Company L, Second Illinois Cavalry; Charles E. Lane, private in Company C, Twentyfirst Iowa Infantry; Charles D. Goldsmith, private in Company I, Fiftysixth New York Infantry; David W. Moffatt, private in Company B, Twelfth Illinois Infantry; Gilbert Wilcox, private in Company C, Twenty-third Iowa Infantry; Chauncey Kester, private in Company F, Eighth New York Artillery; Frank Pilloud, private in Company E, Second Iowa Cavalry; George M. Parker, private in Company H, Twenty-first Iowa Infantry; Henry Schanck, corporal in Company F, Twelfth Illinois Infantry; James N. Miller, private in Company A, Twelfth West Virginia Infantry; Preston H. Hankins, private in Company D, Seventeenth Illinois Infantry; John Butler, corporal in Company D, Second Iowa Cavalry; Alexander Watterson, private in Company D, Fourth Vermont Infantry; Frederick Seitz, private in Company D, Twentieth Iowa Infantry; Aurelius Barney, private in Company D, Sixty-sixth Illinois Infantry; William E. Cooper, private in Company K, Sixteenth Illinois Infantry; James A. Sawyer, private in Company D, Sixty-fifth Illinois Infantry; Cassius E. Hankins, private in Company E, One Hundred and Fifty-first Illinois Infantry; James W. McClosky, corporal in Company B, Fifth Iowa Infantry.

The first officers elected in this post included the following comrades

P. H. Hankins, post commander; J. L. Watson, senior vice-commander; H. A. Jones, junior vice-commander ; George M. Parker, adjutant; Phil Schaller, quartermaster; C. E. Lane, chaplain; H. C. Graff, officer of the day; H. J. Baxter, officer of the guard; D. W. Graff, quartermaster sergeant; C. E. Hankins, sergeant major.

The post was organized at the Knights of Pythias hall and were then taken to the old Hendrickson house, for "an elegant banquet," as they had told their wives and lady friends. The ladies were there in waiting and when the dining hall was opened they found only this bill of fare in waiting for them: Tin-plates, hard-tack, sow-belly, beans, hominy, coffee without milk or cream. After this "feast," all enjoyed a genuine soldier's dance.

The post at Sac City now has a membership of thirty-six old Civil-War soldiers. There have been enrolled at different dates one hundred and fiftyseven soldiers' names on the books of this post. The officers in 1914 are as follows: M. C. Haradon, commander; George Matson, senior vice-commander; Perry Myrick, junior vice-commander; W. H. Johnson, adjutant; D. M. Belt, quartermaster; Hugh Corv, sergeant; B. C. Hovey, chaplain; N. B. Toole, officer of the day; J. Sawyer, officer of guard.

At Schaller, there was a post known as W. D. Price No. 392, organized either in 1885 or 1886, and at one time had eighteen members on its rolls, but it has decreased to six and only three of these reside in Schaller.. They still hold a charter, having paid up their per capita to the state department.

There is also a small post at Early, and one at Wall Lake, all of which are feeling the touch of time's hand, and ere long must surrender their charter, or unite with the largest post now in the county, the Sac City post above named and described.

SONS OF VETERANS

Many years ago it appeared to the sons and grandsons of soldiers of the Civil War, living in Sac City, that it would be wise to form a camp of that country-wide organization, The Sons of Veterans, and it was accomplished forthwith. In 1911 the camp had a membership of almost thirty sons and grandsons of the "boys in blue" who fought from '61 to '65 in order to preserve intact the Union. Meetings are held at Gen. W. T. Sherman post room of the Grand Army of the Republic in Monumental square, in the heart of the city. But a few years more and the last Civil War soldier will be gone, and it is highly proper that these, their offspring, shall perpetuate the loyalty and patriotism their brave sires possessed. But for some reason, the younger generation does not fully interest themselves in such matters, and this camp has virtually suspended operations, which is to be greatly regretted.

CHAPTER XIII

CHURCH HISTORY

The religious element predominates in this county and from the earliest date churches of various denominations have been sustained. Good congregations have been organized and fine church edifices have been from time to time erected, both in and outside the towns of the county. The Methodist Episcopal and the Presbyterians seem to now be in the lead in membership and churches.

county

The state census reports for Iowa in 1905 give this on

Number of
Congregations.

3
4

I

Baptist (Regular)	
Catholic	___
Congregational	_____
Episcopal	_____
Latter Day Saints	-----
Lutheran	_____
Methodist Episcopal	_
Presbyterian	_____ 9

METHODISM.

churches in Sac

Value of Property.

\$ 9,200	
37,600	
5,400	
2,500	
11,000	

I

5	24,300
_____	12 39,400
	48, 700

37 \$168,100

Member-
ship.

379 849 125

24

56 724

1,577 710

4.444

At this date there are the following Methodist churches within Sac county: Sac City, with a membership of three hundred and fifty; church property valued at thirty-four thousand dollars; Sac City circuit, Schaller, Wall Lake, Odebolt, Nemaha, Lake View, Early, Bethel nn Wall Lake charge, and Pleasant View on Lake View charge.

The following have served as pastors in this church: E. C. Alford, 1886; A. A. Wilcox, 1887; E. E. Thompson, 1888; E. L. Thompson, 1889; John E. Clearwater, September, 1890; George F. Cliff, 1891, when the church was attached to Sulphur Springs; A. J. Langdell, 1893; Freeman Franklin. 1894; W. W. Shiner, 1895; H. L. Farr, 1896; J. R. Faus, 189,7; F. M. Pratt, 1900; it then became the Nemaha charge. Following Rev. Pratt came Samuel Knoer, 1003; R. E. Willis, 1906; George W. Bruce, 1908; S. L. Eddy, 1910; Rev. E. Robbins, the present pastor, 1911. These conference years all ended either in the months of October or September.

ODEBOLT M. E. CHURCH.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Odebolt was organized in 1877, with the following charter members : Rev. C. H. P. Faus, organizing minister, A. D. Peck and wife, M. D. Fox and wife, Robert Waddell and wife, James Taylor and wife, S. E. Smith and wife, M. Bartlett and wife, Asa Smith and wife, J. W. Southwell and wife.

A parsonage was erected in 1877-78. The first church built in 1879, was remodeled in 1898 and later rebuilt into the present church. The present valuation of the church property, church and parsonage, is thirteen thousand dollars. The present membership is two hundred and sixty-five.

The following is a complete list of the pastors of this church: O. H. Faus, 1877; W. \T. Brown, 1878; D. M. Beams. 1879; R. S. Fysh, 1880; William Preston, 1881; Henry Brown, 1882; H. K. Hastings, 1884; James Hughes, 1887 ; H. \l. Mahood, 1888 ; J. B. Trimble, 1890; William Whitfield. 1893; A. Brown, 189; ; \T. J. Carr, 1897 ; W. C. \ gasser, 1900; ; J. L. Whitney, 1902; J. L. Gillies, 1904; W. A. Black, 1907; W. W. Bolinger, 1908; F. S. Cole, 1910; J. A. Lary, 1911 (died March, 1912, on the charge); H. G. Campbell, supplied from June, 1912, to October r, 1912; M. P. Arrasmith, appointed October 19, 1912, and is still pastor of the church.

EARLY M. E. CHURCH.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Early was organized in 1883 with a few members under Rev. Robert Smylie, then pastor at Sac City. Nearly all of the first members have passed from the cares and duties of church life on earth. James Jackson still remains and Mrs. Phoebe Reeder only recently died. There

are now over two hundred members in this church. Some of the brightest; ablest ministers of the Northwest Iowa conference have served at Early, and many a successful revival season has been experienced here. The church building was erected in 1888, and served well until 1904, when larger and better quarters had to be provided for the increasing congregation. These improvements were made under Rev. W. H. Flint's administration. The present (1914) pastor, Rev. George H. Wareham, is completing his third year, is an active Christian worker, having been in the ministry twenty-five years. He has caused numerous improvements to be made to both church and parsonage. The building is now too small and steps are being taken to rebuild. The number in Sunday school is now one hundred and seventy-five, with sixty in the Epworth League. The pastor's Bible class included forty-two young couple of married people.

WALL LAKE M. E. CHURCH.

In October, 1878, occurred the first preaching and Sunday school services of the Methodist people at Wall Lake, but no church was organized until 1883, when a society was perfected with the following members and officers: Rev. J. F. Black, pastor; N. L. Grier, J. O. Jacobs, F. Chandler, W. H. Ehlert, T. F. Marks, W. H. Peck, Mrs. W. H. Peck, constituting the board of trustees. The first regular church building, a frame structure, was dedicated March 16, 1884. The present total membership of this church is seventy; the valuation of all church property is about five thousand two hundred dollars. The various pastors who have served at Wall Lake are John Howerson, William Records, Alonzo Brown, E. R. Mahood, E. S. Johnson, J. H. Snow, Bennett Mitchell, E. R. Mahood, T. S. Bassett, James Bollz, Charles H. Kamphoefner, R. D. Acheson, C. N. McMillan, F. W. Whitford and E. C. Palmer.

Belonging to the Wall Lake circuit is Bethel church, organized at Mark's school house in 1875, by Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Peck, Mr. and Mrs. R. Waddell, Mr. and Mrs. M. Bartlett, Mrs. Marks, later joined by B. H. Mummey and wife, M. D. Fox and wife, S. E. Smith and wife, Mrs. Wappin, James Taylor and wife. Meetings were held in Mark's school house, Taylor school house and Fox school house, alternately. A building erected in 1889, was dedicated August 4, 1889. The present membership is thirty-eight and the value of the society's property is estimated at one thousand five hundred dollars. The following have served as pastors: O. H. P. Foss, W. W. Brown, D. M. Beemis, William Preston, R. S. Fish, Henry Brown Cummings, H. K. Hastings, James Hughes, H. V. L. Mahood, J. B. Trimble, E. S. Johnson, F. H. Snow, Bennett Mitchell, E. R. Mahood, T. S. Bassett, James Bollz, Charles H. Kamphoefner, R. D. Acheson, C. N. McMillan, F. W. Whitford, E. C. Palmer.

LAKE VIEW M. E. CHURCH

Lake View Methodist Episcopal church was organized in October, 1883, by Rev. J. R. C. Layton, presiding elder of the Ft. Dodge district, and E. C. Warren, pastor of the Sac City church, with members, C. G. Peck, H. D. Peck, Mrs. Rudolph Hierche, Mrs. Williams and Mr. and Mrs. Robinson. The first church building was erected of frame in 1885, dedicated in June of that year and cost one thousand six hundred dollars. The second church was built of frame in 1898 and cost three thousand five hundred dollars. January 10, 1909, this building was burned. During the summer of 1909 a stone and brick structure was erected at a cost of eleven thousand dollars. It was dedicated in November, 1909. The present membership of this church is seventy-one, and the estimated value of church property is eleven thousand five hundred dollars.

The following have served as pastors of the Lake View church: E. C. Warren, 1883-85; John Hamner, 1885-87; A. Brown, 1887-90; E. S. Johnson, 1890-92; ; C. M. Phoenix, 1892-94; S. L. Eddy, 1894-96; ; James Ballz, 1896-98; O. F. Chittick, 1898-1900; C. G. Coulter, 1900-01; ; A. E. Slessor, 1901-04; A. R. Cuthbert, 1904-05; George H. Wareham, 1905-07; A. A. Pittenger, 1907-08; D. F. Robins, 1908-09; Nathaniel Harris, 1909-10; I. J. Harris, 1910-11; J. R. Tumbleson, 1911 and still in charge.

THE SCHALLER CHURCH.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Schaller was organized October 1, 1879, by Rev. William Vivian. The first building was erected in 1883 at a cost of four thousand dollars and the present church edifice, a beautiful, thoroughly modern styled brick church building, was built in 1911-12, at a cost of sixteen thousand dollars. The property of this society is now valued at twenty thousand dollars. The total present membership is three hundred. The property includes a good parsonage. The following is supposed to be a complete list of the various pastors who have served at Schaller: William Vivian, 1879-80 ; J. W. Linn, 1880-82 ; J. W. Sputhwell, 1882-83 ; J. N. Mills, 1883-84 ; S. Snyder, 1884-85 ; James Hughes, 1885-87 ; R. M. Kiernan, 1887-89 ; H. L. Smith, 1889-90 ; A. Brown, 1890-93 ; J. J. Gardner, 1893-94 ; W. W. McGuire, 1894-97 ; Bennett Mitchell, 1897-99 ; J. T. Lee, 1899-03 ; L. A. McCaffree, 1903-05 ; W. P. Empey, 1905-08 ; J. L. Whiting, 1908-10 ; F. B. Nixon, 1910 and still serving as pastor in 1914.

With one of the best and most valuable churches in Sac county, and a strong membership, they have been the means of doing great religious good in Schaller and community, and are still a power.

FREE METHODISTS.

The Free Methodist church at Sac City was organized in 1890 with a membership of only nine former members of the First Methodist Episcopal church. At first, meetings were held in the private homes of the members. In 1897 the society was reorganized, and meetings continued to be held at the homes of members for a short time, after which the society leased Robbins hall, where the meetings were conducted for many years. In the autumn of 1910 a lot was bought on Early street. In March, 1911, they purchased the old Baptist church, a frame building, which they moved to their lot, and this constitutes the present property of the society. The old building was placed on a new foundation and on September 3, 1911, the building was dedicated. Since this society was formed the following pastors have served: F. E. Eaton, F. I. Waters, W. W. Vinson, J. H. Brittain, T. J. Gates, F. E. Eaton, O. L. Mossman, W. W. Crippen, P. H. Arlington and Maude Wallace. This people have endured great hardship and self-denial in gaining for themselves the comfortable church home that they now enjoy, a place in which they can worship God "after the dictates of their own conscience."

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES OF THE COUNTY.

According to the state census returns of 1905, Sac county had nine Presbyterian churches, each provided with a building of their own. They are now, as they were then, next in strength to the highest in the county, the Methodist Episcopal being first in point of churches and membership. The Presbyterian societies within Sac county, according to the report just mentioned, held property to the amount of forty-eight thousand seven hundred dollars, one-fourth of all in the county.

The Sac City church of this denomination was organized May 24, 1874, by Rev. L. Littell, with a charter membership of thirteen, as follows: Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Aldrich, Mr. and Mrs. Angus Brown, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Sweet, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Galbraith, and Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Balsey. From this small membership the church has grown to nearly three hundred members. Concerning the church buildings, it should be stated that at first the foundation of the church was purchased of the Baptist society, which had laid it in July, 1875, but failed to add its superstructure. The Presbyterians purchased it in 1877 and completed the structure. This building served until 1899, when the present edifice was constructed at a cost of eighteen thousand dollars. The corner stone was laid by Rev. John D. McClintock, D. D., of Sioux City, on November 23, 1899. The various pastors of this church have included the following: George Carroll, 1874-81 ; A. S. Foster, 1881-82 ; James Stickle, 1882-88 ; G. W. Morgan, 1888-89 ; D. W.

Cassatt, 1889-91; C. A. Bergen 1891-96; R. H. Chittenden, Ph. D., 1896-190a ; George M. Rourke, 1902-06 ; J. W. Countermine, 1906-11; R. L. Barackman, 1911 to the present time. '

ODEBOLT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian church at Odebolt was organized in 1878 by Rev. A. K. Baird, field missionary. Those directly connected with the first organizing steps were: William Sampson, John Bruce., Hiram McFall, Mr. VanDusen, Mesdames Rhodecker, Frank Burleigh, Lee. A frame church was erected in 1880 and sold in 1900, when a new edifice was built. The estimated value of the church property is fixed now at ten thousand five hundred dollars. This includes the manse erected in 1902. The church has a fine planned dining room and kitchen, with a spacious reception room. All are frame structures. The total membership is now one hundred. This church is situated on the corner of Maple and Third streets and is a very attractive structure. The following have served as pastors: E. R. Carroll, A. K. Baird, H. P. Fullenweider, J. C. Gilkerson, F. N. Vail, W. O. Thompson, William Craig, J. N. Elliott, H. H. McMasters, J. C. Melrose, F. D. McCrea, E. E. Hastings, Miller, Tate, D. A. McLoud, and the present pastor, Robert McInturff, who came among this people in 1911.

The elders of the church in February, 1914, are James Cranston, John Currie, J. C. Fuchs, William Umberger and F. Searight. One account gives the charter members as follows: William Sampson, Mrs. Will Lee, Mrs. Rhodecker, Hiram McFall and John Bruce. The officers at this date are

F. Searight, clerk; Charles Nelson, treasurer; board of trustees, F. M. Meyer, Dr. A. Groman, James Crampton and John Currie.

EARLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The First Presbyterian church at Early was organized in the autumn of 1888 by Dr. Bailey, synodical missionary, and Rev. Pressley. The charter members were William Ellis, Mrs. Mary Stevens, Mrs. J. V. Coats, Mrs. A. R. Gordon, Mrs. T. A. Barren, Mrs. J. F. Head and Mrs. A. F. Mereness. The membership in January, 1914, was small, but all were devoted workers. In 1890 a church was erected at a cost of two thousand five hundred dollars and since then an addition was made costing eight hundred dollars; also a fine manse costing two thousand five hundred dollars. The present estimated value of the church property is six thousand five hundred dollars. The following is the order of pastors who have served this society: Lindsey, Paden, C. J. McConnell, J. P. Linn, John Mustard, H. F. Ford, Gilbert Voories, Dr. Silas Cook, and the present pastor, Rev. T. S. Hughes.

LYTTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian church at Lytton was organized February 23, 1901, by Rev. A. H. Chittendon, of Sac City, and Capt. A. R. O'Brien, missionary of the Sioux City presbytery, with fifteen charter members. The number now belonging to this church is fifty-two. During the summer of 1900 a church building was erected, and dedicated October 27, 1901, by Rev. Dr. C. H. Purmort, synodical missionary of Iowa. The handsome manse was erected in 1902. The church property here is now valued at four thousand five hundred dollars. The church at Lytton and that at Elm Grove have always been served by the same pastor. This is the only church society in Lytton and the people of both town and surrounding country loyally support it, believing it to be a very beneficial adjunct to the community.

The ruling elders have been M. E. Perkins, H. J. Griffin, C. S. Darling and R. A. McLaughlin. The society has been greatly favored with a firstclass set of young men in the ministry, men of marked ability and spirituality. These include the following: E. R. Horton, of McCormick Seminary; H. S. Vincent, of

Omaha Seminary; John Spencer, from same, as well as G. A. Beith, John Carr and Douglas Warden; N. M. Tatum, ordained; E. F. Chaffee, ordained; C. B. Day, Omaha Seminary.

At the village of Nemaha there is a Presbyterian church. They own a frame building and are at present supplied by the pastor coming from Early.

AUBURN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian church at Auburn in this county was organized in 7888 with charter members as follows: Rev. S. W. Stophlet, acting as pastor from Lake City, Iowa; F. M. Noe, Mrs. F. M. Noe, Mrs. Emily Williams, Mrs. Mary Dixon, Henry Jones and Wife. Services were held the first year in the Moseley Bank building and in 7889 a church was erected at a cost of one thousand eight hundred dollars. It is a frame structure and still in good condition. The membership in January, 1914, was fifty-nine. The valuation of the church property is fixed at three thousand dollars. The following is a list of pastors who have had charge of this church at Auburn: James Suckle, J. C. Mayne, Isaac White, A. J. Harmon, H. Wieland, A. Long, F. M. Tyrell, E. S. Horton, I-I. P. Gray, IV. H. Thompson, F. P. Brewster and NV. F. Grundy. The church is now being supplied by Rev. J. D. McCord, of Lake City, Iowa. Rev. NV. H. Thompson, who has been absent in Utah f our years, expects to return in April this year to become pastor.

WALL LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The First Presbyterian church of Wall Lake was organized January 25. 1897, by Rev. Stophlet, of Fort Dodge, with the following charter membership: Mrs. A. T. Hiller, George G. Hiller, Mrs. r1. M. Bolton, G. W. McInYosh, Mrs. McIntosh, John R. Stuart, Mrs. J. R. Stuart, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Wilson, Charles Stuart, Albert Hiller, Neil McFarlan, Mr. and Mrs. F. E_ Strong, Mrs. A. C. Michael, V. S. Bedford, Mrs. E. L. Goodenow, Mrs. Ida T. Adams, Grace B. Adams, Mrs. Ida B. Fairchilds, Miss A.. Finley, Mrs. Emily Johnson, Miss K. Bolton, Mrs. A. B. Tinley, Mrs. N. Bell and Mr. and Mrs. R. Hauman.

This church now has a membership of seventy-two. The first meeting was held in Goodenow hall and later in the hall above the hardware store of Johnson Brothers. The present value of church property is five thousand dollars. The pastors who have served this church are Hubert Good, J. C. Mayne, Harmon, Heber Gill, J. E. Spencer, J. J. Youel, F. W. Thomas, G. N. Buchanan and the present pastor, Rev. William Walker.

SCHALLER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Presbyterian church at Schaller was organized about 1887 by Rev. Stickle. The charter members were Mr. and Mrs. J. H. King, Mr. and Mrs. William Bristol, Miss Mary E. King, Mrs. Bernice Sargent, Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Henry Hahne, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hahne, Mr. Henry Hahne and Mrs. Julia Bristol.

A church edifice was erected in 1890, a frame structure costing three thousand dollars and a parsonage about 1889, costing one thousand dollars. The present membership of this church society is one hundred and ten. It may be stated that the present church property is valued at seven thousand dollars. The following have served as pastors: Stickles, Lindsay, Pedeu, C. J. McConnell, Philip Palmer, George Earhart and William M. Jack.

BAPTIST CHURCHES OF THE COUNTY.

The First Baptist church of Sac City was founded in the winter of 1887-88 and organized, in reality, February 24, 1888, with twenty constituent members. The first deacon elected was W. K. Whiteside; first

church clerk, J. W. Garrison; first trustees. A. N. Wyman, Truman Churchill and W. L. Brockman. The first covenant meeting was held March a, 1888, at the court house, which continued to be the meeting place until that structure was burned in the autumn of 1888, after which services were held in the west room of the White school building. It was seen that a church edifice must be built if the society ever expected to realize the object for which it had been founded, so, in 1892, the following were appointed as a building committee: Messrs. Wyman, Churchill, Brockman, Haves and John Barlow. The funds were raised sufficient to start the undertaking, success crowned their efforts, and a neat building was dedicated January 29, 1893. This building served well the object for which it had been originally constructed, but a new and larger house was needed and the congregation set about to formulate plans for its erection. The present new beautiful, modern edifice was dedicated Sunday, June 4, 1911. Its cost was about twelve thousand dollars and is located at the corner of Twelfth and Main streets. The handsome building is of the latest style of church architecture-low and spireless, but with a large hemisphere dome over its central part. It is of excellent light colored brick, with a spacious basement, and is sixty-two by sixty-six feet in size. The auditorium room is thirty-one by fifty-two feet, and, with the side doors from other rooms open the seating capacity is fully five hundred. The building committee was composed of L. E. Fitch, Orville Lee, A. T. Brownell, J. H. Grohe, A. N. Weyman, F. C. Hoyt and Mrs. M. A. Warner. The edifice is a credit to the society and an ornament to Sac City.

These pastors have served the Sac City church: L. Lovelace, who conducted the first meetings here in 1887-8 and established the church, remained until he had completed his ninth month, when he was succeeded by Rev. Feather, who remained seven months, and in turn was followed by Rev. R. A. Belsham in December, 1888 closing his pastorate in November, 1890. There was no regular pastor then until August, 1893, when Rev. J. D. Collins accepted a call and commenced November 1st. He -...-as followed in October, 1894, by Rev. D. McMasters, who closed his pastorate in June, 1896, when that venerable Baptist clergyman, Rev. L. N. Call, who for twenty-five years had been pastor in Webster City, this state, was called to this church, giving five years of the richest, ripest years of his long and eventful life as a Baptist minister to the labors of pastor in Sac City, after which he was succeeded in October, 1901, by Rev. J. D. Rumsey, who continued until November z, 1902. He was followed by Rev. C. A. Tenny, in August, 1903, who served the church faithfully and well until July 24, 1904, and was followed by Rev. J. D. Collins, who was a former pastor. Rev. Collins continued until October I, 1907, when he resigned to become a member of the faculty of the Sac City Institute. November 24, 1907, Rev. C. G. Wright began his labors here and under him the present church was planned and erected. Next came Rev. Hugh Moore, who came June r, 1912, and still remains pastor. The present membership of this church is one hundred and ninety-four. A parsonage was erected in 1902 and the present one in 1912-13 at a cost of three thousand dollars.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The only church of the Congregational faith in Sac county at this date is the one at Lake View, which was organized in 1890 with the following charter members: Henry Smith, Jane Smith, C. Burgess, Mrs. Delia L. Boyer, Dr. J. A. Ressigieu and wife, Francis S. Needham, Mrs. Eugenic E. Needham and Ella C. Hamilton. A frame building was erected in 1892 at an approximate cost of one thousand eight hundred dollars. The total membership of the church society today is seventy. The estimated value of the church property is four thousand dollars.

The following have served this congregation as pastors: M. D. Reed. R. L. McCord, T. J. Woodcock. H. G. Cooley, W. G. Little, John Crocker, P. B. `Vest, B. J. Rhodes, C. T. Halbert, I. B. Bickford, Eben Herbert, J. T. Marvin and Alex Russell. The present church clerk is R. M. Paine, who furnished most of the above facts.

SWEDISH MISSION.

The Swedish Mission Covenant of America has a church at Odebolt, which was formed March 10, 1887, by charter members as follows: P. A. Lindskoog, Rev. P. Nilson, John M. Larson, A. A. Anderson, John Erikson, Andrew Anderson and Edward Eckman. They have now a membership of ninety-two and a church property valued at five thousand dollars. The pastors who have served here are P. Nilson, L. Larson, August Peterson, J. J. Johnson, Oscar Wenstrand. A. G. Johnson, Oscar F. Dahlberg. This band of worshipers have always been true and faithful to the sacred trust imposed upon them.

CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

St. Joseph's Catholic church at Schaller was a mission for a period of nine years (1895 to 1904.), attended by the priest located at Early. It was made a separate parish in 1904. The first resident pastor, Rev. Francis Wrenn, served a year and was succeeded by Rev. William Shannon, who served the congregation two and a half years. Following him came the present pastor, Rev. McNeill. The first church edifice was a frame structure erected on the site of the present beautiful building, which is a pressed brick building erected in 1913 at a cost of eighteen thousand dollars. The old frame church was sold for two hundred dollars to a citizen of the town, who owned a lot cornerwise from the church property and it is being transformed into a modern residence property. Father Wrenn built a fine parsonage next to the church. The present congregation is composed of thirty families in Schaller and the community. During his pastorate, Father McNeill has been diligent and faithful to the sacred trust imposed upon him, and his work is a monument to him for all time among those of the Catholic church in this section of Iowa.

St. Joseph's Catholic church at Wall Lake was organized in 1878. The first of the congregation were P. Halpin, Joseph Wenzel and P. Quinn. At first only ten members were in attendance. The first building was burned in 1903 and a new church was erected in 1904 at a cost of five thousand dollars. It is a frame building and fully equipped with all necessaries for divine service. The present congregation numbers two hundred baptized persons. The estimated value of lots and buildings is ten thousand dollars. The priest in charge now is Rev. M. C. Daly, who is true and faithful to the great trust imposed upon him. The priest at Wall Lake also attends to the congregation at Auburn, which was organized several years ago, and is now in a fairly flourishing condition.

St. Martin's Catholic church at Odebolt was organized by Father F. W. Pope about five miles northwest of town, in 1876. He attended a few times and was succeeded by Father Thomas Norton, who in a short time was followed by another. The first services in Odebolt were held in the old town hall. A small frame church was built in 1879. Father Norton was the first at Odebolt and did excellent work in improving the church lots and providing buildings. In 1881 came Father U. Frey, who built the first pastor's residence in 1882. He was the first regular pastor of this church. He also had charge of the work at Grant City and Wall Lake, mission points at that date. He remained until the month of December, 1883, and was followed by Father John Peschong, who remained till the autumn of 1892. He did much toward establishing the church school at Odebolt, which was built in 1886-\$7 and forms a part of the present excellent school, which is in charge of three sisters from St. Frances of Dubuque, and has an enrollment of about seventy-five daily. The building has been enlarged twice since first constructed. It is valued at about four thousand dollars. In December, 1892, came Rev. Father John Anler, who served the congregation until 1895 and was followed by Father Fred Huessmann, now of Mt. Carmel. He built the present church in 1900 at a cost of about twelve thousand dollars. It is a frame structure facing Hanson's boulevard, and is on grounds two hundred by four hundred feet, all well improved. Father Gustave Wienhold came in October, 1902, and died July 29, 1912, and was buried in the Catholic cemetery here on July 31. Bishop and priests from abroad were present at his funeral. During his illness, Father M. Stork was appointed to take charge and was made the administrator of his affairs and the parish. The present worthy pastor, Rev. Father L. Schenkelberg, came in October and took charge the last week of that month. He is doing excellent church work. The congregation now has a membership of from four hundred and twentyfive to four hundred and fifty

souls. It is estimated that all the church property at Odebolt held by this church has a present value of not far from thirty thousand dollars.

The Catholic church at Early is about as strong as the Odebolt congregation. They erected a brick edifice in about 1899, costing fifteen thousand dollars, under the pastorship of Father Costello. No further facts could be obtained on this congregation.

GERMAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES.

The First German Evangelical church of Lake View, Iowa, was organized in January, 1913, the first of this denomination in Sac county. It is a mission field opened by the German Evangelical Synod of North America. The charter members of this society were Rev. R. Lorenz, A. Johannasen, John P. Welleson, Ed. Knowalker, H. Paper, O. Weizel and D. Graw. In the summer of 1913 a frame church building was erected and dedicated November 15th of the same year. The structure has a cement foundation of modern cement blocks. The size of the building is twenty-four by forty feet, with an eight by eight tower extending up about fifty feet high. The present value of the church property is about three thousand dollars. The membership of the society is now twelve.

St. Peter's Evangelical church of Coon Valley township was organized in 1878, with a charter membership including the following: G. Arndt, P. Borchett, C. Thislehorn, William Reimann and others. The society was formed by Rev. Fred Schug. The first church building was erected in 1883. The present building was erected in 1908 and cost four thousand four hundred dollars. The total value of church property held by this congregation is ten thousand dollars. The present number of communicants is one hundred and forty. The pastors who have served this people at this point are Revs. Schug, Neuoffer, Volk, Schroeder and the present pastor, A. Schwidder.

There are societies of this denomination at Auburn and Lake View. These are under the charge of the pastor of the Coon Valley church, Rev. Schwidder. The one at Auburn is known as St. John's Lutheran church, organized about 1875, by Rev. Fred Schug. A building was erected about 1893 and the property is now estimated to be worth about one thousand four hundred dollars. There are now twenty-seven communicants. At Lake View the church is known as Immanuel's Lutheran church, organized in 1913 by Rev. Schwidder. The communicants now number thirty-seven. At Auburn the pastors have been Revs. F. Schug, Rickels, Volk and Schwidder.

The German Evangelical Lutheran church at Schaller was organized about 1910 by the following persons: E. D. Christenson, P. A. Nielson, C. K. Anderson, A. N. Anderson, Andrew Andresen, A. Frederickson, Emil Hanke, Christian Christenson, H. B. Andresen, John Christenson and families. A frame church was erected about 1910 at a cost of eight hundred dollars. The first pastor was Rev. Maase, followed by the present pastor, Rev. Boye, who resides at Galva. The congregation now consists of about twelve families. The society is young and still small in numbers, but is struggling along and ere long will doubtless be on a stronger footing.

Another and much larger and stronger congregation of this denomination is that about fourteen miles southeast of Schaller, in the country, known as the Cook Township Evangelical Lutheran church. It was organized in 1880 by the following members: Kasper Luft, George Bieser, Christian Wetzstein, Johannes Mehlbrech, Conrad Meyers, Wilhelm Kutz, W. F. Rusch, Ludwog Schramm, Christ Frank and Adam Weitzel. A parsonage was erected in 1883 and the first church building built in 1887, until which time meetings were held in different public school houses. The cost of the first building was four hundred dollars, the parsonage costing the same amount. The present church edifice, a plain frame structure, was erected in 1898, at a cost of one thousand two hundred and fifty dollars. This society has a present membership of one

hundred and twenty communicants. The estimated value of the property belonging to the church is four thousand dollars. The following have served as pastors in this society: Fred Schug, 1879-1883 ; L. A. Mueller, 1883-189a ; Rev. K. G. Schlegel, 1892-1902 ; the present pastor is Rev. F. Wolter. Rev. Schug served from Grant City. The first resident pastor was Rev. Mueller, who served at the same time he cared for the church at Wall Lake, where he moved when Rev. Schlegel succeeded him in Cook township. This church in Cook township is a strong society and, under the present pastor is doing a very good work in church life. Its members are very devoted to the cause and work in harmony with the faithful pastor.

Lutheran Emanuel church, of Coon Valley township, was organized in May, 1883, with the following constituent members: Henry Dettmann, William Hecht, August Hilmer, Henry Leege, William Leege, August Roeseke, Fred Schwartz and Charles Westphal. The present membership is about thirty. In 1883 the first church was erected at a cost of about eight hundred dollars, and this is the one that has been in use since 1903 as a German school house. It was in 1903 that the new frame church was erected, costing about two thousand dollars. The pastors serving this congregation have been: John Huter, Siegfried Siepker, Theo. Kluforth, John Dorullis, T. Lentz, Otto Woylyer, Herman Wunderlich and John Herbst.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS.

This denomination has a society at Auburn. They belong to the "reorganized" branch of the Mormon church, and are as bitterly opposed to the general workings of the Mormons as any other denomination in the world. The real denominational name is "The Re-organized Church of Latter-Day Saints of Jesus Christ." On October 25, 1874, the first meetings were held at a point in the country about five miles from Auburn, to which place they removed in 1886. Their church building was erected in 1895 at a cost of about one thousand two hundred dollars. The charter members were inclusive of the following persons: W. A. Carroll and wife, David Hain and wife, Jacob Hain, Rufus Perkins and wife, M. B. Skinner and wife, Mrs. Melinda Colvin, Mrs. Cynthe Thompson, Thomas J. Skinner and Mary Jane Cory. Elder W. A. Carroll has been pastor thirty-nine years out of the forty years of the church's existence at this point. David Hain served one year. The present membership is forty-four, and forty-nine have died or moved to other parts since the organization of the church here. It is stated by the pastor of this church that they, as a sect, "are ever loyal to the government of the United States and to the home in which one woman reigns as queen!"

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The only society of the Episcopal denomination in Sac county is Holy Trinity church of Sac City, which in 1914 had a membership of twenty-four communicants. The commencement of work here began in May, 1883, when, on the 24th day of that month, Rev. Peter Fox, of Canada, arrived in Sac City. The first services were held May 27th, that year, in the school house. However, prior to this, frequent services had been held by Rev. Mills, of Fort Dodge. On June 19, 1883, a meeting of the people belonging to this religious faith met and Thomas Smith and Mr. Reed were appointed wardens and Edward Baxter, secretary. Plans were there decided upon for the erection of a church building, and the same were soon submitted to carpenters and builders. The work went forward and by November Loth, the same year, services were held in the newly-constructed building, which edifice cost two thousand one hundred and twenty dollars. In the spring of 1902 the church building was enlarged and a chancel and vestry room were added at a cost of about two thousand dollars. Memorial windows have been placed in the church by Thomas Srnith, Delmont Goldsmith and Sidney Smith, and a memorial altar by Mrs. Elizabeth Brown. The rectors here have been

Rev. Peter Fox, serving seventeen years, and followed by Rev. Douglas, who continued seven years. At present the church is without a pastor. In 1911 the church records show the officers to be as follows: Mrs. L. A. Wine, secretary, and Mrs. Goldsmith, treasurer.

THE ADVENTISTS.

At one time there were several members, and a society formed of this denomination, and services were held in the Gordon school house, near Sac City, but of late so many have removed that services are not continued.

CHRISTIAN CHURCHES.

There are three organizations of this denomination in the county, one at Sac City, one at Pleasant Prairie and one at Schaller. At the latter place the following is the brief history of this church: It was organized in 7886 and is known as the Church of Christ. Its charter members were as follows

J. S. Hudson, still surviving at the age of eighty-three years; Abby Hudson, J. C. Hudson, Ida Hudson, J. H. Walker, Mrs. J. H. Walker, Monroe Baker, Mrs. M. Baker, S. M. Romig, Theodore Smith, Mrs. Theodore Smith and Miss Lottie Smith. The present membership is seventy-two. The present elders are I. N. Mead, Sterling Wells, W. V. Coverdale and T. V. Barnard. The deacons are H. L. W. Meirs, J. J. Mead, A. Bawker and A. G. Higgins. The frame church building was erected about 7888 at a cost of two thousand five hundred dollars on lot 6, in block 5 of the town of Schaller.

The following have served as pastors: J. W. Vanderwalker, Bert Johnson, John Linden R. O. Thompson, A. D. Finch, William Dunkleberger, E. M. Miller, W. E. Jones, C. V. Pence, John Hewitson, W. H. Hardaker and William Coverdale.

It should be stated in this connection that this denomination has no other creed than that found in the New Testament. They plead for all evangelical churches to become united in one; they favor both home and foreign missions, are great temperance advocates and do not believe it right to dance or play cards even for pastime.

The Pleasant Prairie church was organized in the autumn of 7887 by about thirty members. There had been a number of this faith in the neighborhood ever since 783 or 1874. Among the members were M. Boynton and wife, Zack Long and wife, Lon In-ram and wife, James Staton and wife, Robert Wilson and wife, Mrs. Jane Barnhill, Mary Barnhill, Ransom Owen and wife, C. L. Ahrens and wife, Amos Roark, Martha and Sarah Peyton, Mrs. Mary Cox, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Duby and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. John Ball, Ami Saunders and wife, Mable Miltie and possibly a few others.

One account gives a list of the original organizers as George J. Schnirring,

M. Peyton. E. L. Ahrens. L. Barnhill and F. H. Losure.

The estimated value of the church property is two thousand dollars. It was erected in the fall of 1898 at a cost of nine hundred dollars. It was built

of pine. Many of the original membership united with the church at Sac City in recent years. The pastors or ministers who have served this church

are H. U. Dale, Snyder, Neistrum and J. Irving Brown.

The Christian church at Sac City was organized in the summer of 1894, following a remarkable tent meeting movement in the place under Evangelist Lawrence Wright. The following constituted the first officers of the church

Elder, G. W. Burch; deacons, C. Iverson, David Nixon, Chester Cheney, W. J. Lusher and O. R. Adams ; clerk, J. W. Lusher; treasurer, O. R. Adams. The organization was not fully completed until November 1, 1894. A church building was erected the same season the society was formed. The following have served as pastors in this church: G. W. Burch, the first pastor, served from 1894 to 1897; H. U. Dale, from 1897 to 1899; P. N. Nystrom, 1899 to 1900; D. F. Snyder, 1900 to 1902; M. A. Thompson, from 1903 to 1904; E. T. Tucker, from 1903 to 1904; J. Irving Brown, the present pastor, has served since 1904, faithfully and well. The Christian denomination has been organized over a century now, and has more than one and a half million members. Much attention is paid to missions and the converts cost less than that of any other sect.

The church edifice in the center of the business section of the place is a good frame structure, valued at ten thousand dollars, while the new parsonage is valued at four thousand five hundred dollars. The membership of this church in February, 1914, after the recent additions to the church, amounts to about two hundred and fifty. The Sunday school enrollment is about three hundred. The present officers are: Rev. J. Irving Brown, pastor; W. A. Ball, clerk and treasurer; E. L. Ahrens, chairman church board; Ross Mayhall, secretary of church board.

SAC COUNTY S YOUNG MEN S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Among the recently organized and progressive class of religious and semi-educational societies of this county is the Young Men's Christian Association, the scope of which takes in all the county of Sac. It was organized in 1908 and had made rapid advancement. Without the county committee of business men, this society could not have existed. Three years after its founding in the county the following well-known men were such a committee: W. J. Dixon, chairman, Sac City; George B. Perkins, treasurer, Sac City; John R. Slacks, clerk, Sac City ; F. S. Needham, Dr. Z. Fuller, Sac City; Ira Conger, same city; also Prof. G. W. Lee, Prof. H. F. Helms, Lake View; John T. Edson, Schaller; C. M. Moler, Lake View; H. M. Rogers, Lake View; C. G. Aldrich, Schaller; D. D. Canton, Early ; Scott Rutledge, Early. Up to the end of the third year there had been organized six local associations in the county. These were at Sac City, Schaller, Early, Pleasant Prairie and two more in the country. In these associations there were involved in 1911 such activities as the regular Bible study, physical training and educational work, and about three hundred men and boys were enrolled. It was then estimated that about three thousand different persons in the county had been involved in special work and events of a public nature. Play and exercise life, lectures, Bible study and other departments all came in for their share in the great undertaking in this county. Annual and semi-annual field meets have attracted their hundreds. At Lake View and Sac City public baths and reading rooms were established, and physical culture was made a specialty for a time. The work is rapidly being extended to remote parts of the county. At their annual meeting, held at the Methodist Episcopal church in Sac City in February, 1914, it was learned from the reports rendered that the association was in a flourishing condition.

CHAPTER XIV

THE LODGES OF THE COUNTY

With the advance of civilization, the increase in membership in the three great fraternal orders, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, to say nothing of the hundred and one other societies, secret and semi-secret, with the beneficiary insurance feature connected with them, has been indeed phenomenal. These societies are not as numerous or as strong in Sac City as in some of the adjoining counties, but there are several, and of these three principal secret orders this chapter will treat briefly.

FREEMASONRY

The oldest of the Masonic lodges in the county is Occidental Lodge No. 178, Ancient Free and Accepted 'Masons, at Sac City. It was chartered in June, 1866, by the following charter members: D. C. Early, J. Williams, W. V. Lagourge, G. H. Wright, J. W. Tiberghien and T. M. Cory. In the early eighties it had a membership of about seventy. Today it has a membership of one hundred and nineteen, with officers as follows: W. F. Weary, worshipful master; J. ZIT. Neal, senior warden; O. C. Pfaff, junior warden; R. L. McCord, Jr., senior deacon; F. G. Smith, junior deacon; J. H. Stalford, treasurer; Edward Drewry, secretary; P. E. Prior, tyler. Their beautiful Masonic hall was erected in the eighties, and is now estimated to be worth fifteen thousand dollars. It stands on Main street on parts of lots 5 and 6. in block 13 of the original plat of Sac City. It is up-to-date and has an Eastern Star room, kitchen and dining room. Edward Drewry has been secretary and collector for all three branches-blue lodge, chapter and commandery-for the past seven years, and this insures correct methods and promptness.

Darius Chapter No. 58, Royal Arch Masons, was instituted at Sac City February 1, 1871, with the following charter members: William McKay, W. H. Hobbs, E. R. Duffie, E. R. Chase, S. S. Armstrong, J. Orr and Oliver Birt. In 1882 the membership had reached seventy. In January, 1914, the chapter had a membership of one hundred and fifty-nine, with officers as follows: J. Wilbur Neal, high priest; V. F. Weary, king; E. B. Long, scribe; W. H. Hart, treasurer; Edward Drewry, secretary ; F. L. Goodell, captain of host; F. G. Smith, royal arch captain; W. R. Temple, master of first veil; C. E. Harding, master of second veil; P. H. Peterson, master of third veil; Malcolm Currie, principal sojourner; P. E. Prior, sentinel.

Rose Croix Commandery No. 38, Knights Templar, at Sac City (under dispensation in 1880), was instituted in December, 1881, with the subjoined charter members: D. C. Early, P. H. Hankins, I? R. Duffle, W. H. Hobbs, M. Childs, B. W. Trout, R. T. Shearer, M. D2. Gray, H. S. Briggs and Sidney Smith. In 1880 the order had a membership of thirty knights. Its membership in January, 1914, is one hundred and eighty-four. The present officers are as follows: George B. Perkins, eminent commander ; W. A. Nutter, generalissimo ; O. C. Pfaff, captain general; W. F. Weary; senior warden; W. H. Hart, prelate; Edward Drewry, recorder; F. W. Loring, treasurer; P, H. Peterson, warder; J. H. Stafford, standard bearer.

The past eminent commanders have been D. Carr Early, Myron Childs, Phil Schaller,, Carey Diehl, Charles L. Early, V'. H. Hart, J. L. Criss, C. E. Lane, H. H. Allison, J. W. Wilson, W. L. Lee, F. W. Loring, J. H. Stafford, W. Jackson, F. E. Stouffer, J. J. Harter, M. W. Newby, F. L. Goodell, O. E. Rowe, D. D. Canton, A. C. Shulte, C. F. Garrett, Malcolm Currie and George B. Perkins.

At Schaller, Acme Lodge No. _1,5; was chartered in 2883, soon after the town had got fairly under headway, having being platted and settled with enterprising men. Those who appear on the charter are as follows: R. S. Robinson, J. H. Walker, James Waddicor, J. H. Lester, C. A. Cantine, B. Mills, John Robinson, Thomas Hovendon, E. A. Bennett, J. B. Harris and A. H. McLaughlin. The first officers were C. L.

Early, worshipful master; J. P. Lester, senior warden; E. A. Bennett, junior warden. The present (1914) membership of this lodge is fifty-three. Its present officers include h. H. McCray, worshipful master; J. F. Ady, senior warden; L. L. Brannen, junior warden. The past masters are C. L. Early. J. F. Lester, B. Mills, James Harris, A. B. Searle, A. R. Gordon, F. B. Rowley, A. H. McLaughlin, J. A. Gray, George J. Speaker and F. H. McCray. A hall was erected in 1898 costing five thousand four hundred dollars: it is of brick, located on lot No. 6, block No. 4, town of Schaller.

At Lake View, Laurel Lodge No. 517, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was instituted February 19, 1891, with the following charter members and officers: Charles Sifford, worshipful master; William Rowley, senior warden; L. F. Davis, junior warden; John McClurg, treasurer; I. H. Adams, secretary; John Donahue, senior deacon; E. Cordeman, junior deacon; John Deacon, senior steward; Martin Steinman, junior steward; F. A. Denkin, tyler; J. A. Ressinger, John W. Provost, A. L. Clauser, Thomas Batie, O. W. Owen and W. McKendrick. The present membership is sixty-five. The present (January, 1914) officers are: John Erickson, worshipful master; F. Hamm, senior warden; O. S. Holiday, junior warden; N. Westerman, treasurer; Fred Wells, secretary; J. T. Sigman, senior deacon; C. P. Armstrong, junior deacon; A. Lee, senior steward; B. Rennert, junior steward; L. A. Cleaveland, tyler. The past masters of this lodge are Charles Sifford, E. F. Mahe, A. Armstrong, F. H. Clark, B. Braughton, William Dean, E. E. Speaker, H. Lindsey and A. Lillie.

At Early, St. Elmo Lodge No. 462 was organized many years ago and now enjoys a membership of seventy-four. The present elective officers are

J. C. Hartsell, worshipful master; L. W. McCreery, senior warden; C. F. Jackson, junior warden; D. D. Carlton, treasurer; W. W. Little, secretary. The past worshipful masters have been D. D. Carlton, T. A. Barnett, C. H. Jump, Al. Bryan, F. C. Fuller, G. G. Parrett, -- Denny, C. H. Allen, R. J. Jackson and J. N. Hartsell. This lodge owns its own brick building.

Wheeler Lodge No. 398, at Odebolt, was organized October 9, 1879, with charter members as follows: John M. Zane, E. P. Messer, P. T. Martin, F. A. Cobb, W. W. Field, F. S. Douglass, E. Colvin, J. W. Fairbanks, W. A. Helsell and G. C. Bolt. The membership in January, 1914, was one hundred and one. The elective officers when first instituted were as follows

John M. Zane, worshipful master; E. P. Messer, senior warden; H. T. Martin, junior warden; F. S. Douglass, treasurer; F. A. Cobb, secretary; W. A. Helsell, senior deacon; E. Colvin, junior deacon; J. W. Fairbanks, tyler. The order leases their hall at present. The elective officers at present (1914) are as follows: O. E. Huglin, worshipful master; M. H. Paul, senior warden; W. M. Sayre, junior warden; Ellis Kluckholm, senior deacon; J. S. Fisher, junior deacon; W. W. Reynolds, treasurer; J. R. Mattes, secretary; H. W. Stratton, tyler.

At Wall Lake, Wall Lake Lodge No. 390, was allowed to work under the dispensation of June 4, 1878, and a charter was granted them June 4, 1879. Charter members were C. N. Levy. H. B. Allen, D. M. Bingman, L. J. Sifford, F. W. Weed, A. D. Herrig, B. E. Allen, C. M. Smith, W. D. Forbes and William Throssell. In 1882 the lodge had a membership of the twenty-two. It now has a membership of seventy-eight, with officers as follows: C. W. Davis, worshipful master; J. A. Swanson, treasurer, since 1907; J. C. Ockerstrom, secretary; C. W. Shaw, senior deacon; F. G. Wicker, junior deacon. A hall is leased by the order at Wall Lake. The past worshipful masters include J. C. Ockerstrom, F. E. Johnston and L. T. Quirk.

Jeptha Lodge No. 201, at Auburn, was instituted June 5, 1867, by Deputy Grand Master D. Carr Early, of Sac City. The following were the first officers and members: G. W. Wright, worshipful master; William Chapin, senior warden; William Impson, junior warden; Joseph Williams, secretary; S. B. York,

treasurer; David Hain, senior deacon; R. M. Williams, junior deacon; John W. Wilson, tyler; Thomas Basler, steward.

The lodge now enjoys a membership of thirty-seven. The 1914 officers are: F. A. Meyer, worshipful master; G. M. Parker, senior warden, F. B. Layman, junior warden; A. Basler, treasurer; W. I. Toop, secretary. The past masters are G. W. Wright, William Chapman, Edwin Miller, William Impson, George Hicks, I. W. Deemer, C. D. Wilcox, A. Basler, W. S. Williams, r'l. M. Morrison, J. F. Rose, W. I. Toop.

In 1901 the lodge purchased the former school house, a two-story frame building, and moved it to the present location and there remodeled it at a cost of eleven hundred dollars. This lodge, it should be understood, was originally formed at old Grant City and moved to Auburn in April, 1890.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

This order is next in age to the Masonic bodies in the world and has many benefits connected therewith. Go where one may in all the civilized portions of the globe, and there can be found a brother of the "Three Link Order." Its growth has been a wonder to the masses. Founded on the precepts of the Bible, it has been the means of uplifting many a man and placing him in a position to command respect and admiration among his fellow men. When the member of this order is ill he is cared for and in death his eyes are tenderly closed from the light of the earth and his remains are buried in decency and order, while his family is cared for after his departure.

Records show that the first lodge of this order, Sac City Lodge No. 323, was instituted in Sac county at Sac City, October 21, 1875, with a charter membership of about twenty. By January 1, 1914, it had grown to a membership of one hundred and ninety-three. Its elective officers at the date last given were as follows: Adolph Gustaveson, noble grand; W. W. Stokes, vice grand; C. E. Harding, secretary; Harry Wood, financial secretary; B. A. Young, treasurer.

A spacious, well-planned brick hall, on the corner of Sixth and Main streets, was built by the order in 1911 at an expense of eight thousand dollars. Stock was subscribed by the members of the fraternity. All of the degrees of the order are here represented and excellent work has been done in the past and is still being done. Many of the best men in Sac City are connected with this lodge, and the Rebekah degree is made up of many of the brightest ladies of the place. A strong society of the encampment of this fraternity and the only one in the county is in existence at Sac City at this date.

At Schaller, William Garrett Lodge No. 609 was instituted by the Odd Fellows April 3, 1895, with the following charter members: John Henry, George Schaller, W. T. Howard, W. R. Brooks, L. J. French, J. F. Burkhead, C. Mayer, W. H. Reese and J. W. Kanouse. This lodge now has a membership of seventy-eight and is officered as follows: John Woodke, noble grand; A. A. Resegge, vice grand; Charles E. Guernsey, recording secretary; Edward Stoelting, financial secretary; and C. Mayer, treasurer. This lodge meets in its hall over the opera house on Main street. The following have served as past noble Grandmasters: C. Mayer, Edward Stoelting, F. M. McLaughlin, J. W. Kanouse, R. F. Barnes, H. H. Schaefer, J. B. Harris, J. E. Rogers, A. J. Harris, C. F. Ellis, C. H. Collins, G. A. Rogers, R. W. King, W. W. Allen, W. H. McKinney, Jens Jensen, J. D. Robinson, C. S. Wheeler, Jacob Weegar, H. J. Strahm and Charles E. Guernsey. The "three links" are very popular in and about Schaller and are made up of the best men in the vicinity.

Boyer Lodge No. 475, at Early, was organized in 1884. In May, 1890, the lodge room was burned and all records of the early transactions of the order were destroyed, hence we are unable to give the charter members and first officers. It now has a membership of ninety-nine. The present (January, 1914) elective officers are as follows: J. R. Leighton, noble grand; J. W. Stocks, vice grand; W. H. Allen, recording secre-

tary as well as financial secretary; J. W. Hartsell, treasurer. The Odd Fellows hall at Early was erected in 1891, a veneer-brick structure, costing one thousand five hundred dollars. The order owns the upper portion of this block, which stands on Main and Second streets. With the passing years the list of past grands may be read with much interest and are here subjoined: W. W. Shaw, W. P. Hiron, Ned Madson, E. E. Cater, J. F. DeGarmo, I. W. Scothorn, William Luff, J. R. Kenney, A. H. Borsed, G. W. Patee, L. C. Holdridge, J. L. Dunham, John Scothorn, J. Grace, John Simpson, B. F. Hazen, J. C. Blair, F. W. Flanagan, G. W. Little, V. T. Scott, George Huston, Robert Scothorn, G. S. Wilson, W. F. Hay, Bert Kind, James Kenney, James Newell, J. W. Hartsell, C. R. Kennet' and C. J. Allen.

Odd Fellows Lodge No. 360, at Wall Lake, was organized in 1888, with at least the following members: W. M. Hamilton, Frank A. Rouse, J. F. Strobl, John A. Nelson, Frank Hawley and George W. McIntosh. The present membership of the lodge is thirty-seven. The elective officers are at this date as follows: C. W. Davis, noble grand; H. McIverson, vice grand; Chris Erickson, secretary; Samuel Robinson, treasurer. While not a large lodge in numbers, it is a lodge devoted to the best interests of Odd Fellowship in the section of country in which it is located.

Lytton Lodge No. 336, at Lytton, was organized January 24, 1901, with the following charter members and officers: C. F. Brobeil, Gust Holm, S. J. Griffith, C. C. Webb, V. D. Heston, Jacob Stevens. The officers first elected were as follows: V. D. Heston, noble grand; Gust Holm, vice grand; C. F. Brobeil, secretary; C. C. Webb, treasurer. The present membership is ninetyfive. The present elective officers are: G. E. Lamner, noble grand; Ray Bechler, vice grand; C. F. Brobeil, secretary; W. G. Brobeil, treasurer. A frame hall was built by the order in 1907 at a cost of three thousand dollars, and is counted one of the finest halls in Sac county.

Auburn Lodge No. 540 was organized December 12, 1891, by Thomas Thurston, William F. Harvey. Charles F. Wagner, William C. Wagner, vice grand, Conrad Buehie, secretary, and W. F. Harvey, treasurer. The present membership is fifty-one. The present officers are C. H. Wilkey, noble grand; George V. Smith, vice grand; E. W. Bean, secretary; J. B. Williamson, treasurer. The past noble Brands of this lodge have been O. C. Crandall, O. M. Brooks, Ed. Thompson, J. B. Williams, J. B. Standfield, J. W. Martin, L. T. Wiseman, S. Anderson, J. E. Thompson, A. C. Whittiker, H. Garnatz, A. Staton, J. Rettig, Joseph Wiseman, George Hungate, A. W. Walton, J. E. Keppleman, O. M. Ripley, E. IN. Bean and J. H. Wiseman.

The dispensation for Odd Fellows Lodge No. 447, at Odebolt, was granted by Grand Master Whipple February g, 188?. The first officers installed were W. W. Stanfield, noble grand; J. W. Conklin, vice grand; L. D. Beardsley, -treasurer; John R. Mattes, secretary; A. B. Cooley, warden; R. D. Stafford, conductor; George Brownell, guardian; R. W. Wheelock, right supporter noble grand; C. W. Stanfield,, right supporter vice grand. The lodge is not a very strong one, but those who belong are true and faithful to the obligations of the fraternity. The officers elected for 1914 are as follows: John Williams, noble grand; Ed. Martin, vice grand; John A. Caine, secretary; John R. Mattes, treasurer; E. E. Stratton, financial secretary; Glenn Smith, warden; P. O. Olson, conductor; Hans Olson, inside guard; William Caine, outside guard; M. B. Wolf, John W. Yonnie and Erick Ericksson, trustees.

Lake View Lodge No. 302, at Lake View, was organized October 18, 1888, by F. A. Lurk. The charter members and first elective officers were

A. C. Clouse, W. N. McKendrick, V. R. Anson, J. P. Therkelson, C. K. Shumbaugh and William Elwanger. Officers: A. L. Clouse, noble grand; W. N. McKendrick, vice grand; J. P. Therkelson, secretary; V. R. Anson, treasurer. The present (February, 1914) officers are as follows: A.

Johnson, noble grand; William Belt, vice grand; V. R. Anson, secretary; C. K. Shumbaugh, treasurer. The past noble grands are A. L. Clouse, W. N. McKendrick, V. R. Anson, C. K. Shumbaugh, J. P. Therkelson, F. S. Frisbie, M. L. Kaw, H. C. Miller, Paul Miller, A. C. Johnson, O. P. Haskins, J. P. Wells, D. C. Meek, H. Chambers and C. D. Lung. A frame building was erected in 1890 at a cost of one thousand five hundred dollars, and the upper story is used for the order. The lower story was built for opera house purposes and public hall uses. It was erected by the Democratic Hall Association. In 1910 the Odd Fellows bought the hall property, now having the whole structure, which is valued at three thousand dollars. The lodge is free of all debt and has five hundred dollars in the treasury.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

There have been several lodges of this fraternity in Sac county, but at present it is confined to only two points. Formerly there was a lodge at Odebolt and one at Auburn, but today the lodges at Sac City and Early are the only ones holding a charter.

At Sac City, Saxon Lodge No. 106 was organized October 24, 1883, by the Carroll Lodge. The following were charter members and officers: C. H. Reynolds, past chancellor; W. H. Hanchett, chancellor commander; J. E. Robbins, vice chancellor; A. D. Peck, prelate; F. B. Knight, keeper of records and seals; J. L. Watson, master of finance; J. M. Highland, master of exchequer; G. M. Parker, master at arms; C. P. Chapman, outer guard; W. Highland, inner guard; J. Shull, J. H. James, J. Y. Campfield, E. H. Parnell, J. Marks, W. F. Moyer, J. H. Fox, A. W. Hobbs, F. H. Knights, J. M. Broat, H. J. Baxter, James N. Miller, Albert Keyser, T. B. Mansfield, Phil Schaller, H. L. Wilson, J. T. Bushnell. The present membership of this lodge is fifty-five. The elective officers in March, 1914, were as follows: George I. Cory, past chancellor; Miles Hamilton, chancellor commander; Ed. Young, vice chancellor; C. L. Stocker, prelate; M. Currie, master of work; John H. Fox, master of exchequer; N. O. Gishwiller, master of finance; H. L. Arney, master at arms; S. L. Hawley, inner guard; George I. Cory, outer guard; trustees, M. Currie, N. O. Gishwiller, George I. Cory. The order had various lodge rooms until the building of the Allen block on East Main street, since which time it has had a hall home on the second floor of that building. At one time there was a Uniform Rank at Sac City, but several years ago it went down for lack of attention and interest. George M. Parker was the captain of the division during its existence here.

The report of Early Lodge No. 165 is not at hand, but it is understood that, while it is not a large one, yet it is doing good work.

CHAPTER XV

RAILROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

There is no internal improvement that has done so much to develop this country as its railroads. The printing press, the railroad, the telegraph and the telephone combined move the world today. Up to about 1880, in this section of the West, the country was first expected to be fairly `yell developed before they had any chance to obtain railway service. The agricultural and mineral resources had first to be so far advanced and developed that there was quick returns to capital before such capital could be induced to construct a steam and iron highway through such section. Times have materially changed. Now the railroad goes on ahead and pioneers the way over trackless prairies, over forest and glen and swampy places, having in view the farmer who will ere long be enticed into coming and effecting permanent settlement, on account of the easy access to a railroad, which gives him, at once, a direct and speedy line of transportation.

Sac county was only partly settled until the railroads sought out this goodly land of fertility and surveyed her lines throughout her borders. This county was never bonded or heavily burdened by railroad taxes, as was the case in some of the more eastern counties in Iowa.

Again who built the railroads, as they first appeared on the map of our fair state' While not paying for the construction of these various roads, yet, strange to relate, the farmers built the roads; their teams made the grades, the "cuts and the fills;" their axes hewed the ties; their sons laid the rails and then manned the trains and officered the corporations. This is true today, as has but recently been noted by the vice-president of the great Illinois Central system, in a speech made at Storm Lake only last year: "Fifty per cent. of the employes of the railroads come from the farm. The sons of lawyers do not make good brakemen; neither does the son of a merchant seek employment as a fireman. Those who learn the mechanical trades are used to manual labor. The men who work on the track, also work on the farm a part of the time. These are the ones from whom the officials are made. There cannot rightfully be antagonism between the two vocations, and there is absolutely no cause for it where it exists. Only the demagogue will tell you that `Wall Street owns the railroads.' And that hence they are a legitimate prey for the common people.

"Of the ten thousand stockholders of the Illinois Central railroad eight thousand own one hundred shares or less. The maximum for one hundred shares, an ordinary Iowa farm is worth as much money. The great majority of shares are held in comparatively small amounts. From one hundred shares of Illinois Central stock the owner-widow, orphan or perhaps some superannuated person-gets seven hundred dollars per year. If the same money had been invested in Iowa land at the time this railroad was built it would now be worth many times as much, and invested in any of the industries would have brought far greater returns. Those who invest in railroad stocks are usually those who cannot manipulate their money in merchandising or in other ways requiring personal ability or superintendence."

With the north and south and east and west lines of railroad through Sac county, the farmer and merchant have been greatly benefited. All classes have been brought in touch with the great busy outside world.

As early as April, 7859, there was talk of building a railroad through Sac county. The question as to whether the people of this county should vote away twenty-five thousand dollars worth of its swamp land that had been given the county by the state, to aid some company in constructing a railroad or not. Thirty-three votes were cast on the proposition, but all were cast against such measure. It is supposed the Wabash system was backing the enterprise, but the people, as bad as they needed a railroad, did not believe in paying for building it and let others own and control the stock in same.

The county developed as best it could, drawing her supplies from Des Moines, Council Bluffs, Fort Dodge and Sioux City for all the years intervening between 1855 and 1879, during which latter year the first rail was laid in the county-that making the track of the great Chicago Northwestern system and being the branch from the "Y" at Sac junction to Sac City, which marked the beginning of the railroad era for this county. Very soon this railroad extended its lines north and west, giving Sac county many miles of road, the towns of Wall Lake, Auburn, Odebolt, Lake View being on one line, and Sac City, Early and Schaller on the line from Carroll to Sioux City via Correctionville.

The next move toward railroad building in Sac county was in 1899, when the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company extended a branch, of their road from Rockwell City, Calhoun county, to Sac City, completing the same to Storm Lake, thereby adding much improvement in shipping facilities and passenger accommodations throughout this county. .

The present mileage of the various railroads within this, county, as shown by county records, is as follows: The Chicago & Northwestern lines, sixty-nine and one-half miles; the Illinois Central has nineteen miles; the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul system has nineteen and fifteen one-hundredths miles. This gives a total of mileage in Sac county of one hundred and seven and sixty-five one-hundredths miles.

There are twelve townships in this county having a railroad mileage and four without a mile of steam road within their limits.

The Sac Sun has this to say in its issue of August, 1879, concerning the building of the railroad in this county: "Twenty-three years after it was laid out as a town Sac City has a railroad. The history of its efforts in this direction constitute a long chapter of hard work and bright schemes that failed, encouragements and discouragements, that perhaps have seldom been equalled in the history of any Iowa town.

"We believe that the Cedar Rapids & Missouri River Railroad (now the Northwestern system) was the first road to be surveyed through this county. It did not pass through Sac City, but the people had hopes of being able to bring it here. It was afterwards diverted south to Carroll county, to make its terminus at Council Bluffs, to connect with the Union Pacific system which was then only a dream of the future.

"Next came the Iowa Falls & Sioux City line (now Illinois Central), which was surveyed through our county, some distance to the north of Sac City, but was finally changed to run through Buena Vista county.

"The next important project, and one of which we all felt sure, was the Iowa Pacific, which was surveyed through Sac City and considerable work done on it in 1873-74, but the general prostration of business and almost total cessation of railroad building killed this enterprise, leaving us only a grade which in all probability will never be used, although a road is now being built from Minneapolis to Fort Dodge, which is intended to extend on to Omaha. It may or may not come this way.

"In the spring of 1876 an effort was made to induce the Iowa Land Company to build a road, starting from Jefferson, coming up through Lake City and on to Ida county. But the present route of the Maple Valley road had already been selected, and it seemed as if the fates were against us in Sac county. The building of this road was a serious blow to Sac City and at one time threatened to swamp us. But, with an energy born of despair, its people started with more earnestness to secure a railroad. The Illinois Central was appealed to, but it would not consider or even condescend to reply to communications. About August, 1877, judge Duffle wrote E. P. Hull, general manager of the Maple River Railroad Company, telling him that Sac City wanted a railroad and asked him if he could do anything to help us build one to 'Fall Lake. The reply led to the formation of the Sac City & Wall Lake Railroad Company in September, 1877, to build

a road between those two points. Judge Duffle was elected president and a five per cent. tax was voted in aid of the road in Jackson township as well as in Cedar township, but defeated in Coon Valley and Wall Lake townships.

"A preliminary survey was made in the fall of the year last mentioned, and the cost of grading ascertained. In May, 1878, the company proposed to the Iowa Land Company to grade and bridge the road and provide right of way and depot grounds and give it to them if they would complete it and cause it to be operated. The proposition was taken under advisement by the company, but for a while no answer could be received. .

"Our people again began to think they were to be disappointed and so turned their attention to a road to the east, connecting with the old Des Moines & Fort Dodge line at Gowrie. A company was formed and preparations made to go on with the work. A survey, was made, but before it was finished the Iowa Land Company accepted the proposition made to them. They doubtless realized that Sac City was determined to have a road and thought it best to have one of theirs here, rather than a competing road.

"Last Friday [August, 1879] the rails were laid to Main street and the long-looked for, hoped-for, worked-for railroad became a glorious fact. Among those whose names should never be forgotten in securing this road to Sac City are: Judge Early, Judge Criss, Judge Duffle, Asa Platt. W. H. Hobbs, W. Condron. While it has cost our people considerable, yet the road, we think, will amply repay all for what they have spent in securing it."

In October, 1887, Jackson township voted a five per cent aid towards building a railroad projected from Rockwell to Sac City, known as the Rockwell, Sac City & Dakota.

CHAPTER XVI

COUNTY AND STATE OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, ETC.

The following is an account of the important elections of Sac county, together with a list of the various county officers and the vote on governors and Presidents, as far as possible to obtain them from any record now obtainable.

AUGUST 4, 1856.

For secretary of state; Elijah Sells had a majority of 3. Congressman, Timothy Davis had a majority Of 3. Clerk of the district court, Henry A. Evans elected. School fund commissioner, William Todd elected. Prosecuting attorney, D. N. Kinnie elected. Drainage commissioner, Joseph W. Williams elected. Coroner of Sac county, Joseph H. Austin elected.

NOVEMBER 4, 1856.

Presidential electors-(Democratic ticket) James Buchanan, 35 votes; (Republican ticket) John C. Fremont, 25 votes.

AUGUST, 1857.

County Judge, S. W. Wagoner, 21 votes; Eugene Criss, 27 votes; A. J. Cain, 27 votes (tied and declared finally in favor of A. J. Cain). Treasurer and recorder (combined office), D. C. Early, 45 votes; Davis Guy, 25 votes. Sheriff, Andrew J. Taylor, 34 votes; William Impson, 36 votes; Thomas Richey, 1 vote. Prosecuting attorney, Leland H. Stocker, 36 votes; William Kromer, 28 votes; Francis Ayers, 1 vote. Coroner, Joseph H. Austin, 22 votes; Washington W. Wren, 50 votes. Surveyor, William H. Fagely, 39 votes; Joseph W. Williams, 29 votes.

OCTOBER ELECTION, 1857

For governor, Benj. M. Samuels (Democratic), 43; Ralph P. Lowe (Republican), 8 votes.