

Excerpts From

Scrap And Prayer

History Collections of Lowell, Wisconsin
Compiled by Mrs. Chester Wendt

(The Original, Multi-Volume History
is located in
The Village Library
Lowell, Wisconsin 53557)

Oct 9, 1977

Dear Museum Keeper,

This letter accompanies a copy of
"Exerpts from Leisla and Scraps, History Collections
of Lowell, Wisconsin." The multi-volume
history collections are in the Village Library
at Lowell.

In 1954, I was contacted by Mrs. C. W.
Hammond, who requested information on
Lowell for your museum. This exerpt is
my contribution to a greater knowledge of
our heritage.

Sincerely yours,

Genevieve M. Wendt
Mrs. Chester Wendt
160 N. River St.
Lowell, Wisconsin
53557

HISTORY OF VILLAGE OF LOWELL, WISCONSIN

Taken from "Scrips and Scraps" (History of Lowell compiled by Mrs. Chester Wendt). Following taken from copies of Reeseville Review loaned to me (Mrs. Chester Wendt) by Emil Sturner and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Andrews Lowell, Wisconsin.

THE REESEVILLE REVIEW. OCTOBER 28, 1937
REESEVILLE REVIEW TO FEATURE A NEW COLUMN

Mr. Emil Klentz, publisher of the Reeseville Review, has been very fortunate in securing and owning a book which relates the early history of our neighboring town, Lowell, and it's surrounding territory.

The book was written in 1876, by G.W.W. Tanner, an early settler and resident of this vicinity. The book being written in Mr. Tanner's own handwriting, is highly valued by Mr. Klentz.

Believing that this early account of Lowell might interest our readers, we have decided to publish the book in series, just as it was written in 1876 by Mr. Tanner. We will continue it each week with hopes that within the near future you will know the early history and happenings of Lowell just as were seen by the writer.

EARLY HISTORY OF LOWELL
WRITTEN BY
G.W.W. TANNER
IN 1876

HISTORICAL

Sketches of the Township of Lowell, in the county of Dodge and state of Wisconsin.

EMBRACING

All, so far as known in relation thereto from its earliest settlement to the present time.

GIVING

A general view of its surface, soil and climate. Its settlement, government and institutions; together with many incidentals during the time of which we write.

ALSO

The continued celebration held by the people on the 4th day of July, 1876, on which day this work is ended.
By G.W.W. Tanner, of said town.

INTRODUCTION

Fellow Citizens:

As this is the centennial anniversary of our National Independence, I have concluded to write up the history of our township.

In doing this I have to depend on the memory of the few early settlers who came to this country in that day of peril and danger. At a time when the country was new, wild animals plenty and the Red man claimed it for his happy hunting ground, none but men with brave hearts could face the dangers to which they would be exposed. But such were our forefathers who went forth to meet the hardships incidents to pioneer life.

I shall therefore enter upon the task with a full determination to accomplish the work before me; and when completed, to present to the readers, a book worthy the place designed to fill.

The following is the order in which it is presented:

1st. Lowell, 2nd North Lowell, 3rd. South Lowell, 4th. The Village of Lowell, 5th. The Village of Keeseville, 6th. The settlement of Lowell township, 7th. Its government, 8th. Its churches, 9th. Its other organizations, 10th. Its schools, 11th. Special items, 12th. Celebrations on the 4th of July, 1876 and 13th. Conclusion.

PREFACE

The task we undertake is extensive and arduous; and therefore, feel ourself inadequate to the undertaking. The information received by us has been obtained principally from the old settlers themselves and therefore may be relied on as true. Yet as many who located the first spot, cut the first tree, and broke the first sod have passed away or gone to other lands, we find few traces of this history left; and as a consequence, many a link in our historical chain is gone.

Such being the case our sources of information are small.

We shall therefore ask the indulgence of all and assume the responsibility of entering at once upon this work and we most ardently desire that all may be correctly written.

Lowell, Wisconsin June 1st, 1876: G.W.W. TANNER

CHAPTER I (LOWELL)

Section 1

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth, including the territory of the Township of Lowell therein described.

Section 2

The earth's surface is divided into land and water, each of which is also subdivided into almost an inconceivable number of smaller portions and by the hand that made them given to the various inhabitants thereof.

Section 3

Formerly these several sub-divisions were not generally known to man, and the finding of them was a task which but few were willing to undertake.

Section 4

On Friday the 3rd day of August, 1492, Christopher Columbus, a native of Genoa, sailed with three small vessels out of Palos,

a seaport in Spain, intent for the discovery of what finally provided to be the discovery of the new world.

Section 5

After this discovery had been made and possession thereof taken, natives of other parts claimed the prize.

Section 6

A war between England and the colonies of the eastern part of this new world was raging, when on the 4th day of July, 1776, a small portion of the country by their delegates assembled at the State House in Philadelphia and did then and there declare their respective colonies a free and independent people under the name and style of the United States of America. Thus originated the nation and the government under which we live.

Section 7

On the 13th day of July 1787, an ordinance of congress, for the government of the territory Northwest of the river Ohio, including this country was approved.

Section 8

On the 20th day of April, 1836, another act of Congress was approved by which the Territorial government of Wisconsin was established.

The territory of Lowell was included under this arrangement, though at that time was unknown to man.

Section 9

On the 12th day of June another act of Congress was approved by which Wisconsin was divided and a Territorial Government established over the receded part, called Iowa. The territory remaining untouched included the territory of Lowell.

Section 10

On the 3rd day of March, 1839 was approved another act of Congress by which the Organize Law was amended.

During all this time Lowell was known to none but the Red Man who claimed it as his own.

Section 11

During these years, Civil Officers of the law were appointed by the Territorial Governor whose constituted authority was derived from the President of the United States.

Section 12

On the 3rd day of March, 1843 still another act of Congress was approved by which the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Wisconsin was authorized to provide by law for the election or appointment of Sheriffs, Judges of Probate, Justice of the Peace and County Surveyor within the Territory of Wisconsin as they saw fit. At this time Lowell had been seen by white men.

Section 13

On the 6th day of August, 1846 was approved another act of Congress by which the people of the Territory of Wisconsin were enabled to form a constitution and state government and for their admission as a state into the nation.

Section 14

On the 1st day of February 1848, a state constitution was formed by the representatives of the people of the Territory of Wisconsin preparatory to admission into the nation.

Section 15

On the 29th day of May 1848, the act of Congress, by which Wisconsin became one of the United States was approved. At this time the Township of Lowell was inhabited by a few white persons who had commenced settlement within its borders.

Section 16

Until after 1840, Lowell existed only in common with other unoccupied territory whose general appearance was unquestionably rough. There, as elsewhere, the Indian sought the wild game of the forest and scooped from the sparkling waters of the Beaver Dam river, the fish, so bountiful provided by Him, whose eyes so carefully watches the little sparrow that falls to the ground and on either side of this beautiful stream are to found unmistakable signs of Indian industry. And were we to look far back into the history of the past, it would be impossible to discover any imprints of the Indian race other than those now existing among us.

Upon those ancient mounds that adorn the banks of this beautiful stream, once might have been seen the red-man beside his beautiful bride in the hopeful anticipation of a blessed future.

Section 17

But now, how changed is his condition? No longer does he inhabit this, his former home and hunting grounds; but has long since passed beyond the mighty river of this boundless west, where he is still pursued by the white man in full pursuit of accumulating wealth.

How vainly does he look back to the spot where rest the bones of his departed friends in that peaceful slumber forever with the dead.

Section 18

Lowell as a township, embraces all of township No. 10, North of Range No. 14 East, a part of township No. 9 on the south and of 11 on the North; but under this chapter and under this had of Lowell, we mean simply township No. 10. This territory is 6 miles in extent each way and is also subdivided into sections of 1 square mile, each numbering in all thirty-six sections.

Section 19

These boundaries were made by government surveyors; each section containing six hundred and forty acres of land more or less and every sixteenth section is reserved for educational purposes.

Section 20

Lowell Surface

The surface of township 10 is quite level, unless we count it somewhat rolling. There are a few hills hard to climb; but generally nothing very bad.

Its soil is of an excellent quality, producing all grains and grasses usually raised in the country.

Potatoes grow in abundance only that from six to ten years past, the potatoe bug (so called) has been very destructive to the crop of that kind. These bugs are very destructive wherever found. The potatoe, by making its first appearance in the spring is attracted by this bug. They winter in the ground and come forth in the spring, with the growing roots and soon their eggs in great numbers are seen fastened to the leaf.

A few warm days and the bugs of this description are seen in great numbers and unless prevented by some means will destroy the entire crop. Paris Green, properly applied, is fatal in their destruction.

Timber has been very plentiful especially in the river heavily skirted with an excellent quality. But now a great share of it has been taken for valuable purposes and the strong hand of the lumberman having removed the same has made way for the reaper and the thrasher upon the high lands and for the mower and the horse rake upon the low.

Formerly the farmer used the common scythe, but now the scythe is very generally superseded by the formidable mower and inversion of the 19th century.

CLIMATE

The climate is variable. Sudden changes are frequent. Three months at the most are free from frost during the entire season of raising the means of subsistence. In the season of 1875, the month of August witnessed the overthrow of the corn crop by frost.

Our winters are generally so cold that fruit trees are severely injured by the weather.

The winter, commencing in the year of 1875 was not so hard as those before it, the first half was warm, the last half was comfortable with some snow. The winter before it was severe. So much for Lowell No. 10. There let it rest.

Section 22

North Lowell; Town 11

The Township of Lowell extends one and one-half miles north from Town 10 into Town 11 and in doing this takes in extent, nine sections. This territory was formerly well covered with heavy timber; most of which has remained until recently.

Soil, climate, and productions are similar to those already given.

South Lowell is that part of Township No. 9 which constitutes a part of the Township, or more properly speaking on the whole, the Town of Lowell, that lies between Mud Lake on its east and the Town of Portland on the west.

South Lowell extends south from the south line of Town 10, a distance of four miles, containing in its area about 10 sections of land. Mud Lake covers about one third of one section of this territory on an average and is supplied with water from the Beaver Dam river that passes through the Township. Fish (mostly pickerel) have been caught in abundance by people in the winter by cutting a round hole down through the ice and using a decoy or an artificial fish held by a cord and taking them with a spear when they come in sight.

South Lowell is naturally heavy timber and an excellent soil of land.

VILLAGE OF LOWELL

The Village of Lowell is situated on section No. 15 in Town 10 of Lowell and is therefore quite central for the Township generally. The Beaver Dam river passes along through this place in a southerly direction emptying its waters into Mud Lake from whence they pass on toward the great Mexican gulf. There also we find excellent water-power, capable of running extensive machinery. At the present a sawmill and grist mill are in successful operation. Soon after the

year 1840 and within three or four years after that this, the mill power was taken up by a man named Peck, who subsequently sold out his claim to a Watertown company, Finney and Lawton made a purchase. During the time of these negotiations, one Bryant made a claim or claimed to have an interest in these lands.

The difficulty was finally settled by Finney and Lawton by way of exchange. At this time Mr. Finney had not moved his family into town. In 1844, these gentlemen concluded to build a saw mill, which was subsequently done. They built it on the west side.

In February 1845, Clark Lawton, while engaged in hauling timbers to the mill, accidentally broke his leg. Daniel F. Eldred, who is a resident of our village and one James Collins, a young man, both single, were in Mr. Lawton's employment at that time and the young men carried him to his own home, a log building just on the hill east of the mill on the east side of the river. Mr. Eldred's father was said to be a doctor, living a few rods down the river on the east side on what is now known as the Reinhard farm.

Dr. Eldred was at once called for and soon the break was on the way to a fine recovery.

The mill was subsequently built and put in running order.

One Leavensworth, whose wife was a sister of Mrs. Finney, had taken up, or rather entered land near by and was the carpenter who framed this saw mill and put it in motion as we are informed. This saw mill was subsequently sold to Wm. Moore and subsequently it was sold by him to Fred Voedisch and Phillip Runkel. Phillip Runkel sold out and for a while a Mr. Weidman was a part owner. Still later Weidman disappeared by contract and now belongs to J & L Runkel and Fred Voedisch, the present owner.

The first house built in Lowell (Village or Township) was that in which Mr. Lawton resided when his leg was broken. The second was built by D.F. Eldred, down the river, where his father, the doctor resided on section 22--Lowell. The third house was built on the west side of the road, east of river in the hollow near the place where water is seen throughout the season, a few rods south of the river bridge in Lowell village. This house stood on the line between S.N. Drakes's river lot and Phillip Reinards farm.

In this last mentioned house on the 15th day of August, 1845, the mother of Mr. Lawton died. This is the first death of an adult in town of a white person.

We are told that on D.S. Eldred had lost two or more younger children before Mrs. Lawton died. Mr. Lawton lost a six or seven year old boy about the same time of his mother's death. At the time of her death Mrs. Lawton was at Finney's. She was in the swxty-third year of age. This lady, Mrs. Mary Lawton, as we are informed, was a member of the M.E. Church and the services of her funeral were performed by Rev. Stephen Jones who for a while was the first preacher in town and labored as a missionary amongst the people.

Mr. Jones was instrumental in the commencement of the Eng. M.E. Church in Lowell, which church was for some time under the care of Rev. George Louesy, its first pastor or preacher in charge under the rule of Rev. Wm. H. Sampson, their first presiding Elder.

At the time of Mrs. Lawton's death Mr. Finney's family were nearly or all quite sick and he had to go to the, then, little village of Watartown to get a doctor. The doctor's first employed made one visit and died. Doctor Gody of the same village was next employed by Finney who at that time could only find his way back and forth by designated spots, left his dog for a pilot to the doctor and hastily returned home to his family. Mr. Finney's family, continued to be sick and fearing to cross over the dark river in the Ferry boat provided for all living, set to work at once and built the frame house near the west end of the bridge, opposite the old corner store now owned and occupied by William Reinhard, the cooper.

This is the first frame house built in the township of Lowell.

On the completion of this house, Mr. Finney piled (as he says) his family and effects into an ox sled and hauled them across the river to their new residence where they soon became very comfortable.

In less than two years after the saw mill was built by Lawton and Finney, these gentlemen began the work of planning for a village.

The services of one Rising, a surveyor was called in and on the 8th day of November, 1847, was recorded in the Register's office the 1st city or village plat in Dodge county. This plat covered the strip of land on the west side of the river between the waters edge and the top of ridge on the west and contained twelve blocks. Soon after they commenced the sale of village lots. One Downing purchased the lots adjoining the northwest corner on the four corners 10 rods west of the river bridge on which he erected a small store and began to sell goods therein.

A.B. Jones kept a store in a small log house nearby. Jones was the first merchant in town and the third in succession. So he says.

In the fall of 1846, M.K. Stickney bought out Downing, a merchant, and commenced hotel business therein. This was the first hotel in town.

In 1847, Patten and Baker put up a building on the corner lot and kept a store in it. This building still remains and is known as the Chatfield Store.

In 1849 their business was changed to that Hotel, by John O. Lusk, as proprietor. About this time A.B. Jones built the old corner store generally known as the J.J. Williams store, into which he put his goods and drove on his business.

Subsequently, Jones took J.J. Williams into the store and they were the firm. A little after this Williams bought out Jones and went on his own hook taking in Jacob Breyer as clerk in 1851.

Two or three years later, Williams disposed of A.B. Jones and took in one Shayler, who possessed capital and then they were in the firm and in 1857, Jacob Breyer and D.S. Bertie constituted a firm and kept a store in the place now occupied by F.W. Benson for a drug store.

In 1861, Mr. Breyer bought out Mr. Bertie's interest and went into south west corner on first corner west of bridge, generally known as the Reinhard store on east side of the river which he had bought of S.P. Damp, who by the way, committed the first murder in town.

One Stephen Jones, a clergyman of the M. C. Church, came to town in 1846 and built the Reinhard store heretofore mentioned and kept a store for a while. His son Joh attended to business beginning in 1847, Mr. Jones had resided in Jefferson county, preaching here as a Missionary prior to this year. As a business man, Jones was smart, out as well as in the pulpit.

Mr. Downing, whose name has already been mentioned, after selling out to Stickney who kept the first Hotel, went to Fox Lake, in this county where he located his family. One day he had been off on a trading excursion with the Indians and on his way home was caught in a terrible storm and perished within hearing of his house.

The first blacksmith was one Erastus Finney, a brother of Henry Finney. It has been said that when his shop was built that iron had not been introduced to this vicinity, and yet I cannot think that wook and sand were a substitute for iron. Mr. Finney worked on the west side of the river. One Jarvis bought him out and done the work. Also on the same side was another shop of the same kind carried on by a German whose name we fail to obtain. These men did not permanently locate here.

William Hunter was also an early settler in the list of blacksmiths and his shop is still in operation by himself.

Mr. Hunter's name will appear in another part of this book in connection with the building of the first gristmill and also under the general head of "Business men of Lowell" on the fourth day of July 1876 on which day this work is to be concluded.

Hercules Eldred was another blacksmith in the early days of Lowell. He had in his employment a number of men to whom he paid good wages. Subsequently his shop and men were by agreement transferred to his brother, D.F. Eldred, who continued the same business to the present day. Of these men, D.F. Eldred learned the trade of blacksmithing and this shop is also continued to the present Mr. Eldred being the proprietor. Mr. Eldred's name will also appear in other parts of this work as occasions may require.

FIRST GRIST OR FLOUR MILL IN 1848

Mr. Lawton and Finney concluded to build a grist mill, whereupon, they in company with Myron Fox, went to work and soon a mill of that kind was in full operation.

This mill was built on the east side and was carried on or operated by a large wheel commonly called a breast sheel. This mill was started with one run stone, subsequently three.

Subsequently, Finney sold out and then Lawton and a Mr. Van Kirk became partners with Fox, and they (Fox and Van Kirk) constituted the mill company.

The mill burnt in 1851. The fire was caused by an overflow of water filling the buckets and starting the mill at night, heating the stone. In a year or two after the burning of the mill, one E.S. Bailey purchased an interest in the mill power and commenced work for building a new mill.

The mill so built by Bailey is same mill now owned by M.F. Pease. Mr. Bailey after getting fairly under sailing colors, sold out to Erastus O. Pease and one Visgar. Subsequently M.F. Pease bought a one-third interest in the mill arrangement and the three now constituted the mill company.

Sometime after, not long however, Erastus and M. F. Pease bought out the Visgar interest and the two brothers became the mill firm.

In 1854 M.F. Pease bought out the interest of his brother, Erastus O. and became proprietor in chief of the whole thing, during which time he has carried on the flouring business of Lowell extensively.

To keep this mill in constant motion requires about four hundred and fifty bushels of wheat every twenty-four hours and men in proportion to do the work, we mention the name of Dennis Peters as the most important.

For the past few years the flouring business has been under management of his two sons, Frank and George, who show themselves competent for that engagement.

This mill has three run of stones and the wheels are what is called the Laffell wheel and world wide reputation for making good flour, and if in the ways of a good kind providence, these boys should live to enjoy the second Centennial of our National Independence, we hope to find them still tugging at the wheel.

In March or very near the first of April 1866 a heavy rain swept away the dam and also the river bridge and for quite a while it was difficult to cross the stream. The new bridge now in use was built when L.M. Teny was chairman of Supervisors of the town in 1869. During the time of building the present bridge, people crossed the river on the dam which Mr. Pease has fitted up for that purpose at the expense of the town.

PARSONAGE

The first parsonage in town was built on the ridge of land directly west of the river bridge on the north side of the street that crossed the river.

It was a small log house built by the M.E. Church of Lowell, under the supervision of a committee of five persons, Atkinson, Frazer, Marvin, Ward and Nickerson.

These men were appointed by the quarterly meeting conference. At the time of raising this house David Blissit, a leading member of the church, had his leg accidentally broken. The bone was set by Dr. Earl and Dr. Lyttle.

Mr. Blissit resided west of Lowell, two miles and about ten years ago sold out and went to Beaver Dam where he remained a few years and then went to Oshkosh where he still resides.

In 1866 or thereabouts A.B. Jones whose name is already mentioned, attempted to purchase an interest in the flour mill establishment of Mr. Pease. How far this agreement extended we do not know, only that it ended in a law suit in which Jones recovered a heavy sum from Pease amounting to some three thousand dollars or upwards.

Among the early settlers in the village was one Mr. Jarvis, a blacksmith who carried on this business. How long he remained we do not know as there is no record on this relating to him to be found, only that he bought out Erastus Finney and continued the business.

We have already mentioned the fact that M.K. Stickney bought the little store (Lowell House lot) of Mr. Downing and went into the Hotel business. Subsequently, Stickney sold out to one Perry

Walker who continued the Hotel business in the same place.

About these years the town well (so called) was dug in that part of the village. This well has a good pump in it and is called the Town Pump.

During the season of this year, some movers passed through here remaining at the well overnight.

On the way here when at the marsh near S.P. Farms, the wagon in which were placed their goods settled in the ground and they became stuck in the mud.

Some persons working on the road kindly hauled them through to Lowell, leaving them at the well. Some altercations took place between them and the road men and finally an argument began. The difficulty arose in consequence of some misunderstanding about pay, till at length a fight commenced in good earnest. Clubs and stones were brought into requisition and several had broken limbs for the benefit of doctors.

Doctor Earl of Columbus was then a practicing physician in town and boarded with Mr. Finney. His services were rendered in this matter and soon the broken bones were on their way to soundness.

During this terrible affair one of the movers named Powers, took a heavy gun barrel from their wagon and Perry Walker was the man who received a terrible blow on the side of his head. Walker being a strong man wrenched the barrel from the hand of Powers and gave him a blow from which he never recovered.

In one or two months after, Powers died. Thus ended a foolish matter which might have been settled to better advantages. This occurred on the 3rd day of July 1848 as our information tells us. Fighting is poor business if followed. We advise all to keep free from proceedings of such nature, as in this case one person is supposed to have come to an untimely end.

SONS OF TEMPERENCE

In 1850 or a little before there was a Division of the Sons of Temperence started. The Hon. John Lowth was a member of this organization. Among its other members were found the names of Rev. Stephens, David, Jones, Blisset and others.

A difficulty took place in the division for some cause Blisset preferred charges against Jones with no definite result, except at the end of two years or a little over, the organization broke up.

1001

In 1851, a lodge of the 1001 was instituted in the village, into which many of the citizens of Lowell were initiated. The Hon. John Lowth was promoted to the Grand-Senior-Ship of this institution. Mr. Lowth was a great admirer of this arrangement and states that it was the only organization in Lowell worthy of support; not much for the amount of intrinsic value, as for the amount of real genuine fun. Its highest number at any one time was about thirty but in a few years its organization had become extinct.

Certain persons whose names we are forbidden to mention, while undergoing the initiatory service (as we are informed) fearing the result of a full membership, begged to be excused from further proceedings.

This institution was for the benefit of young men and boys and its membership is variously estimated at from fifty to seventy-five persons. Its object was to fit young persons to become suitable members of the preceding order. We have never been members of either of the above institutions but are inclined to think them not beneficial in the extreme.

In 1845 or thereabouts, Henry Finney, who is now in his seventy-eighth (78) year, brought his family to Lowell.

He, having a desire to make money easier and faster than by dint of hard blows, commenced in 1850 to keep a public shop for the benefit or amusement of the public in general by keeping travelers, boarders and otherwise rendering himself useful to all. Mr. Finney keeps the Union Hotel near the east end of the river bridge. This hotel was built in 1858 or thereabouts. Mr. Finney used the basement for a saloon, the second story for a hall and the third has been and still is used by the Masonic Fraternity for a lodge room. A few years after its erection, Mr. Finney rented the lower part to one Warren Jilson for a year or so.

During those years, Mr. Finney and his family resided in the dwelling house next of them where John Runkel now resides.

A few years since and Mr. Finney sold this dwelling to John Runkel and went into the hotel building where he still remains. A Mr. Moore as principle and Martin L. Blair, an old settler in town, as workmen, done the carpenter work on this hotel house.

The hotel building was enlarged in order to make room for the Finney family prior to entering into it. Martin L. Blair was brother to C.P. Blair who lived on the hill east of the village and built the great Steam Saw Mill in which J. and L. Runkel now carry on the coopering business so extensively.

C.P. Blair owned a farm and village property, but in 1865 he sold out and left town taking his steam engine with him, going to Minnesota. That part of Lowell village known as Blair's Addition was plotted by his direction.

In the spring of 1864, the writer of this work was in the employment of Mr. Blair and worked in this mill. He remained only one month, as during that time he lost four of his fingernails which were knocked off by the dogging arrangement. At a town meeting held on the 1st Tuesday of April in that year while working for Mr. Blair, we were elected a Justice of Peace for a term of two years and which office we still hold by order of the people.

GOOD TEMPLERS

On the 3rd day of September 1856 the grand Lodge of the State of Wisconsin at its annual session on that day, organized the Cold Spring Lodge No. 5 of Lowell.

Among its members we find the names of Hon. John Lowth, Jacob Breyer, O.E. Reed, Davidxon, Swert Dearborn, Tanner, Burgess and a host of others. Lowth and Breyer were prominent members in this organization. Each understood himself and the order of the business. A large and enthusiastic lodge was eventually gained and King Alcohol trembled in his boots.

Retailers quivered and wagged their heads fearing that their

craft was in danger. Their personal property of some was interfered with by some of the members who played "Smash" generally.

Finally in the commencement of 1859, as we are inclined to believe the good Templers, headed by the Hon. Mr. Lowth as Prosecuting Attorney caused the arrest of several persons engaged in the retail business. They were brought before one N.L. Daniels, a Justice of the Peace, for trial, but Mr. Daniels, being a substantial man and not being accustomed to hot water, was denied the privilege of passing judgement on these parties, as they made the proper affidavit for a change venue whose law abiding proclivities were not much dreaded by these men.

So enraged were some of these defendants and their defenders that an armed force, with a rope, was brought into requisition for the benefit of the complainant, Mr. Davidson.

The rum power is strong; yet in this instance, it failed to set aside the law abiding strength of the people and Davidson still draws his own accustomed breath.

Some, at least, of the convicted ones appealed to the higher courts and were for some cause, discharged. On their return to Lowell, their procession was met by their friends and escorted home with loud cheering and banners flying. King Alcohol rode triumphantly into town and sobriety and steady habits retired in confusion.

After a little, the foul stuff flowed freely for the destruction of human happiness. Retailers were allowed for some years, to sell without a town license.

Thus did things continue for a while till excess law was quite forgotten and then men were licensed at about one-half of the lowest legal rates.

Among the membership of this lodge were persons who drank, that seldom drank before, thinking it an honor to dishonor themselves and the institution they had solemnly vowed to sustain and to such an extent over these habits carried, that temperance and templers became a by-word and a hiss, and many, feeling themselves unwarranted in remaining longer, left in disgust. A great portion of the members were young people and certain ones were sure to fill important offices, and sparkling generally became the order of the day.

Confusion, contention and contempt ruled, till finally but few remained to tell the sad tale of their sudden departure.

This lodge in its beauty and strength had procured an excellent supply of lodge furniture, consisting of desks, pedestals, seats, etc., but now the few remained to sparkling, generally became the organization, captured the lodge furniture, disbanded and fled in triumph. Thus ended the sad tale of Cold Spring Lodge No. 5 of Lowell.

REMARKS

No lodge or any other organization ought to be over anxious to get members regardless of character or stability. Multitudes of members does not always constitute strength but union and harmony will.

KNOW NOTHING

We are told that a Know Nothing Lodge had been formed in past years but there are no records of their proceeding to be found.

Who were its members, where they met or what their membership was so we have to let it pass.

Wh have been told, however, that their real object was to sustain no one for office except American citizens and opposition to doperly. Our own knowledge of these statements amount to nothing and goes what it is worth, but still we think there is some truth connected with it.

UNION LODGE

During the late years there was a lodge of this order existed in our midst. A Jacob Breyer was commander-in-chief of its forces for a while, but as we were never a member of an institution of that kind we know but little of its object, except that it was composed generally of such persons as feared to enlist in the union army.

They claimed to be friendly to the soldiers who fought to save the country in time of Rebellion, but how much they done to save the country is not known.

In 1860, our venerable friend, Henry Stock, commenced and completed the digging and stoning of a well at his door; The services of Ira Hubbard and Harvey Hitts were procured and the work began at once.

Now in those days there resided among us a young lawyer generally known by the familiar name of "Sardine" on account of his wonderful smallness. Sardine was petted by all the good-natured people of the community in a manner not likely to be realized to any great extent.

The bottom of this well lay at a very great distance below the surface and contained some little depth of water.

Sardine became anxious to know more about things than was necessary for him to understand, stepped into the bucket, with the men at the wheel and was being lowered as fast as circumstances would permit. The well was forty-five feet deep and was not stoned and had twenty feet of water in it.

When within ten feet of this water, one of the men at the wheel suddenly broke his hold and the other failed to keep his own. The result was the lawyer passed down through the space of those ten feet and into the water in a double quick time, and when he subsequently stood on the face of this broad earth, he resembled a drowned rat, more than a lawyer pleading at the Bar.

It appears that in the month of July the people of the Road District were laboring on the highway, and the lawyer wishing to work out his own tax, wanted a certain hammer that was said to be in this well for the purpose of breaking stone. The finding of this hammer was the object of wonderful decent, Mr. Stock himself and one D. Pinney were at the wheel, a Lawyer was victorious.

KIDNEY AND JOLLING

In the month of July, (21) 1861, a serious affair took place between James Kidney and Joseph Jolling, two residents of this township.

Mr. Kidney was tall yet rather sledger built. Jolling was about the same height and heavily built. Kedney had formerly owned a farm on section seventeen of Lowell; but was now living on the Jacob Breyer lot at the spring near the Cooper shop of J. and L. Rünkel. Kidney sold his farm to Mr. Jolling who occupied the premises.

On the day of this terrible affair, the persons named were together at the old corner store near west end of bridge where they

got into conversation with the rough side out. It may be well to remember here, that for some cause these men had been at variance for a long time and each expected to fall by the strong hand of his antagonist.

With this in view, one both went armed with an instrument of death. Meeting as above stated, one started for the other and they clinched in the street in front of the north end of the store when Jolling, getting the better of Kedney was bidding fair to bring him under his full power.

Upon this, Kidney drew a revolver from its secluded spot and emptied three chambers, the contents of which entered the body of Jolling, killing him almost instantly.

Kidney was immediately arrested and lodged in jail at Juneau and awaited his trial for that offense.

By a change of venue he was taken to Portage city and subsequently acquitted by a jury upon the grounds of self defense.

FRED SCHOENWETTER

Mr. Schoenwetter was born in Dutch Land in 1820, came to America in 1856 and settled in the village of Lowell for a while in the house owned by Mrs. Raasch on the west side whose husband shot himself in the fall of 1874.

This settlement in Lowell was in 1856 at which time he says he had not one cent of money in his pocket and was very poor and destitute.

Mr. Schoenwetter, though very poor at that time, has by his hard labor become one our most wealthy citizens, counting his property by the thousand dollars. He has very recently bought a farm which he gave his own personal note for over two thousand dollars. We mention this circumstance simply to show how wealthy a poor man may become by his own hand in the pursuit of competency for life.

He is a farmer by occupation and resides about four miles out of town. He is the head of a respectable family and his oldest son, August is serving the township as treasurer.

Long may he live to handle money.

FIRES

There has been a number of fires in the village and township of Lowell.

A building once standing on the corner now occupied by Henry Finney Hotel on east side was kept by one L.M. Green and used as a public house prior to 1860. This former building was burned to the ground accompanied by a considerable loss to Mr. Green. Cause of the fire not known.

BARN

In 1864 a small barn belonging to Henry Stock, Esq. was burned in this village on the west side. Damages about one-hundred dollars, cause of fire, boys playing with matches carelessly. Mr. Stock was not at home at this time. A small pig was also burned at that fire and nothing was saved.

The burning of this barn is the only fire in this village during a period of twelve years now last past.

Several times a fire had broken out on a small scale; but every time was extinguished.

BRICK HOUSE BREWERY

In 1860 these buildings were standing on the west side nearly opposite the Catholic church and near the river and were the property of Joseph Jolling whose name appears in this work.

Mr. Jolling had occupied these premises for several years prior to their destruction by fire, using one for his residence and the other for brewing and the out houses in connection therewith. For several months in succession they had stood unoccupied by anyone and it is behind that this fire was the work of an incendiary. The damage was considerable to Mr. Jolling, as, although well insured, he failed to get anything of his insurance. So we are informed. Burnt in 1860.

DWELLING HOUSE & SHOP

This building stood on the spot now owned by Joseph Wolf and occupied for a saloon business by him. It was formerly owned by John Toland and was burned in 1861.

Mr. Wolf afterwards bought the lot, owns it still with the excellent buildings.

BARN AND CONTENTS

This barn stood on the old C.P. Richardson farm on Section No. 17 of the Town of Lowell and was owned by Mohlon, his son, at the time of its destruction. The barn and its entire contents including one or more horses and other animals was consumed and for which Mr. Richardson received some sixteen hundred dollars from the company. The cause of the fire was lightning.

OTHER FIRES

Within the past few years there have been a few fires around the town, outside of the village. A log house burned in 1874, belonging to one Agara. A few years before that another Agara of the same family were burnt out.

This completes the list of fires so far as is known by us. Nothing further under this head we declared it closed.

DR. BAKER

Dr. Baker had been a resident of this village for several years prior to the year 1864 or 1865, when he left for parts unknown, his family soon afterwards following in the wake.

Dr. Baker practiced in the botomic line of medicine and had a somewhat extensive ride. It has been said of him that he might have been well situated in life only had he been attentive to his business and saved his earnings but such was not the case.

In 1863 he occupied the corner building on the north side of the street near west end of river bridge for a drug store or office room. During this time, a certain gentleman (to me unknown) came in with his shoulder out of joint. The Dr. told the patient to lay down on the floor, which he did. The doctor then done the same, only inversely putting his foot under the patient's arm-pit and taking him by the hand on the lame arm. This was done carefully and strongly enough to press the upper end of arm out, producing a loud click in the shoulder when it was announced by the doctor it was alright.

At paying the full amount claimed by the doctor (which was one dollar) the patient departed in peace and went to his home rejoicing.

A young man was studying with this doctor for the purpose of practicing medicine, but as he had a terrible sore on one or both of his legs below the knee which he called a fever sore, we are inclined to think that he quit before he finished his medical education.

Dr. Baker had a son named Ira. Ira in some way became connected with the army in time of rebellion, and was wanted at Madison. His father, the doctor, wanted Ira at home, as he was only a minor and the government had no claim sufficient to hold him. For sometime there was quite a struggle between the government and the Baker establishment. Each party was bound to beat, and for a while the scale was evenly balanced. Ira was determined not to be taken, and for that purpose looked both ways for Sunday. Ira was subsequently taken from one of the hotel beds at the village of Mayville in this county, to the so called "Bull Pens" at Madison. But Ira was soon home again where he remained with his father. Dr. Baker's whereabouts are not known to us.

DR. HENRY MILLER

Dr. Henry Miller is among the first settlers of the Village of Lowell.

He was born at Auburn in the state of New York on the 8th day of August 1824 and received medical education. He studied medicine with Dr. N.W. Abbot in the years 1846, 47, and 48, graduating in the latter year at Pittsfield, Mass.

He then went to Busti, in Chautaugne County, New York, and commenced practice in his profession in 1849. Not altogether satisfied with his point of entrance, in 1850 he came to Wisconsin, halting at Oak Grove (near by) where he remained until June 1851, and then came to Lowell and formed a co-partnership with Dr. Earl, whose name appears elsewhere in this work. This co-partnership was dissolved in September of that year, and Dr. Earl went to Columbus where he still remains in the practice of medical profession, and Dr. Miller the same at Lowell.

As a physician, Dr. Miller is counted among those reliable. With his long practice he has gained a good reputation among the people. The Doctor has a family of two boys pretty well grown up to manhood.

Much has been done to educate these boys in a manner suitable for the business of life. The eldest, Charles, held a valuable position at Madison in the State Legislature some five years since, at which time he was only a boy, and yet, so manfully and respectfully did he discharge the duties of his station that the principle officer of the assembly complimented him in a becoming manner.

The younger son, Eugene, is a good scholar and well respected by all who know him.

With his naturally quiet and good disposition, we have no doubt but that he will get on well in life and die surrounded by a host of friends.

Judging from his external appearance and from our own personal acquaintance with him, we have no hesitation in saying that he is all right, so far as human nature goes to make up a man.

The mother of these boys died some three or more years ago, leaving them desolate of one of the best of mothers.

It has been said that no person is so good but he has enemies, and none so bad but he has friends, but in this case we feel confi-

dent that Mrs. Miller was free and faultless before all who had formal acquaintances with her.

DR. L. G. BENSON

Dr. Benson was born on June 2, 1828 in Struthbridge, Mass. and received a common school education. He learned anatomy and medicine at Brimfield and Warren in that State.

In 1849 and 1850 he attended lectures on that profession at the Worcester Medical Institution.

In the latter years (1850), Dr. Benson commenced the practice of his profession at Brimfield, above mentioned.

In 1851, he came to Lowell and established himself in his profession in which and wherein he still continues to operate.

In 1863, Dr. Benson revived and became a member of the Dodge County Medical Society and subsequently became its corresponding and recording secretary. In 1856 the Doctor was appointed 1st Assistant Surgeon in the 53rd Regiment Wisconsin in which capacity he served until the close of the war.

On the 11th day of July 1871, he bought the establishment of Dr. J. H. Brown on the west side and continued the drug business which Dr. Brown had commenced. This building has been so thoroughly reconstructed that no vestige of its former appearance is at all visible. At one time in the early days of Lowell, Merchant's goods lay upon the shelves. Subsequently it became one of the most dismal holes known to man where liquors were sold and human happiness forever destroyed. This lonely spot was bought by Dr. Brown and fitted up in excellent style and fitted with drugs, medicines, etc., after which Dr. Brown on account of his extremely poor health, sold out, (to Dr. Bunry) went to Minnesota and died.

Dr. Benson has a family of several children, one only of which is a son in his minority. This son has arranged with his father for this business and carries it on in his own name.

Dr. Benson became a member of the Wisconsin State Medical Society, has served one or more terms as a member of our State Legislature and four years as county superintendent of schools in Dodge county. Dr. Benson remains a resident of our village and is ready as ever to attend to all calls in his profession among the people.

DR. BROWN

Dr. Brown was not a regular educated physician but worked at the same on a similar plan as Dr. Baker whose name is already mentioned. Dr. Brown was not an old man. He simply had a wife and child for whom he cared. He wanted recover and determined to live as long as possible. His determination to live had much to do with protracting his misery or he would have gone to rest a long time sooner than he did.

REMARKS

(1st) There has been two or three other doctors among these people, but as they remained so short a time in this place we have no further of their records.

(2nd) Lowell has been favored with good doctors all the way from their commencement to the present day. Those now among us have waited and watched over our sick ones and they have been restored. We find no fault, we make no complaint.

All of us are in the keeping of him with whom we have to do, and the time will come when we are to pass away and no physician can tempt on staying. Our own destiny is before us and certain travelers to that silent resting place, the repository of all living.

INDIAN MOUNDS

Along on the banks of the river we find more or less of these so called "Indian Mounds," of which all profess to know so little and yet so greatly wonder whence their origin. Many have wished to see the inner part of those wonderful little hills. To all such I will say, "if it be any satisfaction to know anything about them, other men is visible to all," that I dwell in a house that stands exactly on one of those mounds above mentioned. I purchased the land on which one was very visible, although the husband man had ran his plow directly over it. Lo, those many years, but still it remained very prominently above the surface around it. In the fall of 1872 I commenced operation for building a house and the first thing I done was to level off the top, which I did by lowering the highest point about sixteen inches which made a level large enough to set my nouse which was to be and is eighteen by twenty-four feet.

I then commenced digging my cellar making it about twelve feet in length, east and west by eight feet wide. I dug this square hole full six to seven feet deep and not so hard but that a spade can easily dig the whole of this depth. I then came to same kind of this earth and digging as that in the vicinity around it, unless it be about one foot laying out of which I took at the bottom one load of stone.

At the west end of my cellar as I came down to or near this hard laying I came upon the skeleton of a human being. So long had it been there that the under jaw and teeth were the heaviest part of the skull or head bone. The main part of the head was entirely gone to decay and small peices of the principle bones of the trunk of the body alone were to be found. The thigh and the leg bones were mainly whole but exceedingly tender. There were no appearances of anything or any substance other than the bones. They were as compact in the earth as the stone taken from other parts of the same cellar.

Thus far I have written all I know about this matter, unless it be to say that other relics of human beings have been found elsewhere in this same vicinity. And further, that the bottom of my cellar is the same as may naturally be found at the same depth from the natural surface elsewhere.

Business and business persons on the 4th of July 1876, the day on which we close our historical sketches.

JAMES ADAMS

Mr. Adams was born in England in 1838. He came to America and settled in the village of Lowell on the 26th day of August 1873 and commenced the business of a shoemaker. At first, for a while, he worked in the shop owned by John Katzenmiller, we think, as a journeyman. Then he went into the house owned by his brother Thomas where he still resides. Mr. Adam's family consists of himself, his wife and one daughter. This daughter has the reputation and appearance

of being an excellent young lady and is the only child.

We further state that Mr. Adams has the reputation of being an excellent workman, not only as boot and shoemaker, but as barber and hair dresser. Mr. Adams has dressed the hair of our own head, we bravely assert no hair needs a shorter or closer dressing than he gives.

Mr. Adams is a good quiet and law abiding resident of this town and we are very much inclined to wish him an extensive remainder ship among us.

AUGUST BENTZ

Mr. Bentz was born in Prussia in 1845 and came to Lowell in 1870 and commenced business as a boot and shoemaker. Nearly or quite all these business years to the present, a Mr. Kirback was in partnership with him. Mr. Kirback left this town at the closing up of the year 1875, since which his whereabouts has not been known to the Writer. The firm above mentioned at first bought out Joseph Wolf's boot and shoe establishment and worked in his shop. Mr. Bentz carries on his business alone and appears to be all right.

JACOB BREYER

Mr. Breyer was born in Prussia on the 20th day of May, 1832 and came to America in 1847 and to Lowell in 1849 and learned the trade of carpenter and joiner by working with Andrew Lapp whose wife is a sister to Mr. Breyer. In 1851, he was clerk for J.J. Williams in the old corner store near west end of bridge on west side.

In 1857 Mr. Breyer went into the mercantile business with one D.L. Bertie as a partner with him in the drug store building heretofore mentioned.

In 1861 Mr. Breyer moved his goods into the Reinhard store, now so called, having bought out Mr. Bertie's interest therein, and the business was then conducted by himself on his own responsibility.

In 1864 Mr. Breyer moved his goods to the east side of the river putting them into the store previously bought of C.P. Damp, in which he continued until 1872, since which time he has been engaged in the sale of farm machinery. Since 1873 he has traveled for Van Brunt Barber and Company of Horicon, Dodge County, Wisconsin in which he is still engaged for time to come. While Mr. Breyer was trading in the store last named, a young gentleman whose name we have not at hand, was for a while a clerk in his store.

On account of his extreme awkwardness, or for other cause this clerkship ended. Subsequently another, one Herman Andrew, came in as a partner or clerk, but we are not certain which. After a while Mr. Andrews claimed to have lost by his operation and left. Mr. Asa K. Stickney is the next person found behind the counter passing goods to purchasers, until 1872 or soon after since which time Mr. Stickney has clerked for J & L Runkel on the west side. Mr. Breyer's business capacity is extremely large, and so far as we know he gives satisfaction to his employers, and will unquestionably be retained by them in this, his new field of labor at a handsome salary per year and all expenses paid by the company.

Mrs. Breyer is the wife of Jacob Breyer whose name is already mentioned in these sketches. She was born in Clairmont, N.H. and the first day of January 1856 she was married to Mr. Breyer and resided

in town with her family.

From a slight examination of her shop and goods, we venture to assert that no better fit can be found west of any other places than can be found in her shop. We therefore advise all in want of goods in her line to give her a call before going elsewhere.

Among the beautifuls whose labors have been expanded in her employment, we find that of Mrs. Ella Trask, in whose employment she still remained.

F.W. BENSON

Mr. Benson is a young gentleman and a son of Dr. Benson whose name we have already mentioned.

He was born in Clyman, the township adjoining this on the east, in 1857, and came with his father to Lowell in 1868 where they all still reside.

Having received a good common school education, he attended school at Beaver Dam city where he learned some Latin and some other of the higher branches of the English education.

In the commencement of 1876 although in his minority our young friend became successor to his father in the drug business which is carried on in good style. If parents are justifiable in feeling a spirit of pride in regard to their children, we think surely in this case that Dr. Benson can feel good at least in this instance of his life having given to his son a thorough Parental Education, sufficient for a life time. Mr. Benson's store presents an extensive variety of drugs, medicines and other articles in his line of business which he assures all his customers that he will sell sheap for cash.

MIL0 CALKINS

Mr. Calkins was born in Charlestown, Vt. June 1834 and came to Lowell in 1857 and commenced in his business of Blacksmithing on the east side of the river near the cooper shop and spring where he still works and resides.

Mr. Calkins is counted among the best workman of the country as a blacksmith. He has a fine situation and with reasonable success will never be much the worse for prosperity and effects. Lone may he continue in Lowell.

FRED DREWS

Mr. Drews was born on the 20th day of February 1823 in Machlenburch. He came to Lowell in 1854 and became proprietor of the Lowell House on the west side in 1865. Mr. Drews stands at the head of quite a family of children several of whom are daughters well tutored by parental instruction. Boarders and travelers will find suitable rooms well furnished and attable well filled with refreshment. Callers of either class can repose in safety and fear no danger and charges are reasonable.

MISS BERTHA DREWS

Miss Drews is the eldest daughter of Fred Drews the noted Hotel Keeper above mentioned. Having learned the trade of dress-making she has a shop for that purpose in her father's house where she is prepared to fill all orders in that branch of industry with which she may be afored.

Miss Drews was born in Lowell on the 12th day of January 1857 and may be considered among us. Her education and lady like appearance is a guarantee of the good qualities of her heart and it is

hoped that she may be spared from all this to some benefit of an admiring public. We find the following names of those who have served in her shop: Miss Mary Satter, Miss Mina Sauser, Miss Ella Weidman and Miss Ida Walter.

JOHN DUISING

Mr. Duising was born in Saxony on the 22nd day of February 1842 and came to America in 1862 and settled in Lowell in 1867. He commenced business as a blacksmith which he has successfully carried on during the whole time of his residence among us.

We believe that several young men have served apprenticeship in his shop and are good workmen.

Long may they all live for the good they have done.

D.F. ELDRED

Mr. Eldred was born on September 6th, 1820 in Orleans County, New York where he remained with his parents till twelve years of age. The family of Mr. Eldred's father left the place of his birth, came to Wisconsin and 1843 settled in Lowell.

We have reference to Hercules Eldred a brother of D.F. Eldred, a blacksmith, in town. D.F. bought his brother's shop and what he had to spare and employed his men to work for him, and from them he learned the trade of blacksmith which he still continues.

Mr. Eldred has served the people of his town in the capacity of Justice of the Peace for several terms and also in other capacities. Mr. Eldred has a son working at the same business in another part of the county.

HENRY FINNEY

Mr. Finney, whose name and age is written elsewhere, is proprietor of the Union Hotel on the east side. He ranks among the first settlers of this town, has seen hard times, labored faithfully and secured a competency for life. Sketches in which his name is formed are recorded elsewhere in this volume and need not be repeated on this page.

J.D. FINNEY

He is son and the only child of Mr. Finney and the general oversight of business matters. J.D. has a wife and one small child.

JACOB HAASE

Jacob Haase was born in Wurternberg in 1840 and came to America in 1851 and settled in Lowell in 1867 and is a carpenter and joiner by trade working at that particular branch of industry. Mr. Haase buried his former wife and one child some three years ago which was a great loss to the community as well as to himself on account of her superior excellence. (Thus we are informed)

Subsequently he remarried and is connected by so doing with another excellent family. He is a good man. May his misfortune rest where they are.

ANDREW W. HAASE

This is an old gentleman residing among us and works at blacksmithing more or less and is the owner of a hearse used on funeral occasion. Mr. Haase we believe sustains no relationship to Jacob Haase above mentioned. He was born in Germany on the 15th day of May, 1808 and came to Lowell in 1868 where he still resides. His wife is infirm by reason of old age and rheumatism having been very laborous during the years of her full strength.

She is now tottering over the grave with the prospect of a home in heaven when done with the earth.

JOHN HICKEY

This gentleman was born in Ireland in March 1823 and came to America in 1842 and to Lowell in 1848 where he still is on hand in his usual vocation of life to wait on his customers which are numerous.

Mr. Hickey established himself in the saloon business in an early day and continues the same to the present. He claims to be the father of six children, four of whom have lost their mother. The youngest two are small and their mother is with them.

Mr. Hickey had two boys in far west (Nevada) where they are said to be doing well. They have our best wishes while earning a competence for the future by the sweat of their brow. They are good boys.

JOHN HIGGINS

Mr. Higgins was born in Ireland and came to America and located in Lowell in 1858 where he still resides.

Mr. Higgins commenced in the grocery and saloon business about eight years ago in the south part of the village on the west side in which he continued till 1867 when he then sold his premises to the better part of the writer of this work for four hundred dollars. Subsequently in the same year Mr. Higgins bought the old corner store and dwelling house and together with the land on which they stand (three lots) paying two thousand dollars for the same and went into the dry goods, grocery and crockery business.

While thus engaged, Mr. Higgins kept the Post Office awhile under the administration of President Andrew Johnson, on the ascendancy of President Grant, he turned the Post Office business over to John W. Lembgen, Esq., the present incumbent.

Mr. Higgins was town treasurer one year during his mercantile life, soon after which he abandoned that business and retired to private life.

Although Mr. Higgins is not in any public business on this 4th day of July, yet, as he has been so long among this people, we cannot do justice to him and our own conscience without giving him a space in our sketches.

CIGAR SHOP

In 1859 or thereabouts, a shop for making cigars was started in the Reinhard store building by some young fellows who spent the profits on Finney's billiard table and in his saloon. This shop did not continue very long. The boys soon played out.

RUDOLPH HARDER

Mr. Harder was born in Switzerland on the 12th day of Sept. 1846 and settled in Lowell in 1870 where he yet remains and follows the occupation of house and sign painter. Mr. Harder is counted as a first class workman in this line of business. An examination of his work will satisfy all, that he understands his business. Please give him a call.

WM. HUNTER

Mr. Hunter was born in _____ in 18__ and came to Lowell in _____ where he still resides and works at the trade of blacksmithing.

CHARLES CLARK

Mr. Clark is a young person and ready for business. He works at painting and building. We are not prepared to say that they are his particular trade or constant employment, but we do know that he had done some work at that business.

Mr. Clark was born in 1845 in Oneida County, New York, and is therefore in the 32nd year of his age. He came to Lowell in 1860. Mrs. Clark's father owns a farm in this section and he is counted on as one of our most successful farmers. In the commencement of 1864, Mr. Clark was a student under our instruction and a good learner, but in the spring of 1876 he and the writer hereof were nominated for responsible offices in town but because we were not elected we did not accept them.

JOSEPH WOLF

Mr. Wolf was born in Baden, Germany on the 17th day of March 1830, and came to America in 1852 and located at Chillicothe, Ohio and thence to Columbus in the same state, and then to Watertown in this state where he arrived on the 7th day of August in that year. On the first day of November 1855 he came to Lowell and established himself in the Boot and Shoe making business and in which he still continues.

In 1860 Mr. Wolf enlarged his building and commenced running a saloon and which he still keeps in running order. Mr. Wolf is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows Lodges serving as treasurer in each lodge for several years.

He is also the father of 12 children some of whom are dead.

This shop is on the east side of the river where he finds almost constant employment.

JOHN KATZENMILLER

This gentleman was born in Bavaria in 1823 and came to America in 1854 and settled in Lowell in 1856 and keeps up a Boot and Shoe shop at which business he works the most of his time. We are informed that he is a good workman in his line of business. Mr. Katzenmiller was Union Soldier in our late war against the Rebellion. Long may he remain to enjoy the benefit of his labours.

MRS. MARIA JONES

Mrs. Jones is the wife of A.B. Jones whose name has already been mentioned in this work. She was born in 1827 and came to Lowell in an early day where she still resides.

During the past two years Mrs. Jones has been engaged in the millinery business as an aid in the supporting of her family, Mr. Jones being absent for some causes. We understand that those who give her a call are satisfied with the bargains she gives.

Her shop bears the appearance of neatness and the public may rely on finding as general an assortment of goods in her line as at any other establishment west of elsewhere in proportion to the amount of population. We seldom visit shops where ladies are established in business, but the work we have undertaken requires us to do so in this instance and we therefore entered upon our duty with fear and trembling. Yet as we progressed in our matter we became satisfied that the millinery shop were not so bad after all.

We had formed the opinion in our days that school teachers were the sweetest beings on earth judging by a most happy experience

but since our entrance into millinery shops, from general appearance we are inclined to believe that regularly apprenticed milliners in a well regulated shop of this kind more nearly represents the sweetness of angels than a thousand school teachers put together. We love the school room and those writings on its boards, but they are entirely superseded by those that we love better. These suggestions are only the recollections of the past. Mrs. Jones has been assisted by Miss Ella Trask whose laborers in that line are still continued.

ALBERT KUENTZEL

Mr. Kuentzel was born in Prussia in 1863 and came to America in 1866 in the month of August in that year and settled in Lowell where he still resides. His occupation is that of a wagon maker in which he excels most others in that line of business.

JAMES LOWTH

Mr. Lowth is the son of the Honorable John Lowth the efficient clerk of the county and circuit courts for this county.

He is a young gentleman of the legal profession, has an excellent woman for a wife and the heaviest boy of his age for family organ.

Mr. Lowth was soldier in our late war against the rebellion at the close of which he returned home, studied law and was admitted to the Bar, of our circuit in which he has a reasonable share of practice besides a considerable practice in courts of Justice of the Peace.

Mr. Lowth was born in this county (Dodge County) on the 26th day of February 1847. His parents have a long time resided in this county and much of that time in Lowell.

They have now been located in the village of Juneau in this county now nearly ten years on account of his being clerk of courts.

Mr. Lowth furthermore is now and has been town Clerk of Lowell in all some six years and his office is in the northeast corner room of the Centennial Hall on the east side of which we shall speak more fully in its proper time and place. In conclusion we can only say that Mr. Lowth has all the natural qualifications that go to make up a good lawyer.

MICHAEL FISCHER

Mr. Fischer was born on the 7th day of April 1830 and settled in Lowell in 1861.

Mr. Fischer is head workman in J & L Runkel's Cooper Shop and lumber yard and has the keeping of their books.

We believe that he keeps up a barber and hair dressing shop where he is in readiness to wait on customers at evenings on certain days.

JAMES NASH

Mr. Nash was born in Troy, New York on the 10th day of December 1833 and settled in Lowell in 1850 where he still resides. Mr. Nash is a carpenter and joiner by trade and works at that business. We are informed that Mr. Nash is a good workman and understands his calling.

AUGUST FISCHER

August Fischer is a brother of Michael Fischer above named. He was born in Mass. the 1st day of January 1844 and located in Lowell in 1875. He is in company with his brother Isedone and

carries on the manufacturing of cigars under the firm name of Fischer Bros. We understand that these gentlemen make the best kind of cigars and find sales for all that they make. As we have never used the article called tobacco either to chew or to smoke we can't be suitable to judge in their case; but suppose that all is right. They commenced in this business during the past year and appear to be prospering in it. To those who never used this weed it may appear strange to see so many small boys walking the streets with a pipe or cigar in their mouth. But such is the fate of our young men. The custom of the place brings them in.

WM. B. McDONALD

Mr. McDonald was born in Turbin, New York in 1843 and came to Lowell in 1875 where he still resides.

His coming to Lowell was with design of establishing a cheese factory in the village which he has effectually done. His presence in his second year of his labor in that business which he intends to continue for time to come if people supply him with a sufficient quantity of milk.

He has erected a suitable building for the purpose which is attended with a heavy expense for any person with that much capital to work on and to bear upon his shoulders.

We therefore hope that a full supply of good milk will find its way into his vat.

ANDREW LAPP

Mr. Lapp was born in Wurtemberg in 1816 and came to Lowell in 1848 where he still resides. He is a carpenter and joiner by trade which he follows as he has occasion to do. Mrs. Lapp is a sister to Jacob Breyer whose name appears elsewhere in this book.

Mr. Lapp has one or more daughters married and respectfully settled in the business of life, the eldest daughters husband finding employment behind the merchant's counter. Formerly this daughter worked in a Millinery Shop hence her success in finding an early settlement.

HENRY PEITZNER

He was born in Prussia in 1847 and came to America in 1869 and to Lowell in 1874 where he still resides.

Mr. Pietzner is a tailor by trade but this year finds him riding on a peddlers wagon drawn by one horse selling his wares and other articles of merchandise working at his trade when at home.

We hold our office in the same large room with his tailor shop and for the rent of which we pay him the sum of twenty-four dollars per year.

This office room is on the west side though our residence is on the east. Mr. Pietzner and family absconded on or about the 22nd day of September 1876 in the night time.

PHILLIP REINHARD

Mr. Reinhard is a son of Peter Reinhard Sr. whose name was mentioned elsewhere in this work.

He was born in Oberieber, Prussia on the 30th day of August 1832 and with his parents came to Lowell in 1847 where he remains.

Mr. Reinhard has a good farm near town and is a merchant doing good business in the store on the west side, which was built by the Rev. Stephen Jones in an early day.

Several years ago, Mr. Reinhard and his brother-in-law John W. Lembgen formed a co-partnership in the mercantile business in which they continued until recently when Mr. Lembgen, on account of his poor health left the store with Mr. Reinhard as proprietor and went on to a farm for a change of life.

Mr. Reinhard has served this town as a Justice of Peace two or more years and otherwise. During his official term a couple came from a distance and Mr. Reinhard was desired to join them in the holy bonds of matrimony which he did. As the court was not well versed in English Literature he obtained our common form book that contains a form for an occasion of this kind and then by the help of the Honorable John Lowth, a lawyer living in town who read this ceremony the court repeating the same after him; the couple were happily pursuing their homeward bound course made gloriously so by their union.

Mr. Reinhard is a gentleman in every respect and understands the English language better by far than at that time. Mrs. Reinhard is a sister of Mrs. Drews, the wife of Fred Drew, Proprietor of the Lowell House on the west side and a daughter of Henry Kramer late of Lowell, deceased and whose name will appear elsewhere in this work.

JOHN W. LEMBGEN

Mr. Lembgen was born in Prussia on the 1st day of January 1830 and came to America in 1853 and to Lowell in 1864 where he now resides. He was a soldier in the Union Army in the 126 regular National Guards in Ohio under the state law, prior to coming to Lowell.

Mr. Lembgen went into the mercantile business, in town in company with Philip Reinhard whose name we have already mentioned, and was appointed Postmaster in 1869 at the commencement of the Grant's administration, which office he still holds. Mr. Lembgen has disposed of his interest in the store on account of poor health and gone out upon his farm where he still remains.

CARL REINHARD

Carl Reinhard was born in Obertiebin, Prussia in 1816 and came to America in 1854 and settled in Lowell where he yet remains. He is carpenter and joiner by trade and follows that business more or less, as opportunity presents. We are informed that he is a good work man and does his work well. He has several sons three of which are grown to manhood.

WILLIAM REINHARD

Mr. Reinhard is a son of Carl Reinhard above mentioned and is cooper by occupation working in J & L Runkel's cooper shop. He is a young man, but has a good wife which with himself, constitutes his whole family. Mr. Reinhard is the owner and occupant of the dwelling house on the west side near west end of river bridge, the same being the first frame dwelling house in the town of Lowell and was built by Henry Finney whose name appears elsewhere. He has been constable several years.

JOHN REINHARD

John Reinhard is a brother of William Reinhard, the cooper above mentioned.

About one or two years ago, Mr. Reinhard lost his wife, who left him with four small children to care for.

He has served his Townsmen as a constable and is doing the same business now, otherwise he is working in the cooper shop.

JACOB REINHARD

Jacob is also a brother to those above mentioned and belongs to the Reinhard family as he is single and cares for his home.

Jacob is a meat-market man and follows that profession, being also the youngest of the three boys.

M. BUNYAN

Mr. Bunyan was born in New York state in 1820 on the 15th day of September and came to Lowell in 1865.

M.F. PEASE

Mr. Pease is the sole proprietor of the flouring at this place. He was born on the 4th day of April 1817 in Lee Oneida county, New York. He came to Lowell in 1853 or thereabouts and bought a one-third share interest in the mill, subsequently he owned one half and finally the whole as above stated for which see "Mill" in its proper place.

Mr. Pease has the reputation of manufacturing an excellent quality of flour, second to none other which finds market over a large extent of our country. He has two sons Frank and George. These sons work in the mill and appear to understand their business, but as their names appear elsewhere in this work we need say but little about them here.

FRANK PEASE

Frank is the oldest of these boys and has been counted among the best without exception. He was born on March 28th, 1847 and is now in the 30th year of his age.

In the fall or winter of 1864 he attended the upper school, when the writer here was teacher and learned to good advantage.

In 1869 he was married to Miss Ensign, another of Lowell students, and only one child of Samul Ensign formerly proprietor of the Lowell House whose name will be found in its proper place in this work. During that winter, a kind of exhibition was had at the old Baptist church (so called) in which Frank took an active part; which was that of holding a heavy piece of flat rock upon his breast while standing on his hands and feet, with face up while one or two others with sledge hammers broke the stone by striking it. Frank was strong and held it up.

GEORGE PEASE

George is the brother of Frank and works in the mill. He is not so very large but is well put together. He is not very old and has a share of his lifetime before him.

George attended our school and learned a good advantage, the same as Frank. Subsequently he attended school at Jefferson, in Jefferson county, Wisconsin for a while, since which time the business of his life has been "work."

He was married to Miss Annetta Corey whose parents reside in town, and took the train for Milwaukee on a marriage excursion. Mr. Pease was also another student under our instruction.

JOHN STURNER, JR.

Mr. Sturner is a harness maker by trade and owns an elegant building on the west side. He has a hall in the upper room which he rents to the Good Templars and for other purposes. His dwelling house is on the north side of his shop and is being enlarged for family uses.

Mr. Sturner sells tin and other hardware in connection with his harness making business, a full supply which he keeps constantly on hand.

Mr. Sturner was born in Wurtenburg in 1846. In 1875 he began his business in Lowell where he claims he will remain. Soon after commencing in business among us, he assisted by a young lady in the capacity of a housewife, to whom he was married. Mr. Sturner had every appearance of a careful career later and we have no doubt but that he will continue to accumulate wealth as he has already begun.

MRS. ROXANA STILES

Mrs. Stiles is a widow of Ira Stiles, late of Lowell, deceased. She was born in the state of New York, came to Lowell in 1856 and is now sixty-sixth year of her age.

Mrs. Stiles works at weaving carpets in which business she commenced some twenty years ago. She depends on her own labors for a subsistence and is successful and comfortable. Carpet weaving is quite a trade and commands cash payments. A stranger to this would be surprised at seeing the great quantity of rags furnished by the people and still more surprised while beholding the beautiful carpets they make. We are not informed as to how much carpeting is made annually at this shop but presume it is considerable.

MISS HATTIE STILES

Miss Stiles is a daughter of Mrs. Stiles above mentioned and is a seamstress by occupation. In this kind of employment it becomes necessary according to her rules, to go where work calls her. She therefore is not so easily found at home like most others, but works at the house of her employer wherever she becomes engaged.

JOHN GEORGE SCHMING

Mr. Schming was born on the second day of December 1819 at Bavaria and came to America in 1853 and settled in Lowell in 1854 where he still resides.

To-day (July 4th, 1876) he opened the saloon business in the old corner store near west end of River Bridge which he tends to continue. We believe Mr. Schming is strictly honest in his dealings.

In 1856, Mr. Schming commenced making beer at his brewery in town and has kept it up to the present day.

JAMES SNOW, JR.

Mr. Snow Jr. is a son of James Snow Sr. whose name will be found in subsequent pages of this work.

Mr. Snow came to Lowell with his parents in 1845. Jom is wide-awake and full of fun. At present he is in the employment of the U.S. Postoffice department carrying the mail once each day to Reeseville and back a round trip of five miles for an annual salary of one hundred and forty dollars.

Mr. Snow resides in the corner building over the old Chatfield Store (so called) west of west end of river bridge.

He drives a fast team, rides in a covered wagon, cushioned seats and room for six. Should he be found carrying the mail at the next centennial celebration of our National Independence it is quite doubtful in what manner he will carry it.

Be that as it may, James Snow Jr. will always find time to laugh and grow fat. His wife is a daughter of Warren Jilson whose

name will appear in its proper place in this work. We believe she has taught one or more terms in a district school room surrounded by the rising generation for which benefit she was employed on their behalf.

MRS. LYDIA SNOW

Mrs. Snow is a daughter of Warren Jilson whose name will be properly mentioned when we come to it and is also the wife of James Snow Jr, the mail carrier.

She came to Lowell with her parents when young and was educated in the business of a farmer's housekeeper in which capacity she has served for quite a number of years at the commencement of which or a little before which she was engaged in teaching a district school.

She is by her present occupation a Milliner and keeps her shop over the old Chatfield store formerly occupied by Pattan and Baker where the fight was had on the 3rd of June 1840 between the few movers who halted at the well and the citizens of the place. From the amount of business done at her shop we judge that her work and wares gives general satisfaction.

We will further add that Mrs. Snow was born in Ohio on the 12th day of January 1834 and is therefore in her 43rd year of age.

In conclusion then we will simply state that Mrs. Snow has our best wishes for a long and prosperous journey through this so called vale of tears to beautiful land where hats and dresses are not known. Among those educated in her shop we find the names of the following beautifuls: Miss Jennie Parker, Miss Jennie Ackerman, Miss Lydia Wood, Miss Eliza Connors, and Miss Ida Kramer. We believe however that Miss Parker had returned to work before coming to Mrs. Snow's shop and was payed royally for her labor.

O.E. REED

Mr. Reed was born in Marry, New York on the 13th day of March 1820 and came to Lowell in 1845 and located on section No. 20 Lowell where he succeeded in making a good farm.

In 1868 he sold his farm and came to live in town where he still resides and works at the boot and shoe making business. He is a good workman and keeps close to the bench. Mr. Reed is serving his 3rd term as Worthy Chief Templar in the Good Templers Lodge of Lowell. Mr. Reed is also a leading member in the church and Sabbath School where he belongs. He has had four children, three daughters and one son. He died four years ago suddenly.

The eldest daughter is the wife of George L. Hazeltine who has served his town several years as constable. The two younger daughters are liked very well. Their principal powers of attraction consist in their genuine goodness their beauty and the skillfulness with which they play upon the organ at all times. We wish these girls a long happy journey through life and that they may become the wives of happy husbands and safely reach that land of peace where all good children go.

JOHN RUNKEL

John Runkel was born in Prussia on the fourth day of April 1835 and received a public school education.

He came to America and to Lowell in 1848 subsequently he in company with his brother Lewis went into the Mercantile business which they still continue. John has a large family of children all

like himself small. The two oldest Ettie and Freddie are somewhat educated having been taught in extra schools. Miss Runkel is well taught in music and in the use of the piano an instrument with which she is favored.

In 1873 Mr. Runkel represented this assembly district in the State Legislature at Madison. He has served his town once or twice as Town Treasurer and is our present chairman of supervisors.

LEWIS RUNKEL

Lewis Runkel is a brother to John Runkel and are sons of John Jacob Runkel whose name will be mentioned in its proper time and place.

Lewis was born in Maurrid Prussia on the 19th day of June 1837 and came to Lowell in America with his parents when young. He also received a common or public school education and has a fine family of good education.

John & Lewis above mentioned constitute the firm name of J. & L. Runkel. These brothers in company with Fred Voedisch run the saw mill and use it for their mutual benefit. Otherwise J & L Runkel are the firm for all purposes so far as we learn. We shall notice our friend, Mr. Voedisch when we come to the proper place.

Till then the above firm will claim our attention so far as my be necessary for our present purpose.

This saw mill is used for sawing lumber, timber heading, etc., for making flour barrels; a business which they carry on extensively.

The old steam mill, once owned by C. B. Blair was purchased by them in 1865 or so and commenced a cooper shop for making flour barrels. The grounds belonging to this shop are used in connection with the coopering business and for a lumber yard. They keep a full supply of pine lumber on hand which they sell at reasonable rates. In this connection also timbers of any reasonable size and length, together with any quantity of shingles may be purchased at their yard.

J.&L. Runkel deal in cattle, sheep and hogs, receiving them from their customers and shipping them to distant markets. They also employ a heavy force of men to perform the necessary labour required by them in their general business.

Without these men Lowell would be a dull place but with them, farewell to all the world beside. In their case however we come to a halt and retract in part what we have said and include our good natured townsmen, the proprietor of the flouring mill whose diligent hand supplies the hungry for a reasonable compensation and in doing which gives employment to quite a large number of men also.

Wherefore if you want a days work to do, go to J.&L. Runkel's. If you wish to buy or sell a horse, pig or a sheep or cow go to Runkels; and if you want to sell anything, buy anything, get anything, do anything, or learn anything go to J & L Runkel's and the desire of your heart will be granted.

MRS. G.W.W. TANNER

Mrs. Tanner is the wife of the writer of this work. She was born in the state of Mass. on the 8th day of August 1824. She lived several years in Ohio and came to Lowell in 1856 with her present husband Henry B. Ackerman, a mechanic who died in the month of November 1863. Mrs. Ackerman again married on the 14th of August 1864. Dr. Holden Eldred, Esq.; performed the marriage ceremony at

the home of James Snow Sr., her father in Lowell.

Mrs. Tanner works at weaving carpets and has followed that business during the past four years. She does not intend to weave much longer and will then throw her loom aside. The writer is her third husband, she having buried her first in Ohio and second in Lowell. Mrs. Tanner has property including cash obligations amounting to at least one thousand dollars, by the way of her first husband.

G.W.W. TANNER

In my own case the readers will allow us to write our own history in the style most suitable to our taste as follows:

I was born on the 9th day of September 1817 in the town of Ganes, Orleans county New York and am the eldest of eight children, now all living as far as I know.

My father died on the 26th day of April 1874 in Chautuque County, New York in the 82nd year of his age. My mother was about six months younger and died before him.

Father was a clergyman of the Free-Will Baptist denomination and taught their doctrine to their children.

In early life, I did not like to go to school, and if I did I could not learn I was so stupid. I claim to know but little, and wonder that I know anything.

At the age of seventeen years, my time was changed and I went all I could. Then I learned fast. The knowledge I gained is retained in my head it is so thick. Finally I attended high school for a couple terms and then sought a public position.

My father was a farmer and tried hard to make another of me but failed in his undertaking.

I have taught school in New York state, Canada and Wisconsin the total time of nine years, ten and one months. Under one contract I taught one year under another one day, I left that school simply because the people said that they did not want me.

I can do many kinds of labours. I can weave a dress for a lady or gentlemen with a hand or spring shuttle and make the loom that I weave it in. I can plant corn, cut wheat or stack straw at a threshing machine. I can hold plough, drive team or let a horse run away with a wagon. I can raise beans, boil turnips, fodder the cattle in winter and go to bed at nine o'clock. I can chop wood, Make sails, fix fence and shut the gate after me. I can teach and write for a lady's album. I can row a boat, hold the torch or spear the fish in water. I can shoot a gun, carry game, shoot a deer, scare a goon and get up early in the morning. I can make a box, set a trap and bait a hook. I can cook rations, stand guard and salute commissioned officers.

In addition to this I can perform other evolutions too numerous to mention. I have held numerous offices the 1st of which was deputy Path master in Canada on the Queen's Highway.

In addition I was in the Union army and while there I held the position of High Private, rear rank and foot of the column, and was honorably discharged in 1863, returned home and settled in Lowell where I expect to remain till I go hence to be here no more forever. Since my 18th year I have stood on something that called people together. My height is six feet, my weight, heaviest two hundred and six pounds. I have been a fast traveler, especially a retreat in the army.

I am naturally given to much talking, nature tied my tongue however before I was born, but my parents told the doctor to cut it loose and he did only he cut it too much and it has been on the go ever since.

At the age of twenty I was married on the 4th of July 1838. Then I had to stay at home nights on account of business. My wife was a good woman. She died on the 12 day of January 1854 leaving four children three sons and one daughter. My two oldest boys, Charles and Frank, were with me in the same company while off for the war. Charley was a tough case and got through all right. He was among the first for three years (In company Wis. 3rd of Vol. Infantry) and then re-enlisted for the war as a veteran and was discharged by order of the war department when peace was declared.

Frank was taken sick, discharged came home and died soon after. I was on my way home when he died and he was buried before my arrival.

My youngest son, Albert enlisted under Captain Allen of this village in 1865 in the 53rd regiment Wis. Vol. Infantry at the age of seventeen.

He was the last person enlisted in Lowell or the state so far as I have learned. He was very lucky, as on the same day it was proclaimed that no more men were wanted for the war, in which case the 53rd regiment being not filled the two consolidated and denominated the 51st. The Lowell boys were company "B". They went south but returned at the end of the war after having seen about five months service. The daughter is the wife of one husband and the mother of several children all of whom reside in the farther part of the state of Iowa where the country is very new.

I was in several battles as follows: At Bolivar Heights, October 16th 1861 where we fought an overwhelming number and captured a 32 pound columbiad and three prisoners. Our loss was 13 killed and wounded, but we gave them, "Hail Columbia."

I was at the battle of Winchester in March 1862 and in Bank's retreat in May the same year and we fought the Rebels from daylight till 9 o'clock A.M. and then retreated to the Potomac, a distance of 35 miles with scarcely a halt on our journey.

On the ninth day of August in the same year I was in the battle of Cedar Mountains where our loss was over sixteen hundred killed and wounded and in this same month was eight days on the Rappahannock supporting batteries while firing across that river.

Thence onward to Washington and Potomac at Georgetown into Maryland in time to fight in the great battle at Antietam on the 17th day of September of the same year. In this battle I was wounded in the hand beside otherwise out of order and was set, with many others, to general hospital at Philadelphia where I remained until the 16th day of January 1863 when I was discharged and came home to Wisconsin and settled in Lowell where I still reside.

My boy Frank, while on picket at Hadper's Ferry, Va. In October 1861 was fired at by a squad of skulking rebels at day light, and one of their bullets knocked the hide off from under his lip so that it bled some little. He was more scart that hurt, but though they hit close they aimed at his head.

Today, July 4th, 1876 I am an attorney at law duly licensed and sworn to practice in our circuit court, a Justice of Peace, a

Notary Public and conveyance and Insurance agent. My residence is on the east side and my office is on the west.

I am almost 59 years of age and am not worth a dollar on earth. My wife is a hard working woman, more so than I am. I know the uncertainty of human life. I have seen better days.

Once I had a comfortable home and a family of wife and a mother at my side. That wife and a mother have gone to rest and those children are scattered. My oldest is gone, I know not where. My second daughter is beyond my reach and confined to her bed with no prospect of recovery. My third quietly sleeps beside his mother in a distant grave yard and the fourth works at his trade in St. Paul, Minnesota in the harness making business.

I am comfortably situated here as I am. My office books and furniture are all that I possess. In case of sudden departure I direct that my wife cheerfully turn over to those who may have just and legal claim on me at such time all that my office may contain belonging to me. That my course appear correct I will here state that I have an insurance upon my life in the Masonic Benefit Association which I intend will eventually confer upon her if she survives me, the sum of one thousand dollars.

This is the best that I can do at the present time.

A.K. STICKNEY

Mr Stickney was brn in Plainfield, N.H. in 1841 and came with his parents to Wisconsin when he was a small boy.

He is a son of M.K. Stickney whose name is mentioned elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Stickney is a clerk in the store of J.&L. Runkel and represents the Northwestern Life Insurance of Milwaukee in this state. He is considered a correct business man and attentive to business. In the time of our late war he was soldier in the Union army, served his full time and came home honorably discharged and recommenced the active duties of life.

FREDERICK VOEDISCH

Mr. Voedisch was born in Saxony in 1832 and came to America and to Lowell in 1866 where he still resides. Mr. Voedisch and Philip Runkel bought the sawmill property of one William Moore and in 1868, J.&L. Runkel became a one-half owner in this property. Philip Runkel sold his interest, and this mill property is now owned in company equally between Mr. Voedisch on the one party and J.&L. Runkel owning the other half.

WERGEND WERNER

Mr. Werner was born in Germany in 1855 and came to Lowell in 1874 and learned the blacksmith trade of John Duising then worked by the month for D.F. Eldred on the east side a while and then commenced business for himself on the south side of the street opposite the church.

Although a young man in the business he is counted a good workman especially at showing horses. We are informed that he began business on a good reputation and no capital. We wish him success.

CARL WEILKE

Mr. Weilke is a carpenter and joiner by trade and the year and date as to when he came to Lowell is not known.

HENRY STOCK

Mr. Stock was born in Bavaria in 1819 and came to America in 1831 and settled in Albany, N.Y. where he worked on a farm for some two or three years.

In 1850 he came to Lowell and engaged in the manufacturing of tinware in which business he has continued. In addition to his tinware matters he has dealt more or less in stoves and hardware. Mr. Stock has served his town in the capacity of Justice of the Peace for quite a number of years. At least more than any other man in town has done and is still in office.

RUEBEN STOCK

Rueben Stock is the son of Henry Stock above mentioned. He came to Lowell with his parents when young and is in the same business with his father. Rueben and his father have the fine run of country so far as making tinware is concerned there being no other tin shop in the county.

EDWIN BURROUGHS

Mr. Burroughs was born in Troy, Georgia County, Ohio on the 12th day of April 1815 and was the first white male child born in that county.

In January 1865 he came to Lowell where he still resides working at his trade which is that of carpenter and joiner. We believe him to be a good workman as he is frequently employed to do important work for important parties in important localities and reliable with his fellow man. Should he live to see another centennial 4th of July we hope to find him on hand and ready for business.

G. YANKEE

Mr. Yankee was born in Poland in 1848 and came to America in 1869 and to Lowell in 1872 and established himself in the business of cabinet making and upholstering in which he deals extensively for a country place.

He keeps constantly on hand a full supply of household furniture consisting of bureaus, bedsteads, tables, chairs and other articles of value too numerous to mention also a complete line of upholstery of all sorts shapes and sizes for all sex conditions and ages from the infant of a few days to the old man of a hundred years. While he contemplates the extensiveness of the shop we can do no more than recommend all in want of wares in Mr. Yankee's line to give him a call before going elsewhere as in every case a perfect fit is guaranteed to all from the cradle to the grave.

MRS. YANKEE

Mrs. Yankee is the wife of Mr. Yankee the cabinet maker. This lady was born in Switzerland in 1847 and came to Lowell with her husband in 1872 where they still reside. Mrs. Yankee carries on the business of dress making in which she appears competent.

If all the fits made by her are as closely made as those given by him in his line we would recommend all persons whether living or dead to give them a call before purchasing elsewhere and examine for themselves.

Among those employed or educated by her we find the names of Miss Mary Schmeig, Miss Lena Laing, Miss Linda Voightsberger, Miss Loise Laing, Miss Lena Drews, Miss Bertha Drews, Miss Kate Reinhard, Miss Augusta Brooks, Miss Christian Readig, Miss Betsey Readig, Miss Ethel Runkel and Miss Clara Sauser.

From a personal acquaintance with the families of which these young ladies are members we find no spot on earth nearer the place that divides that heavenly land from ours than the village where hundreds reside.

BUSINESS MEN OF LOWELL
CLOSED
WOMEN

We have now closed our list of business men of Lowell including that also of our village ladies whose labour in shops for the public good of all interested. In instances here we simply know the person we speak of we make no comment.

In other instances we have commented on a certain extent some thing rather sportively inclined as we were acquainted with the parties and that no offense would be taken by them. We have aimed not to speak unfavorably of anyone in the line of his business. In our village we have persons following various kinds of occupations for a living. Each honest in his calling and we find them in their respective calling so we propose to leave them whether on the bench, behind the counter, at the anvil, in the office or in the mill. They are our neighbors and have our best wishes for their prosperity in all righteous undertakings. We have no animosity in any case to gratify and if we had it would find no place in this work.

We have now completed our task so far as this village of Lowell is concerned separately from the township in full and pass to notice in the next place the celebration by the Township in general at the village on the fourth day of July 1876, it being the 1st Centennial celebration of our national independence.

No event of any kind whatsoever after this celebration of this day will be admitted. Therefore we look for nothing later than that date.

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Celebration of the 4th day of July 1876 by the people of the township of Lowell at the village, including the oration, verbatim as delivered on that occasion by the Hon. John Lowth of Juneau, Dodge County, Wisconsin.

The day opened cool and comfortable. The sky was not altogether clear, but soon became so. It has been announced that a grand centennial celebration would be had at the village and all were invited to come.

In connection with this, arrangements were made for a general picnic and tables were erected for that purpose and everything else in apple pie order.

To this end, hand bills were procured and spread broadcast among the people, inviting all to the centralization. At early dawn our slumbering eyes were opened by the sharp report of the anvils and terrible clatter of fire crackers on every hand. After the proposed number had been given in accordance to a general custom on these occasions, a dead silence prevailed and all was still.

This stillness remained only a moment, and all ears were cheered by unexpected music breaking the monotony of prevailing quiet, spreading celestial freshness through-out and cheering the hearts of all people.

Upon inquiry, we learned that the Cornet Band of Wyocena was on hand by order and ready for service. The following persons composed this band: A.J. Hedges, leader; J.O. Wieting, G. Burroughs, R.V. Dey, J.A. Bull, A.J. Townsend, J.A. Weiting, M.W. Twitchell, J.T. Perkins, Ely Dufendorf and C. Carpenter.

At this moment we had not received our morning meal. One hour later and various points were being serenaded by this excellent band, and while writing the original from which this is copied, they are discoursing music to an admiring crowd around them on the west side of the river.

At about 9 o'clock A.M. our streets were becoming thronged with people from the country, generally farmers.

On the west side, the streets are lined with maple trees for shading and lines are drawn across the principle streets for artificial ornaments.

For a town with less than five hundred inhabitants, Lowell presents a lively appearance just now. One hundred years ago, Lowell was not known to any of us or our fore-fathers. Yes, even fifty years ago and the white man was not here.

Then the red man chased the wild game of the forest over these delightful hills and across our pleasant valley. But now, how changed the scene.

The hand of christian civilization has removed the former and we are left to full enjoyment of an earthly paradise and the blessing of a glorious freedom.

At nine-thirty o'clock A.M. a person dressed in coarse female attire and in disguise rode astride an ox through the principle streets to the great amusement of a gazing throng of men and boys who cheered loudly as the ox passed by them and on his return.

In connection with this riding, the same or another person rode the same ox along and back on the same street. At this time,

however, he was well but singularly dressed, this, also causing a vast amount of centennial merriment and childish play. Soon after, two other singularly dressed in female attire, rode over the same route on horseback, riding astride, producing real genuine fun.

At ten o'clock, the people were formed in a column easterly along on the Watertown road, so called, to the grounds prepared for the occasion, on A.J. Montgomery farm on the further side of the hill, accompanied by the cornet band, the Hickory Band and company of Ray Muffins, all dressed in their appropriate uniforms, prepared especially for this occasion.

The Hickory Band with their singular uniforms, including false faces and long Basswood whistles and the Muffins with splendid, yet funny uniforms with caps about three feet high and running up to a point, attracted much attention from the crowd. The Muffins were on horse back, the Cornet on foot and the Hickory on a wagon.

At the grounds, when the people were seated, H.M. Green, Esq. and son of Hon. H. Green, whose name will hereafter appear in this book, acting as president of the day commenced the services of the occasion by an elegant opening address, and closed by introducing the Rev. Mr. Potter as chaplin, who reverently addressed the Throne of Grace in a manner appropriate to this, our centennial gathering.

The Declaration of Independence was then read by Mrs. M.V. Wright after which we were cheered by the Wyodena Cornet Band. At the close of this exercise, the president of the day introduced the Hon. John Lowth, as Orator of the Day.

During the delivery of the oration we were comfortably seated and using the pen for future references.

The orator addressed a vast concourse of people, not less than three thousand old and young. While we recall the history of one hundred years ago. "The Spirit of '76", that charged the heart of Washington and his men at that time, today moved upon our own, and stimulates us to action in preserving the liberties, we now enjoy. The baptismal vow taken by our fathers in that day may we ever keep and perform.

The events of one hundred years ago have gone into the history of the past and the remembrance of men, being once firmly engraved on tablets of stone, ought never to be forgotten by us.

Here, today, we are surrounded by a people representing not only our own native born citizens, but those also from other parts of this inhabited globe, who have sought and found homes among us.

America, this is the land of the free and the home of the brave.

There, under one broad canope of Heaven we see assembled and attentatively listening to the Eloquences of the Honorable American grey haired son of Erin, the many sons and daughters of others and more distant lands together with their intelligent children, who are an honor to any people. The "oration" is closed and we rest; and now listen to the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" by the reader and her choir, after which we are again cheered by the music of the cornet band, and the benediction pronounced by the Reverend Chaplain.

The president of the day then announced to the people that a general picnic dinner was in readiness for them and all were most respectfully invited to come.

Thus closed the glorious centennial celebration of the 4th day of July 1876, at the village of Lowell by the people of this village and country around it, in an appropriate and becoming manner according to the means within their reach.

True, we had no cannon; but the sharp crack of the little anvil and the fire crackers by the boys reminded us of the scenes enacted at Bunker Hill and Yorktown; and though not so very dangerous in nature, yet in their united voices bid the intruders beware; for he was approaching holy ground. The day passed to the satisfaction of all, so far as seen or known at the time.

No drunkenness upon our streets or fighting in our midst was visible to any one to counteract the continual enjoyment of our people.

The Cornet band of Wyocena was all that could be desired. Dressed in their own peculiar uniforms, they drew by their gentlemanly appearance and conduct, the admiration of the surrounding multitudes.

The riders upon the old ox and fellows upon the two horses dressed in horrid female attire, together with the couple on their way to get married (going on foot) caused a terrible shout in the centennial camp, and the general merriment was so great that many will laugh after death, should they dare remember the scene, transacted on this occasion.

The Hickory Band, with their long Basswood and Hickory music, performed well their part, as they were being conveyed in their band wagon.

The Pagga Muffins in their splendid uniforms, on horseback, presented an attractive appearance, and well-performed the part allotted to them.

The Hickory Band and Muffins, together with special riders and a couple were masked and unknown to the multitudes around them. The orator is an elderly person having seen years when the country was new, but his voice was strong and could hear him.

In the afternoon a horse race had been noted, but was abandoned. In the afternoon addance was held in the new Centennial Hall and a display of fireworks in the street opposite.

We have now ended our work in a certain sense, as nothing hereafter will be inserted in these sketches.

Our intention is to give some slight sketches in addition to the foregoing and present township government of our own town, of our churches and our school districts, as well as other organizations, not already mentioned. Also historical sketches of the early settlers who have remained with us and within our borders.

In doing this, we cannot take them in the order mentioned, or by regularity in any other way but as we obtain them.

MARTIN MAECHLER

This gentleman was born in Prussia in 1803, came to America about 1847, and located in Lowell on Dec. 16, 1853. He remained here until his death in 1871 at the age of 69. His first residence in Lowell was a frame shanty 12 by 16 feet on the ground with no chamber of any size. His family at the time consisted of the parents and five children, a son and 4 daughters, all of whom are still living. At the time of his death Mr. Maechler owned an excellent farm of one hundred and twenty acres of good land. This farm is now owned

by the son Frederick who discharged the claims of his sisters mentioned by their father in regard to his property.

From a personal acquaintance with the families we have sketched we find no place on earth nearer the place that divides that heavenly land from ours than the village of Lowell where hundreds reside.

EARLY SETTLEMENT

Before further entering upon the task of sketching our early settlement we will simply state that in that early settlement our father's dwelt in log huts of inferior size; and many were the privations indured by them, till such times or success crowned their efforts. Mothers were accustomed to tying their helpless infants in small chairs or rocking them in cradles made of boards, while watching them in hours of sickness and distress. At such time, they administered to their wants as best they could from the medical storehouse that nature had provided them.

No physician at hand, no medicine to relieve; but a heart overflowing with that which none but mothers feel they knelt beside their tender frames and bumbly sought their preservation and restoration to health.

So commenced the journey of life at this day but we can learn little more of the frontier life at this time. How changed the scene. Parents whose heads were sheltered by frail barks at that time in the woods traversed by the untutored Indian in search of game or upon the war path in pursuit of the white man's scalp, are long since covered by the dust from whence they came or gone to other lands.

Most of the few who remain have passed from the little cabin door to the comfortable mansion and are beyond the reach of want. From those who rest from their labours are descended a good share of our most intelligent citizens, representing the farmer, merchant, and mechanic; and with them their education.

At first no church bell called them from labour to rest, or from the avocations of life to the house where God's honor dwelleth; or the little ones to the Sabbath School. But instead of this the wild game sped swiftly by his lonely swelling pursued by the red men of the forest.

The advantages of an education were few and far between; but now at every door; and he that fears God and obeys his commandments has none to molest or make him afraid. Thus we have a free school and a free religion which all who wish may freely enjoy. Thither go our loved ones in pursuit of knowledge and eternal life. "God bless the youths of our land."

In 1865 our people numbered 2233, the entire population of our township. In 1875 the population has increased considerably. At the first there were no churches, now there are nine. There were no schools, now there are fourteen. Clergymen were few, now they are numerous. At that time their education and circumstances taught them to depend on their own resources for subsistence, but now they flourish like the green bay tree. Then they were distinguished for humility and devotion to the cause of their divine Master; but, now, as superiors in the church and over the people. Dressed in costly apparel they appear beautiful on the Sabbath while standing in the

sanctuary of the Most High. In this condition, they instruct the people how to contribute to their substance in support of the church and the Gospel of Christ, and to benefit the heathen.

NATIONALITIES

We represent a mixed population coming from various countries and using different dialects. The English and German are the principle languages used among us and from which countries most of us come or their descendents. The Germans are most numerous; while Americans and Irish are more evenly balanced. Upon the whole we have a healthy law-abiding people; all pursuing the road to wealth. Without distinction they seek the general good of all concerned and the welfare of the principle government.

EDITOR'S NOTE: So far the works of Mr. Tanner have dealt with the people of the village of Lowell as he saw them and lived with them. From now on the sketches will be about the surrounding community comprising the Township of Lowell and the early settlers of this Township. This will include a census taken in 1876, stories of election battles, and some very interesting material describing the scenery and wild life and customs of that time. We hope you will enjoy reading it as much as we have putting it up. Any correction or additions that you people find will be appreciated if they are sent to the Review Office. Thank you.