

COURT HOUSE AND SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

Illustrated Freeport.

OUR PURPOSE in preparing and issuing this Souvenir Edition of THE JOURNAL is to picture Freeport as it is to-day—one of the handsomest and most progressive cities in the West,—and also to tell some facts in regard to the early history of the city, and to give the outlook for the future. It is no small task to prepare a work of this kind. It has been attempted before with only partial success, but THE JOURNAL has felt for some time that in these illustrated articles about Freeport the city has never been done full justice; nor do we claim that in this work we have entirely covered the ground, but we do claim for the work that it is more complete and comprehensive than any illustrated history of Freeport we have yet seen.

It would take a book of several hundred pages to give a complete illustrated history of Freeport, but in this work we have tried to cover everything of importance.

Freeport is a city which THE JOURNAL is justly proud of, and it is with pleasure that we have compiled this work telling of the city's growth and prosperity. Freeport is in no sense a boom town; in fact, we might say that its growth has been slow, but it has never taken a backward step, and during the past ten years it has taken front rank among the cities of Illinois and the Northwest. During these ten years its growth has been steady and healthy, and as a result we have a solid and substantial city, with every reason to hope for future prosperity.

Freeport has long been recognized as one of the handsomest cities in the West. It is located on the banks of the picturesque Pecatonica river and is surrounded by prosperous and fertile farms. This city is the county seat of Stephenson County, containing about 35,000 inhabitants, and the city and suburbs contain about 15,000 inhabitants. Freeport is located 118 miles from Chicago, 121 miles from Milwaukee, 67 miles from Dubuque and 35 miles from the Mississippi river. It has splendid railroad facilities, being located on the main line of the Illinois Central running from Sioux City, Iowa, to New Orleans. The Central also has a direct line from Freeport to Chicago and two branch lines running from Freeport to Madison and Dodgeville, Wis. This is one of the most important divisions on the Central's lines and the company's division headquarters are located here and also a large roundhouse and repair shops.

The Northwestern also has a line running from here to Chicago and the company has a repair shop and roundhouse located here. The city is also located on the C., M. & St. Paul line running from Rock Island to Milwaukee and Racine, and the Chicago Great Western road runs through the county, touching at South Freeport. This city can, therefore, boast of superior railroad advantages, and is known as a railroad center, over fifty passenger trains arriving and departing from this city every twenty-four hours.

Freeport is a splendid shipping point and offers superior advantages to manufacturers and wholesale houses. It is close to the coal fields of central Illinois and freight rates are reasonable, so that manufacturing industries can be carried on to good advantage.

The many and varied manufacturing industries of the city are all flourishing, and such a thing as a strike has never been known here. Capitalists looking for a favorable point to engage in manufacturing would do well to consider Freeport before locating elsewhere.

This city is one of the most important manufacturing centers in the West, and in that line is growing rapidly. It is a great center for the man-

ufacture of wind mills, three large concerns being engaged in this work. It also boasts of one of the largest bicycle plants in the West, and the Phoenix wheel is known wherever bicycles are used. This city is the center of the coffee mill and spring hinge industry of the country, and these articles of every-day use are shipped out of here daily by the car-load and are sold in every state in the union as well as many foreign countries. Two of the largest carriage and buggy factories in the West are located here—the Henney and Robinson plants—which turn out thousands of high grade vehicles every year. We also manufacture pianos, organs, piano and organ stools, hardware specialties, farm machinery, steam heaters, buggy wheels, paper boxes, vinegar, brooms, silverware, flour, beer, gas, harness and saddlery, incubators and brooders, iron castings, lime, brick, patent medicines, wooden shoes, mouldings, sash, doors and blinds, oil, paint, pop, pumps, water tanks, self feeder attachments for threshing machines, cornices, soap, leather, smoking and chewing tobacco and cigars, washing machines, yeast and many other articles, giving employment to thousands of men, boys and girls.

As a wholesale point Freeport is rapidly coming to the front. We have now a half dozen or more large wholesale houses, and they are all doing a good business. Freeport is surrounded by substantial cities and villages, which are easily accessible to Freeport, and the wholesale merchants of Freeport are building up a profitable and reliable trade. There is no better wholesale point in the Northwest, and there is a good opening for a few more wholesale houses. A wholesale grocery house would do a large business here, and the indications are that Freeport will have one before the close of the present year.

As a retail point Freeport offers superior advantages and in this respect the field is well covered. The city boasts of hundreds of substantial business blocks that are the pride of our citizens. We have the largest and most complete dry goods stores in the state outside of Chicago, and every branch of the retail trade is well represented.

Freeport has nine large and complete dry goods stores, ten clothing stores, nine gents' furnishing goods stores, nine merchant tailoring establishments, thirty-three grocery stores, twelve millinery stores, eight drug stores, eight jewelry stores, fifteen meat markets, five livery stables, one hack line, seventeen barber shops, eleven good hotels, six photograph galleries, two telegraph lines (Western Union and Postal), two express companies (American and United States), five hardware stores, six banks, two building and loan associations, four bakeries, five agricultural implement dealers, two book stores, seven news stands, five paint stores, nine blacksmith shops, thirteen boarding houses, nine boot and shoe stores, two butter and egg dealers, four dealers in carpets, four carpet weavers, nine cigar stores, six coal and wood dealers, three lumber dealers, seven confectionery stores, eleven contractors and builders, two crockery stores, eleven dentists, thirteen dray lines, thirteen dress makers, two grain buyers, four florists, five flour and feed stores, four furniture stores, seven laundries, three marble and granite dealers, five music stores, three daily and six weekly newspapers, six nurserymen, seven painters and paper hangers, twenty-seven physicians, two plumbers, seven restaurants, thirty-six saloons, four undertakers, three upholsterers, twenty-four attorneys.

Freeport has long been noted as a city of handsome homes. Upper Stephenson street is regarded as one of the handsomest residence streets to be found anywhere. It is lined with stately residences, picturesque shade trees and well kept lawns. There are hundreds of other desirable residence streets in the city, and the homes denote wealth, comfort and refinement.

Freeport is a city of churches, and almost every denomination of the Christian religion is represented here. A marked improvement in the houses of worship has been made during the past few years, and during that time many new churches have been erected. The Y. M. C. A. is also strong here, and the association owns one of the finest buildings in Illinois.

Freeport's schools are second to none in the state. We have at the present time six large public school buildings, but the schools are overcrowded and it is now certain that a new school building will be erected this season. We also have two first class business colleges and a half dozen well conducted parochial schools.

Freeport has a paid fire department which is the pride of the city. John Rodemeier is the chief fire marshal, a position which he has ably filled for many years, and has made the department one of the most efficient in the state. We have two hose houses, and the city is well protected by a splendid system of water works, which also furnishes water for private consumers. This system is one of the best that money can procure, and the water is pumped from fifteen or twenty artesian wells. The water has been frequently analyzed by competent chemists and has always been found remarkably pure.

This city is justly proud of its splendid system of electric street cars, one of the finest lines in the state, which covers the city pretty thoroughly, but will soon be extended.

Freeport has made rapid advancement during the past few years in the way of public improvements. We have a complete system of drainage and sanitary sewers covering the entire city. We have several miles of paved streets, a first class system of resort. The widow of the late Judge J. M. Bailey also owns a very handsome park of some sixteen acres, and a number of enterprising citizens have recently fitted up a pleasure park at South Freeport, and we are in hopes that ere long Freeport can boast of a public park which will be a credit to the city.

From this imperfect sketch of Freeport as she is to-day, the reader can glean an idea of the city's importance as a railroad and manufacturing center,



STEPHENSON STREET—LOOKING WEST.

incandescent and arc electric lights, a thoroughly equipped gas plant, an efficient police department with a police patrol, a hospital second to none in the West, and a well equipped public library containing thousands of volumes of choice literature.

In only one respect is Freeport behind other progressive cities of its size, and that is in public parks. We have only two small public parks, but several very handsome private parks. The private park of J. B. Taylor, containing 80 acres, is one of the most famous parks in the West and is a popular pleasure and its desirability as a place of residence. Freeport is not only a beautiful city, but it is an orderly and healthy city, offering splendid educational advantages, reasonable taxes, cheap living and reasonable rents. Freeport is to-day one of the most desirable business points and places of residence in the state. We invite people to come here and make their homes, and we can assure strangers that they will find us a hospitable and law-abiding class of people.

Freeport's Early History.

Freeport is by no means an old city, and there are yet living both men and women who can tell you that they remember the time when the present site of Freeport was a vast wilderness and the stamping grounds of the Indian. Galena was a city of great importance before the first cabin was erected in Freeport; Chicago also attracted considerable attention. The early pioneers of this county for years hauled the products of their farms to Galena and Chicago, which were their nearest market points.

The first white man to settle in this vicinity was Benjamin Goddard, father of ex-Mayor A. P. Goddard, of this city. Mr. Goddard, Sr., came here in December, 1835, and took possession of a piece of land between Freeport and Cedarville in Lancaster township. He was accompanied by his family and his brother, John Goddard, and John Jewell, and Mrs. Goddard was the first white woman who ventured into Lancaster township. Mr. Goddard and his family built a log cabin in the then wilderness, and were the sole white settlers in this vicinity until the arrival of William Baker, who came here December 19, 1835, although he first visited the banks of the Pecatonica river in this vicinity as early as 1827, and was then impressed with the location as a suitable site for a trading post and then formed a plan to locate here, but it was not until the winter of 1835 that he was able to carry out this plan, but Mr. Baker came early enough to gain the honor of making the first settlement in what is now the city of Freeport. Mr. Baker brought his son with him and they set to work at once to erect an Indian trading post, and before the close of the year the log building was ready for occupancy, and the first house ever erected in Freeport was completed. It was a rude affair, but it offered shelter from the storms that swept over the broad prairies, and Mr. Baker and his son were used to roughing it in the West and they felt confident that by spring they would have plenty of company, as they considered the point a good one for starting a village. Mr. Baker had left his family in Wisconsin, and he spent the winter in building a log cabin for them, as he was anxious to move them here the following spring. In the erection of this second building in Freeport Mr. Baker was assisted by Mr. Goddard.

Mr. Baker was a man of good judgment and keen foresight. He felt confident that settlers would soon be attracted to this locality and that there would soon be a good demand for land. Reasoning thus, it is little wonder that he laid claim to a large tract, when it could be secured for the fee of entering it at the land office. He made claim to all the land now occupied by the city of Freeport, and in this enterprise he was associated with William Kirkpatrick and W. T. Galbraith, and they organized under the title of Baker, Kirkpatrick, Galbraith & Co. Their purpose was to develop the resources of the country, attract settlers and build a town, which they decided to call Winnesheik, but the name was afterwards changed to Freeport.

Mr. Goddard soon began the construction of a log cabin, which was completed in 1836, and was for years the only public house in the settlement.

Mr. Baker returned to Wisconsin after his family and they reached Freeport in the summer of 1836, and Mrs. Baker was the first white woman settler in Freeport.

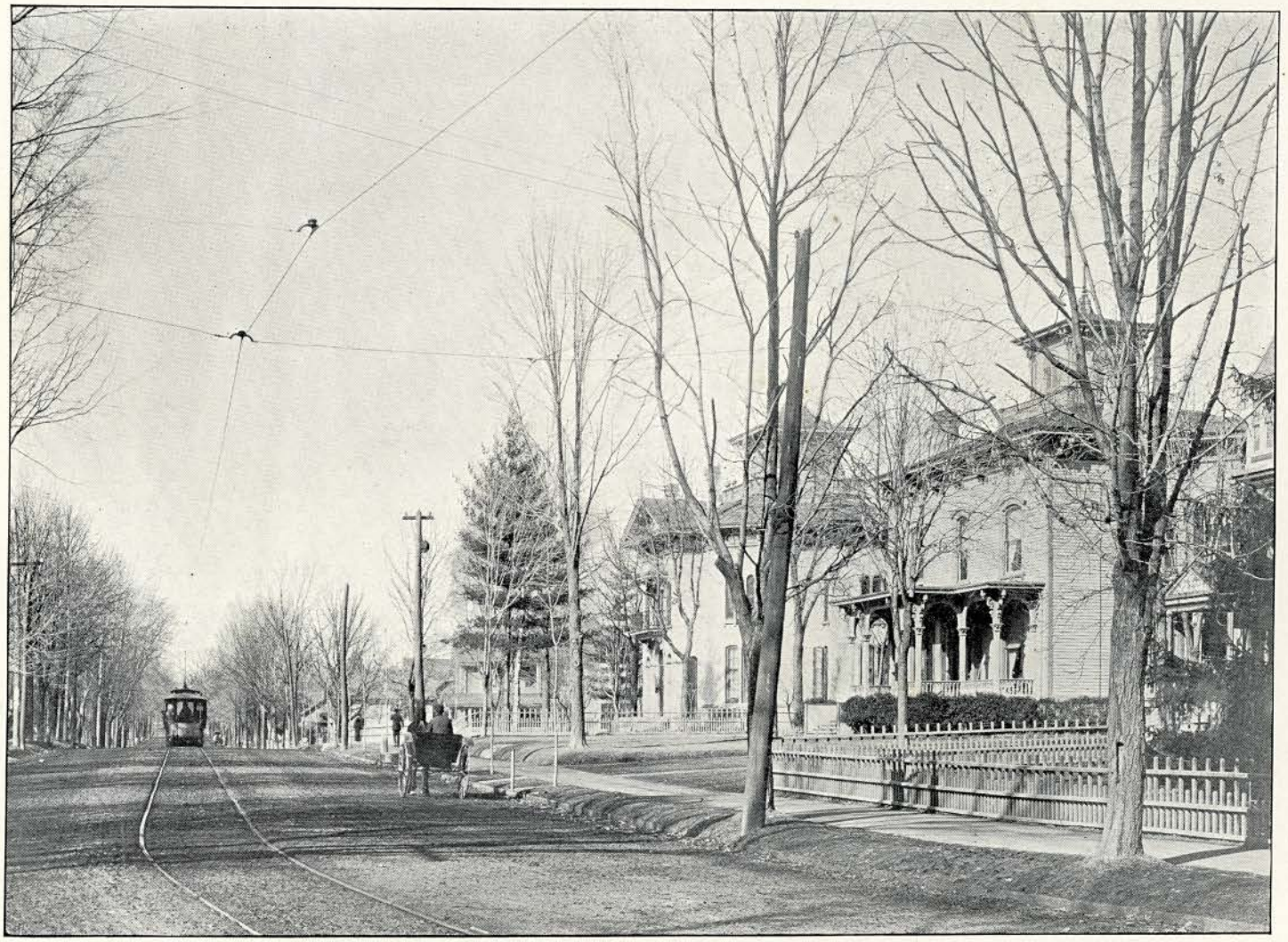
Early in this year the town was laid out in the north part of the northeast portion of Sec. 31, which was subsequently removed, however, for the reason that when the Indians disposed of their lands in this portion of the country certain tracts were reserved to the half breeds to be selected in any part of the unoccupied territory they might choose. As soon as it became known that Baker, Kirkpatrick, Galbraith & Co. had laid out a town, Mary Myott located her claim on this section of land, which constrained the town builders to remove their stakes further west, comprehended in that portion of the city now bounded by Winslow, Broadway, part of Locust, Oak and Chicago streets and the Illinois Central track. This section, after the removal was made, continued to lie idle and unimproved for many years, until finally the late John A. Clark, who was one of our pioneer settlers, and several other gentlemen, obtained a title to the land and laid out what is known as Winnesheik addition, and it is now one of the most thickly settled portions of the city, dotted with handsome houses and well kept lawns.

The sturdy band of pioneers who established the village of Freeport expected that the town would have quite a growth in 1836, but while a good many strangers visited the settlement that spring and summer few of them remained. They were attracted by the fertile soil of the surrounding country, and most of them traveled out from the village and took up claims and started to till the land, and for a long time Baker's cabin and tavern were all there was of Freeport. Supplies were very limited and the Baker family and the few settlers had a hard time getting along. While at work on the tavern the only gim-

let in the settlement was broken, and young Fred Baker walked to the settlement at Crane's grove to borrow one. One of the most important events in the little settlement during 1836 was the birth of Caroline Baker, who was ushered into the world in May of that year, and she was the first white child born in Freeport.

Baker & Co. put up two log cabins this year, one at the corner of what is now Galena and Chicago streets, and the other on Stephenson street opposite the monument. In the fall of 1836 L. O. Crocker put up a small cabin on the bank of the Pecatonica where he conducted a store, and this store was subsequently conducted by O. H. Wright, and was eventually turned into a school house, the first school the village boasted of, and here Nelson Martin was installed as teacher, inaugurating a system of teaching which would hardly meet with the approval of the Board of Education of to-day.

Among those who settled in Freeeport during 1836 were O. H. Wright, L. O. Crocker, Joel Dodds, Hiram Eads, Jacob Goodheart, John Hinkle, James Burns, who was the first mason in the village, William, Samuel and Robert Smith, B. R. Wilmot, John Brown and several others, so that when winter set in there was quite a settlement here. The winter of '36–7 was one of the severest ever known in this section of the country, and the pioneer settlers suffered greatly from the cold, as their log cabins had no foundations and it was a hard matter to keep out the cold.



UPPER STEPHENSON STREET.

The spring of '37 was welcomed with joy by the settlers of Freeport, and they looked forward to quite a "boom" for their village. This year's arrivals included Isaac Stoneman, John A. McDowell, Maj. John Howe, Luther and Charles Hall, Chancellor Martin, Richard Hunt, David Abrams, L. W. Guiteau and others whose names are familiar to the surviv-

ing old settlers of Freeport. Thos. J. Turner and several others, who later became prominently identified with the history of Freeport, arrived here that year, but settled in other parts of the county. During the spring and summer of this year quite a number of cabins and store buildings were erected in the village, and three men, Thomas Hathaway, and James and Matthew Brown, came here and broke land for farming on the land now covered by the business portion of Freeport. They raised Indian corn and oats, but were unable to find a market for their product and it was used for home consumption.

This year O. H. Wright erected a modest little store building near the reservation and added to it a residence for his family.

The year was an eventful one in the history of the infant town, for in addition to the erection of several cabins and store buildings, the county seat of Stephenson County was established here, and the town, which up to this time had been known as Winnesheik, was rechristened Freeport.

Just who named the settlement Winnesheik history does not record, but it was probably called that by common consent, owing to the fact that the Winnesheik tribe of Indians had their hunting grounds in this vicinity, and Winnesheik might have been the name of the city to-day had it not been for Mrs. Baker. Her husband was a very hospitable man and would frequently entertain strangers for days at a time. The cabin was close to the river bank, and people frequently came down the river in boats and were cared for at Baker's cabin. Mrs. Baker after a time became weary of this promiscuous entertaining, and one day she said (speaking ironically), that the proper name for the town would be "Freeport." The name was at once taken up by the settlers and the name of Freeport was finally adopted.

To the younger generation it may seem curious that Cedarville was a strong rival of Freeport for the location of the county seat, and Cedarville came mighty near getting it. That village was strongly backed by the late Thompson Wilcoxon, who built the Wilcoxon Opera House, and his brother Rezin, who owned a good deal of land in the vicinity of Cedarville. Cedarville was then about as large as Freeport and it was more in the center of the county than its rival. But Freeport then as now had enterprising citizens, and the company organized to build up the town promptly offered a donation of $6,500 for the erection of the county buildings and they won the day. It was money well expended on the part of the syndicate who owned most of the land in Freeport, and as soon as the county seat fight was ended the town enjoyed a boom. Many new settlers came here and building was quite active. Most of the lumber used in the construction of the buildings came from Kirkpatrick's saw mill located at Mill Grove on the banks of Yellow Creek in Loran township. There is nothing there now but the residence of Waldo Waterman and a school house, but at one time it was quite a settlement and bid fair to become quite a village.

John A. Clark and many others who afterwards became influential citizens came here in '37 and aided materially in improving Freeport. A session of the Circuit Court was held in Freeport that fall and was held in O. H. Wright's house, Judge Daniel Stone presiding.

The village was then a place of some importance, and gave promise of developing into a city of respectable size. This year circuit riders visited the settlement, and religious services were held at frequent intervals. Father McKean, a noted circuit rider, was the first minister to hold religious services in Freeport, and he was soon followed by others.

The winter of '37–8 was a joyous one in the village, and social gatherings were numerous, as there was quite a number of pretty girls in the village and surrounding country.

The spring of '38 did not open very auspiciously for the little village, and new buildings were a rarity. However, many families moved into the county that year, and the business men of the village were satisfied that it was only a question of a short time when the village would get its share of new settlers. The most notable event of the year so far as the village was concerned was a Fourth of July celebration, and it was a grand affair, or was considered so by those having it in charge. This year H. G. Eads built a tavern at the present corner of Stephenson and Liberty streets. Julius Smith was the carpenter in charge of the work and he was very proud of the building. The new hotel was christened the "City Hotel," and was a popular resort for several years afterwards.

The Court House, for which timbers were gotten out the winter previous, was begun this spring, but was not completed until 1840, owing to the scarcity of money. It was a hard matter to collect taxes with which to run the county, and at that time the county orders were worth only 30 cents on the dollar.

In the fall of '38 the "Mansion House" was built by Benjamin Goddard, and for many years thereafter he occupied it as a hotel. It was a frame structure, two stories high, and contained but nine rooms, but in those days it was considered quite a mansion. The house is standing to-day and was used for many years by Galloway & Snooks as a pop factory.

to the foot of Stephenson street, where it was maintained by H. G. Eads and others until a bridge was constructed there in later years. The ferry was first established near Goddard's mill by William Baker when Freeport was known as Winnesheik.

The year 1839 saw many new arrivals in Freeport, among them the late Judge Purinton, whose widow is still an honored resident of Freeport. He



STEPHENSON STREET—LOOKING EAST.

The same year John Montgomery and A. Wiley built a frame house on the ground now occupied by L. L. Munn's block. It was first used as a store but was afterwards converted into a tavern. L. W. Guiteau, afterwards cashier of the Second National bank, opened a general store in '38 on the corner of Galena and Liberty streets. In the winter of this year Nelson Martin opened the first school in Freeport, in the building formerly occupied by Mr. Crocker as a store. This year the ferry was removed

arrived here with but a few shillings in his pocket. He was a man of pluck and brains, however, and soon became one of the most influential citizens of Freeport and was elected to many positions of honor and trust. He purchased a large tract of land in the southeastern part of the city and laid out Purinton's addition to Freeport. The residence which he erected in an early day is still standing near the Third Ward park and was occupied until a few years ago by his family.

Many others who have been prominently identified with Freeport came here that year. The journey here had to be made by stage. There was a stage line from Chicago to Freeport and one to Galena. The trip from Chicago to this city required two days and two nights and cost a traveler $5.

A good deal of "claim jumping" was indulged in this year and a man named John Baker jumped the claims of Benjamin Goddard, which included the land on which Maynard's block, opposite the court house, is now located. His case was tried before a commission and Baker was ordered to vacate the claim within 30 days, in default of which thirty lashes should be administered to the recalcitrant settler. He paid no attention to the decision of the court and at the end of thirty days he was tied up by the thumbs and thirty lashes were administered. He was then escorted to the county line and was told to get out of the settlement as quickly as possible, and was told that if he ever returned to Freeport he would be hanged. They had a crude way of administering justice in those early days, but it was most effective, and we doubt if much improvement has been made on their method in all these years. When we review some of the trials that have taken place in our courts of late years we are inclined to believe that not much improvement has been made on the plan adopted in the early days of Freeport, when all men were considered equal and no partiality was shown any one.

In 1839 Freeport was considered a place of sufficient importance to have a postoffice, and B. R. Wilmot was the first postmaster. The office was first established at his residence on Galena street, between Van Buren and Chicago streets.

Previous to the establishment of the postoffice here, Thomas Crane, who resided at Crane's grove, where he kept a tavern, carried the mail from his house to Galena and Freeport via the old state road, now known as Galena avenue.

D. A. Knowlton, Sr., was among the arrivals in 1839, and he soon became one of the most influential citizens of the village and county. He was a man of character and did much to develop Freeport, and was largely instrumental in securing a railroad a few years after his arrival. Soon after his arrival here Mr. Knowlton opened a store at the corner of Galena and Van Buren streets. He also laid out Knowlton's addition to the city and purchased a large tract of land in the southwestern portion of the village much of which still belongs to his children.

Another new hotel was started in Freeport this year, the timbers, etc., of which were prepared in the neighboring woods by Isaac Stoneman and John A. McDowell. The hotel was erected on the corner of Galena street and South Galena avenue, where it stood for many years.

From 1840 to 1850 Freeport remained almost at a stand-still and the boomers of the town felt discouraged. The village contained at that time about forty houses, including three hotels and three stores, conducted by L. W. Guiteau, O. H. Wright and D. A. Knowlton, Sr. The town had neither a drug store nor a bank, farmers and others depositing their money with the merchants, but a good deal of it was deposited in the two saloons and gambling houses which did a flourishing business. The game of faro was publicly dealt and keno was also introduced in the village in 1840.

The same year the late Rev. F. C. Winslow and John A. Clark organized a temperance society which did much good. A good many depredations were committed and Freeport was considered a good location for a lawyer. The late Martin P. Sweet, father of Rev. T. V. E. Sweet, now presiding elder of the Freeport District of the M. E. Church, came here in 1840 and open a law office and developed into one of the leading attorneys of the northwest. Col. Thomas J. Turner settled here the following year, and he, too, took front rank at the bar. They practiced in Freeport, Galena, Rockford and other surrounding towns and were regarded as lawyers of marked ability.

While Freeport was considered a very tough place in those early days, it was not without its religious influences. Rev. F. C. Winslow and good old Father McKean held prayer meetings and other religious services in the school house and at private dwellings, and the result of their teachings is seen in Freeport to-day, which is regarded as a city of churches and noble, self-sacrificing Christians.

The late Mathias Hettinger, Asahel Rice and others came hear in 1841 and aided materially in the upbuilding of Freeport.

Calvin Waterbury, a Presbyterian missionary, came here in 1842, and established a Presbyterian society, which is now known as the First Presbyterian Church.

Along in 1845 the village commenced to put on airs and a brick building was erected, but the exact location is in dispute. Some say it was on the corner of Galena and Cherry streets, and others claim it was on the corner of Exchange and Van Buren streets, and was afterwards razed to make room for

the postoffice. After that nearly all the store buildings erected were of brick. A. T. Green built one at the corner of Stephenson and Chicago streets which was used for years as a warehouse.

In 1847 Thos. J. Turner, who was a Democrat, represented this district in Congress, and through his instrumentality a paper was established here, called the *Prairie Democrat*, and S. D. Carpenter was the first editor. The paper was afterwards merged into the *Bulletin*. The first issue was gotten out in November, 1847, and the following November the JOURNAL was established by Messrs. Grattan & McFadden in the interest of the Whig party.

During 1848 Horace Tarbox erected the three story brick on the corner of Stephenson and Chicago streets as a hotel, and it was completed in 1849 and was called the Winnesheik House. On the opening night a grand ball was given, which up to that time was considered the greatest social event in the history of Freeport. The building was torn down in 1874 and was replaced by the structure now occupied by the German bank. Several substantial buildings were erected along about 1849 by D. A. Knowlton, George Purinton, O. H. Wright, C. H. Rosenstiel, Emmert & Strohm, I. C. Stoneman and others, and many of these buildings are standing to-day. A dam was also constructed across the Pecatonica river to furnish power for manufacturing purposes. It was erected under authority granted by the Legislature by E. E. Hanchett and was owned by O. H. Wright, Lerch, Powell & Goddard. After the completion of the dam a flour mill, saw mill and carding machine were put up, and this was the beginning of manufacturing in Freeport.

In 1849 the population of the village was quoted at 1020. The village at that time boasted of five ministers, three school teachers, four doctors, one surveyor and nine lawyers. We also had twenty stores. A division of the Sons of Templars and a lodge of Odd Fellows was established here that year.



RESIDENCE OF DR. J. H. STEALY.

The first church the city boasted of was also erected this year by the Presbyterians. It was a brick structure located on the ground now occupied by the Y. M. C. A. building.

Along about this time the "old red school house" became entirely too small to accommodate the demands of the rapidly growing village, and a largely attended mass meeting was held at the Court House to take steps towards erecting a more commodious school building. The result was that lots were purchased in Knowlton's addition and the new school house was erected. The same year a female seminary was established here, but it did not prosper and was soon abandoned.

In 1850 Freeport had developed into a village of considerable importance and it was thought best to incorporate. A village charter was secured that year, and the following were elected the first board of trustees for the village: Thos. J. Turner, Julius Smith, John K. Brewster, John Rice and Joseph B. Smith.

This same year the project of constructing a railroad from Chicago to Galena was started, and the people of Freeport were very anxious that the road should touch here, and with that end in view meetings were held to find out what inducements could be offered the projectors of the road to build into Freeport, and through the instrumentality of D. A. Knowlton, Sr., O. H. Wright and other prominent citizens, the Northwestern road was induced to build into this city, but it was never constructed into Galena, ending here. The road was completed into Freeport in August, 1854.

In 1850 Oscar Taylor was empowered to take a census of the city and county, and his figures gave Freeport a population of 1,486, and the population of the county was given as 11,666, an increase in the latter of 8,797 in ten years, while Freeport showed an increase of nearly 500.

The cholera invaded Freeport in 1852 and 1854 and reduced the population materially. The physicians who battled with it were Drs. L. A. Mease, Chancellor Martin, Robert H. Van Valzah and T. J. Hazlett.

After the cholera had died out the town took on a new lease of life, the railroad facilities aiding materially in its development. A steam flouring mill, which afterwards burned down, was established, also foundries, machine shops, plow works, steam saw mill, planing mill, and the railroad company also established shops here.

The question of obtaining a city charter was then discussed by such men as D. A. Knowlton, Judge Farwell, C. S. Bagg, John C. Kean, A. T. Green, Judge Purinton and others. These discussions were continued until the Legislature convened, when, in response to an application therefor, a charter incorporating Freeport into a city was passed, and an election was held on the 2nd day of April, 1855, with the following result: Mayor, Thos. J. Turner; treasurer, E. W. Salisbury; clerk, H. N. Hibbard; marshal, W. W. Smith; aldermen, John A. Clark, W. G. Waddell, Joseph B. Smith, John Barfoot, A. Cameron Hunt and John P. Byerly.

At this period Freeport was the center of trade for the counties of Stephenson and Carroll and Green County, Wis., and business was brisk in all branches and many new stores and private dwellings were erected, among the store buildings being those of Judge Farwell, Martin & Karcher's building, Mitchell & Putnam's brick building, now occupied by Goldsmith's clothing store, and E. H. Hyde's block, known as Plymouth Hall.

The city now had nine churches and three schools and many other improvements. Early in the spring of 1856 the Brewster House was commenced, and arrangements were completed by the Freeport Manufacturing Company for the erection of a building 150 x 60 and four stories high, now used by the Tuckett Tobacco Factory. Both buildings were completed in 1857.

In 1856 the building now occupied by the Journal Printing Company and several other brick buildings in the business portion of the city were erected.

In 1857 a panic swept over the country and for a few years thereafter Freeport did not advance much. When the panic came on we had forty-eight dry goods and grocery stores, five drug stores, ten clothing stores, four furniture stores, five harness shops, two book stores, three banks, two confectioneries, four hardware stores, five bakeries, two gun shops, four jewelry stores, four meat markets, one hat store, seven boot stores, three saloons, two tobacco stores, two paint and oil stores, twelve hotels, six millinery stores, five agricultural implement dealers, two photograph galleries, one brass foundry, one sash and blind factory, one soap and candle factory, three weekly and one daily paper, and a list of industries including the Manny reaper, Milion's threshing, De Armit's plow factories and Stiles and Griffith's flouring mill. There was general depression in all kinds of business and trade and many of the factories were compelled to suspend operations.

Just about the time the city was recovering from the effects of the panic the war broke out, and, of course, the city did not grow much during the war, as many of her most enterprising citizens enlisted in defense of their country. The most important improvements between 1860 and 1865 were the building now occupied by Brigham, Bowler & Co., Fry's block, Munn's block and the building of the woolen mill plant. This enterprise was established by C. H. Rosenstiel, W. S. Gray and L. F. Henderson, who expended $50,000 on the buildings and machinery. They conducted the plant until 1873, when it passed into the hands of Thompson & Blanchard, who remained in charge until 1877, when the factory closed down, proving a losing venture.

After the war the improvement of property and decoration of grounds became more general, and the forest of handsome shade trees in which Freeport is now located dates its growth from 1864. Up to that time the planting of shade trees was not general, and aside from the trees that were a part of the natural forest when Mr. Baker first settled here, there was but little shade. No complaint on this score can now be made, and the handsome shade trees to be found in almost every yard and along the streets add greatly to the appearance of the city.

From 1865 to 1870 Freeport's growth was gradual, and a number of new enterprises were established and new business blocks and modern homes were erected, and from that on to the present time Freeport has taken no backward step. Slowly but surely we advanced as a manufacturing and railroad center, until now we can boast of some of the largest manufacturing plants in the West, and our schools, churches and public buildings are in keeping with the growth of the city.



RESIDENCE OF C. H. SEELEY.

Freeport's Fire Department.

Freeport can justly boast of a very efficient fire department, and the fire loss is smaller in this city than in any city of its size in the country.

During the year 1855 Freeport had its first disastrous fire. About 2 o'clock on the morning of February 20th of that year the square bounded by Stephenson, Chicago and Mechanic streets was the scene of a conflagration which destroyed thous-

ands of dollars' worth of property. The fire broke out in a building on Stephenson street then used as a bakery carried on by Sprattler & Hoebel, and destroyed Engle & Strohm's hardware store, John Hoebel's grocery store and also buildings belonging to G. M. Clayton. The city was then without a fire department of any kind or any appliances with which to fight fire. All the citizens could do in their efforts to battle with the flames was to form a bucket brigade and carry water from the branch. By this means they were unable to cope with the flames and the entire business portion of the city was in danger. As a last resort buildings in the path of the flames were blown up with powder to keep the fire from spreading, and by this means the city was saved from almost total destruction.

After this fire the citizens saw the great need of a fire department. Meetings for this purpose were held, and an election was held Dec. 22, 1855, to vote a loan of $4,000 to purchase fire engines, and in September, 1856, two fire engines were purchased, and they were christened the Black Hawk and the Winnesheik. These engines were crude affairs, but they were objects of great interest in those days, and all the young men in town were anxious to join the volunteer fire department. Two companies were at once formed to man the engines, and Col. Holden Putnam, who was killed at Mission Ridge, was the first chief fire marshal. The department was very efficient until the breaking out of the war, when many of the boys followed their brave marshal into the war and the department was for a time badly crippled. In 1862 an effort was made to organize a German company of volunteer firemen, and money was raised by subscription with which to purchase an engine. D. B. Schulte and the late John Hoebel were selected to purchase the engine. They went to Chicago and purchased the old Torrent hand engine, which did good service at fires until the establishment of the paid department. The outfit was purchased at a cost of $1,200, and it was money well expended. The men who formed the Torrent company were very proud of their engine, and in 1865, at Janesville, Wis., at a firemen's tournament, this engine was awarded first prize, a silver trumpet. The old Torrent and her brave crew successfully fought a good many fires that threatened disaster to the city and they saved many thousands of dollars' worth of property.

On Sept. 18, 1866, an election was held to vote on the proposition to bond the city for a sum sufficient to purchase a steam fire engine, and the proposition was rejected by the voters, but the following May the city council decided to purchase a steam fire engine, and the steamer arrived here August 30th and was tested the following day. A company was at once organized, and was known as Steamer No. 1, which continued in service until the paid department was organized. The department then consisted of the old Torrent, Steamer No. 1 and a hook and ladder truck, and the people thought the city was well protected in case of fire. In 1874 another steamer was purchased. It was of the Silsby pattern and was called Steamer No. 2. This steamer was a valued addition to the department and it did good service for many years.

In 1882 a system of water works was established in this city, and prior to that time water for the use of the fire department was secured from large cisterns sunk in various parts of the city. But the advent of water works was the death blow to the old volunteer fire department. The system put in made fire engines unnecessary, and the engine companies disbanded and the engines were disposed of.

James McNamara was then mayor of the city, and being of a progressive spirit, he thought Freeport was large enough to support a paid fire department. In 1883 the paid department was established with John F. Rodemeier as chief fire marshal, a position he holds to-day. Mr. Rodemeier was for several years a member of the old volunteer department and had gained a good reputation as a fire fighter. He organized the paid department and made it what it is to-day. The department now consists of two hose carts and a hook and ladder truck; a splendid system of electric fire alarms and eight men. The city also owns two hose houses, one located on Stephenson street and the other in the third ward.

The Police Department.

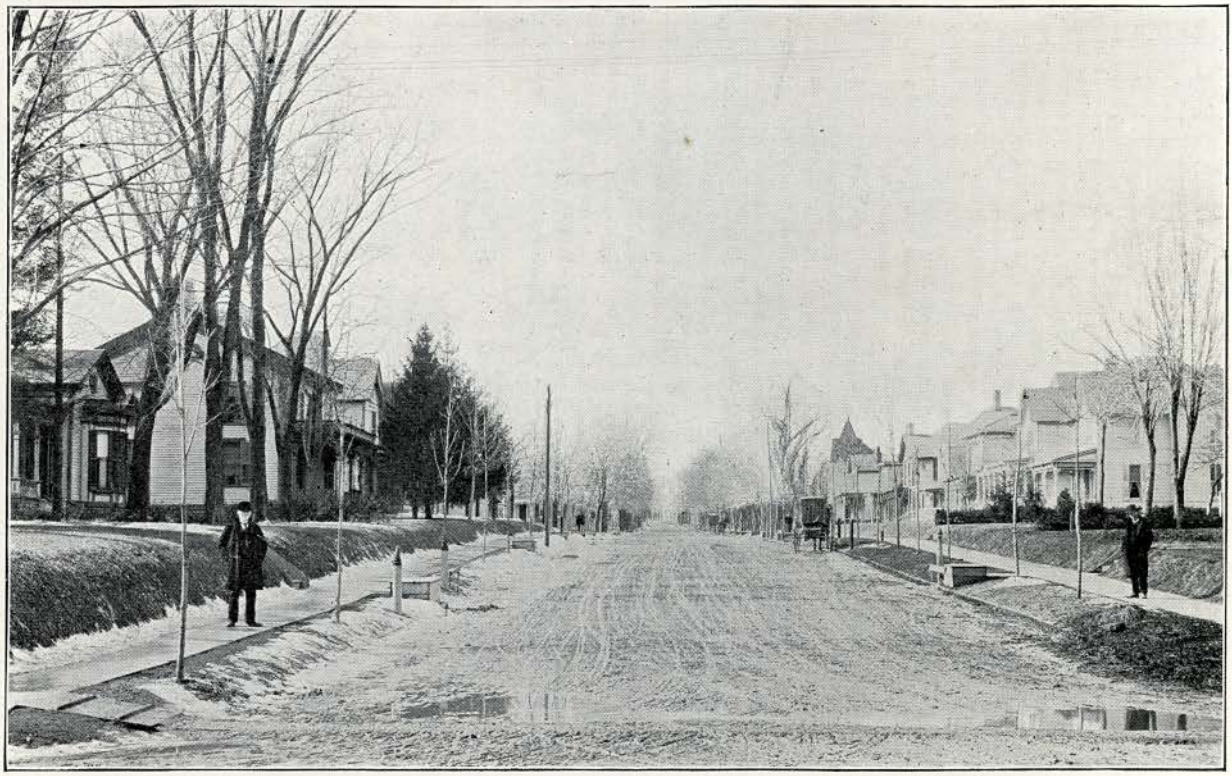
A complete history of the police department of Freeport would be very interesting reading, but we have not space in this work for more than a brief sketch of this department. In the early days of the city it required a man of nerve to fill the post of marshal, as there was a very lawless element in this vicinity, composed mostly of men who were professional gamblers, who visited here frequently and plied their trade between Galena and Chicago. Horse thieves and claim jumpers were numerous, and they were bold, daring men, who thought little of taking the life of a human being. In 1855, when the village was incorporated, W. W. Smith was

elected to the position of village marshal, and was the first man to hold that office in this village. He was the right man for the place, and gave such general satisfaction that he was elected to the office three times, serving until 1858, when he was succeeded by John R. Edick, who served but one year and was succeeded by Henry Settley, who is still a resident of Freeport. During the stirring days of the war David C. Laird, John H. Mease, Isaiah G. Bedee and Jacob C. Gilbert held that position.

Eli S. Chamberlin was the last city marshal elected by the people. He held the post from 1879 until 1883, when Freeport gave up her special charter, and then the power of appointing the chief of police was vested in the mayor. James McNamara was mayor at that time and he appointed J. W. Sanderson chief of police, he being the first man to fill that position in Freeport. William Root is the present head of the police department, which now consists of ten men. The department is also supplied with a patrol cart and a system of electric call boxes and is up to date and metropolitan in every respect. The force is wide awake and well managed by Chief Root, who is regarded as a very competent man.

Our Public Schools.

As near as we can learn, the first school opened in Freeport was in the spring of 1837, and was conducted by Nelson Martin. He conducted school in a small log cabin on the bank of the Pecatonica River, erected by L. O. Crocker, and afterwards used by O. H. Wright as a store. The cabin was located along the river not far from the foot of Galena street, and here the children of the first settlers of Freeport gained their early education. Among the first scholars were the children of William Baker, the first settler, the Thatcher children, the Smith children, the Hunt children, and half a dozen others. In June, 1837, Mr. Martin was succeeded by Miss Wright, afterwards the wife of L. O. Crocker, who taught school about two and one-half years. After the marriage of Miss Wright school was conducted in the same place, and a Mr. Everett was the teacher, and ex-Mayor A. P. Goddard was among the children who attended school that winter. F. D. Bulkley is also said to have taught the school this season, and during the following summer it was thought advisable to remove the little 10 x 14 log school house to a more central location, and accordingly it was



LINCOLN AVENUE—LOOKING WEST.

hitched to a "breaking" team and moved up town to a point near where Wilcoxon's Opera House now stands, where it was used for some time afterwards for the double purpose of a school house and a church. School was taught here the following winter by F. D. Bulkley, and on Sabbath days there was preaching by circuit riders, Gen. John A. Clark and Col. T. J. Turner being members of the choir.

A few years later the log school house was removed to make room for a more pretentious building, and was subsequently used for a barn and was finally destroyed by fire.

About 1840 Miss Wright, who afterwards became the wife of Lambert Van Dyke, taught school in a frame house at the corner of Galena and Chicago streets in a building erected in 1836 by Wm. Kirkpatrick. The location is now occupied by H. J. Moogk's drug store. Rothilda Buck, Lucinda and Morilla Williams also taught school in this building, and their scholars are some of the present residents of Freeport.

Along in the 40's D. A. Knowlton, Sr., erected a school house in Knowltontown, and Judge William Buckley was installed as teacher.

It was in 1843, so the early settlers tell us, that the "little red school house," around which so many tender memories cling, was erected. The funds were provided by subscription. This building, which was 18 x 30, was erected on the site now occupied by Hineline's carpenter shop, and cost about $300. The late Hon. D. H. Sunderland opened school here in the winter of 1845–46, and received a salary of $20 per month and his board. He had an average attendance of about fifty scholars, among them being Gen. John M. Schofield, who recently relinquished the command of the United States army. This building did service as a school until 1850, and was afterwards converted into a livery stable and later burned down. It is a singular coincidence that the first two school houses of the city were used as stables afterwards and both were eventually consumed by the flames.

Among the other early teachers of the city were Miss Cornelia Russell, Mrs. Hazlett, Mr. Bentley, Rev. Coon and Rev. Dickey, George Scovill, A. B. Campbell, Geo. W. Lutz and Louise Burchard.

In 1852 what was for years known as the old "Union School" was erected on South Galena avenue, and was afterwards razed in order to make room for the present High School building. The old "Union School" was erected of brick and cost $3,000. It was for years used as a high, middle and grammar school, the primary departments being taught in the basements of the old First Presbyterian, Evangelical and Methodist Churches. In 1856 the old "Union School" was enlarged at a cost of several thousand dollars. Henry Freeman was principal of the high school and also superintendent, and resigned his position in 1859.

Sept. 1st, 1859, an election was held for the purpose of determining whether a site for the erection of a school house should be purchased and the amount of tax necessary be levied for defraying the expense of the school, etc. The proposition carried and the school trustees purchased several lots in Clark's addition, and the trustees were empowered to erect a school building thereon at a cost not to exceed $6,000. The site selected is the present site of the River School, and the building was erected under the supervision of H. H. Upp and was completed in 1860.

Geo. L. Montague was selected as principal of the High School, filling the position until 1862, when he was succeeded by M. W. Tewksbury, who held the position two years and was then succeeded by H. M. Barnum, who is now a well known attorney of Freeport.

In 1865 what is now known as the Third Ward School building was erected at a cost of $17,000, and is still doing good service.

It was not until the year 1867 that the office of superintendent of schools was created. The school board then consisted of Messrs. C. J. Fry, H. M. Barnum, F. W. S. Brawley and G. G. Alvord, and the latter was chosen superintendent of schools.

In 1868 what is now known as the Lincoln Avenue school was erected at a cost of $12,465. In 1872 Mr. Alvord was succeeded as superintendent by Prof. C. C. Snyder, who held the position for about seventeen years.

In 1877 the board was composed of the late Judge J. M. Bailey, Jacob Krohn and Frederic Bartlett, and they decided upon the erection of a new high school building, and with this end in view lots on the corner of Exchange and Cherry streets were purchased from Henry Burrell at a cost of $2,000, and the building was completed in 1878 at a total cost of $14,000. This building, now known as the First Ward School, was used as the high school until the erection of the present High School building on South Galena avenue. A few years ago a school building was erected in East Freeport, and in a few months it is expected that another new school building on Frank street will be ready for occupancy,



O. E. HEARD.
S. D. ATKINS.
D. F. GRAHAM.

MISS FANNIE STEVENS, *Sec'y.*
JACOB KROHN, *Prest.*
MRS. ALICE BRADFORD WILES.
J. F. FAIR.

JOHN KOCHSMEIER.
MARTIN FLANAGAN.
P. O. STIVER.

BOARD OF EDUCATION, 1896.

making in all seven good, substantial school buildings, and a splendid corps of efficient teachers under the supervision of Prof. R. S. Page, the present able superintendent.

The schools of Freeport are to-day a credit to the city, and their high standing in educational circles is evidence of their efficiency.

Trustees of the Town of Freeport from its Organization in 1850 to the year 1855.

1850–51.—Thomas J. Turner, president; Julius Smith, John K. Brewster, John Rice, Joseph B. Smith.

1851–52.—Edward S. Hanchett, president; Silas D. Clark, Thomas Egan, Isaiah G. Bedee, John H. Schlott.

1852–53.—Silas D. Clark, president; John Black, Walter P. Hunt, Jeduthan G. Fuller, Asahel W. Rice.

1853–54.—Peter B. Foster, president; Frederick Baker, William D. Oyler, Henry Smith, Julius Smith, Jacob Mayer, William W. Smith, Isaac Stoneman.

1854–55.—Asahel W. Rice, president; John K. Brewster, Warren C. Clark, Edward S. Hanchett. Isaac C. Stoneman.

City Officers from its Organization in 1855 to 1896.

MAYORS.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
Thomas J. Turner,	1855	E. L. Cronkrite,	1871
A. Cameron Hunt,	1856	Jacob Krohn,	1873
A. Cameron Hunt,	1857	A. P. Goddard,	1875
John W. D. Heald,	1858	Jacob Krohn,	1877
Denard Shockley,	1859	E. L. Cronkrite,	1879
Hiram Bright,	1860	James McNamara,	1881
Francis W. Hance,	1861	James McNamara,	1883
Urban D. Meacham,	1862	August Bergman,	1885
Charles Butler,	1863	August Bergman,	1887
John F. Smith,	1864	Chas. Nieman,	1889
John F. Smith,	1865	Chas. Nieman,	1891
David H. Sunderland,	1867	August Bergman,	1893
C. J. Fry,	1869	J. P. Younger,	1895

ALDERMEN.

FIRST WARD.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
Wm. G. Waddell,	1855	B. T. Buckley,	1869
John A. Clark,	1855	Wm. O. Wright,	1870
John H. Schlott,	1856	J. W. Crane,	1871
Holden Putnam,	1856	Elias Perkins,	1871
John A. Clark,	1857	Elias Perkins,	1872
John C. Kean,	1858	O. S. Ferris,	1873
Warren C. Clark,	1859	George Wolf,	1874
Thomas Coltman,	1860	Chas. F. Goodhue,	1874
Elias C. DePuy,	1860	August Bergman,	1875
Isaac H. Miller,	1861	Chas. F. Goodhue,	1876
Jacob B. Kenegy,	1862	August Bergman,	1877
Isaac H. Miller,	1863	J. H. Crane,	1878
Wm. G. Waddell,	1864	A. T. Irwin,	1879
E. L. Cronkrite,	1865	T. L. Waddell,	1880
Wm. G. Waddell,	1866	Jacob Hartman,	1881
August Bergman,	1867	Daniel Adamson,	1882
A. P. Goddard,	1868		

ALDERMEN UNDER MINORITY PLAN—FIRST DISTRICT.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
Patrick Lahey,	1883	W. H. Holland,	1889
B. T. Buckley,	1883	Geo. Milner,	1891
Daniel Adamson,	1883	B. T. Buckley,	1891
W. H. Holland,	1885	Wm. Harris,	1891
B. T. Buckley,	1885	D. B. Breed,	1893
J. J. Piersol,	1885	H. H. Hineline,	1893
S. W. Reigard,	1887	H. F. Hanke,	1893
J. J. Piersol,	1887	Geo. E. White,	1895
B. T. Buckley,	1887	S. W. Reigard,	1895
B. T. Buckley,	1889	D. B Breed,	1895
S. W. Reigard,	1889		

SECOND WARD.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
Joseph B. Smith,	1855	B. Hunkemeier,	1868
John Barfoot,	1855	Jacob Rodearmel,	1869
Asahel W. Rice,	1856	H. H. Upp,	1870
Samuel B. Harris,	1857	T. C. Gatliff,	1871
Irvin H. Sunderland,	1858	Geo. W. Oyler,	1872
Thomas Robinson,	1859	M. Hettinger,	1873
Chancellor Martin,	1860	Geo. W. Oyler,	1874
James H. Bartlett,	1860	I. S. Zartman,	1875
Nathan F. Prentice,	1861	Geo. W. Oyler,	1876
John H. Beaumont,	1862	I. S. Zartman,	1877
E. McLaughlin,	1863	Darius Kuehner,	1878
Jacob Rodearmel,	1864	I. S. Zartman,	1879
Charles L. Currier,	1865	J. Brown Taylor,	1880
J. H. Snyder,	1866	Louis Stoskopf,	1881
Chas. L. Currier,	1867	D. C. Stover,	1882

SECOND DISTRICT.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
R. M. Race,	1883	J. R. Cowley,	1889
Wm. Ascher,	1883	L. W. Brunn,	1889
L. M. Devore,	1883	J. F. Fair,	1891
George Bruehler,	1885	Wallace Collins,	1891
L. M. Devore,	1885	J. R. Waddell,	1891
J. N. Galloway,	1885	Henry Keller,	1893
G. W. Oyler,	1886	W. S. Best,	1893
J. Lawson Wright,	1887	L. M. Devore,	1893
J. N. Galloway,	1887	G. A. Huenkemeier,	1895
J. R. Cowley,	1887	W. S. Best,	1895
J. N. Galloway,	1889	F. C. Kruse,	1895

THIRD WARD.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
A. Cameron Hunt,	1855	Henry Baier,	1868

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
John P. Byerly,	1855	A. J. McCoy,	1869
John W. D. Heald,	1856	Henry Lichtenberger,	1870
John Hoebel,	1857	A. J. McCoy,	1871
Warren C. Clark,	1858	Henry Lichtenberger,	1872
James M. Smith,	1858	A. J. McCoy,	1873
John Hoebel,	1859	Henry Lichtenberger,	1874
Moses R. Thompson,	1860	A. J. McCoy,	1875
Jacob Hime,	1861	Charles G. Steffen,	1876
John O'Connell,	1862	Peter Muldoon,	1877

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
O. P. Wright,	1885	J. E. Frisbie,	1893
A. J. McCoy,	1887	O. P. Wright,	1893
T. J. Foley,	1887	G. M. Holbrook,	1895
H. P. Kochsmeier,	1887	W. T. Rockey,	1895
A. J. McCoy,	1889	C. F. Franz,	1895
H. Leemhuis,	1889		

CITY ATTORNEYS.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
John A. Jameson,	1855	John C. Kean,	1873



RESIDENCE OF T. D. HEWITT.

John Hoebel,	1862	Henry J. Porter,	1878
P. E. Fowler,	1863	J. R. Wagner,	1879
Jacob Krohn,	1864	Henry J. Porter,	1880
J. S. Rogers,	1865	W. H. Wagner,	1881
Jacob Krohn,	1866	A. J. McCoy,	1882
Fred. Bartlett,	1867		

THIRD DISTRICT

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
A. J. McCoy,	1883	Fred Flachtemeier,	1889
John Erfert,	1883	C. F. Franz,	1891
O. P. Wright,	1883	J. F. Burns,	1891
Charles Nieman,	1885	N. B. Loos,	1891
J. E. Frisbie,	1885	C. F. Franz,	1893

H. N Hibbard,	1856	John C. Kean,	1874
H. N. Hibbard,	1857	John C. Kean,	1875
J. Bright Smith,	1858	John C. Kean,	1876
J. Bright Smith,	1859	O. C. Lathrop,	1877
Henry C. Hyde,	1860	John C. Kean,	1878
Jas. S. Cochran,	1861	John C. Kean,	1879
John C. Kean,	1862	J. H. Stearns,	1880
John C. Kean,	1863	John C. Kean,	1881
John C. Kean,	1864	John C. Kean,	1882
F. W. S. Brawley,	1865	P. J. Geib,	1883
John Coates,	1866	John C. Kean,	1885
H. M. Barnum,	1867	John C. Kean,	1887
Thos. F. Goodhue,	1868	John C. Kean,	1889

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
Thos. F. Goodhue,	1869	M. Marvin,	1891
Thos. F. Goodhue,	1870	M. Marvin,	1893
Thos. F. Goodhue,	1871	P. J. Geib,	1895
T. T. Abrams,	1872		

CITY CLERKS.

H. N. Hibbard,	1855	Wm. Trembor,	1873
H. N. Hibbard,	1856	Wm. Trembor,	1874
H. N. Hibbard,	1857	Wm. Trembor,	1875
J. Bright Smith,	1858	Wm. Trembor,	1876
J. Bright Smith,	1859	Wm. Trembor,	1877
L. F. Burrell,	1860	Wm. Trembor,	1878
L. F. Burrell,	1861	Wm. Trembor,	1879
L. F. Burrell,	1862	H. C. Hutchinson,	1880
Frank Corbin,	1863	W. C. Clark,	1881
J. E. Brown,	1864	W. C. Clark,	1882
Joseph B. Smith,	1865	W. C. Clark,	1883
Joseph B. Smith,	1866	W. C. Clark,	1885
U. M. Mayer,	1867	W. C. Clark,	1887
Joseph B. Smith,	1868	T. D. Osborne,	1889
James Durst,	1869	T. D. Osborne,	1891
F. B. Malburn,	1870	G. H. Tandy,	1893
F. B. Malburn,	1871	G. H. Tandy,	1895
F. B. Malburn,	1872		

CITY TREASURERS.

E. W. Salisbury,	1855	C. Trepus,	1872
Oscar Taylor,	1856	C. Trepus,	1873
Oscar Taylor,	1857	D. B. Schulte,	1874
Geo. J. Brewer,	1858	Horace Meigs,	1875
Silas D. Clark,	1858	Horace Meigs,	1876
Fred. Bartlett,	1859	Jacob Molter,	1877
B. F. Black,	1860	Jacob Molter,	1878
W. W. Smith,	1861	Henry Ratz,	1879
M. D. Chamberlin,	1862	D. B. Breed,	1880
C. L. Currier,	1863	D. B. Breed,	1881
Thomas Webster,	1864	F. C. Held,	1882
John Hoebel,	1865	F. C. Held,	1883
Geo. Lichtenberger,	1866	George M. Lowis,	1885
C. W. Rosebrugh,	1867	Richard R. Hughes,	1887
Philip Arno,	1868	Frank Hettinger,	1889
C. W. Rosebrugh,	1869	Geo. W. Graham,	1891
C. W. Rosebrugh,	1870	John Tappe,	1893
W. H. Wagner,	1871	Henry Ratz,	1895

CITY MARSHALS.

W. W. Smith,	1855	J. B. Shirk,	1869
W. W. Smith,	1856	J. B. Shirk,	1870
W. W. Smith,	1857	Geo. J. Lamb,	1871
John R. Edick,	1858	E. W. R. Dreyer,	1872
Henry Settley,	1859	E. W. R. Dreyer,	1873
David C. Laird,	1860	E. W. R. Dreyer,	1874
John H. Mease,	1861	E. W. R. Dreyer,	1875
Isaiah G. Bedee,	1862	E. W. R. Dreyer,	1876
Jacob C. Gilbert,	1863	E. W. R. Dreyer,	1377
Jacob C. Gilbert,	1864	E. W. R. Dreyer,	1878
Chas. Baumgarten,	1865	Eli S. Chamberlin,	1879
F. R. McLaughlin,	1866	Eli S. Chamberlin,	1880
F. R. McLaughlin,	1867	Eli S. Chamberlin,	1881
Charles Rohkar,	1868	Eli S. Chamberlin,	1882

CITY MARSHALS—APPOINTED.

J. W. Sanderson,	1883	C. J. Dittmar,	1889
J. W. Sanderson,	1884	C. J. Dittmar,	1891
Eli S. Chamberlin,	1885–87	B. F. Brubaker,	1895
Eli S. Chamberlin,	1887	Wm. Root,	1895

CITY SURVEYORS.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
No Surveyor elected,	1855	Chas. Baumgarten,	1869
No Surveyor elected,	1856	C. T. Dunham,	1870
Ludwick Stanton,	1857	Chas. Baumgarten,	1871
Marcus Carter,	1858	Chas. Baumgarten,	1872
Marcus Carter,	1859	Chas. Baumgarten,	1873
Wm. O. Saxton,	1860	Chas. Baumgarten,	1874
Wm. O. Saxton,	1861	F. E. Josel,	1875
Marcus Carter,	1862	F. E. Josel,	1876
Chas. Baumgarten,	1863	Ludwick Stanton,	1877
Chas. Baumgarten,	1864	F. E. Josel,	1878
Marcus Carter,	1865	F. E. Josel,	1879
Marcus Carter,	1866	F. E. Josel,	1880
Ludwick Stanton,	1867	F. E. Josel,	1881
Marcus Carter,	1868	F. E. Josel,	1882

CITY ENGINEERS—APPOINTED.

F. E. Josel,	1883	F. E. Josel,	1889
F. E. Josel,	1884	Arthur Lagron,	1891
F. E. Josel,	1885–87	Arthur Lagron,	1893
F. E. Josel,	1887	Arthur Lagron,	1895

STREET COMMISSIONERS.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
W. W. Smith,	1855	Henry D. Rodearmel,	1866
W. W. Smith, for 1st Ward,	1856	Henry D. Rodearmel,	1867
		Edwin McLaughlin,	1868
R. McMasters, for 2d Ward,	1856	Edwin McLaughlin,	1869
		Edwin McLaughlin,	1870
Edwin R. Ross, for 3d Ward,	1856	James Darrah,	1871
		James Darrah,	1872
John P. Byerly,	1857	James Darrah,	1873
Henry Settley,	1858	James Darrah,	1874
Henry Settley,	1859	James Darrah,	1875
B. Wasserzieher,	1860	William Ascher,	1876
B. Wasserzieher,	1861	Adolph Boedeker,	1877
B. Huenkemeier,	1862	J. S. Rogers,	1878
B. Wasserzieher,	1863	J. S. Rogers,	1879
August Bergman,	1864	B. Huenkemeier,	1880
P. E. Fowler,	1865	Wm. A. Knipschild,	1881
Henry D. Rodearmel,	1865	B. Huenkemeier,	1882

SUPERINTENDENTS OF STREETS—APPOINTED.

A. H. Altemeier,	1883	Wm. Ascher,	1889
A. H. Altemeier,	1884	M. T. Steffen,	1891
H. F. Hanke,	1885–87	Conrad Toelle,	1893
H. F. Hanke,	1887	A. H. Altemeier,	1895

POLICE MAGISTRATES.

	ELECTED.		ELECTED.
Luther W. Guiteau,	1855	Leonard Stoskopf,	1874
Horatio C. Burchard,	1857	J. R. Wagner,	1878
David Seem,	1859	J. R. Wagner,	1882
A. T. Green,	1863	S. R. Dubs,	1886
Abraham Braisted,	1866	S. R. Dubs,	1889
George Wolf,	1867	S. R. Dubs,	1891
Abraham Braisted,	1870	S. R. Dubs,	1893
E. P. Hodges,	1871	S. R. Dubs,	1895

Our Banking Interests.

In the summer of 1851 when Freeport with 1500 inhabitants was beginning to assume the proportions of a city, Messrs. Taylor & Bronson inaugurated its future banking interests by opening an "exchange office" on the site now occupied by H. D. Post's grocery store. That was twelve years before national banks were established in the United States. A few years later James Mitchell opened a banking office



JAMES MITCHELL.

on the site now occupied by Jungkunz' drug store, and about four years later Everett, Clark & Co. began to conduct a similar office on the western portion of the site where Hotel Brewster stands to-day. For two years these institutions represented the banking interests of the rising city, and were then joined, in 1856, by DeForest, Hyde & Co.'s Banking House, which opened where the Second National Bank is now located.

In 1854 Mr. Bronson removed to Rockford, and A. W. Rice continued the partnership with Mr. Taylor under the firm name of the Freeport Bank until October, 1857, when it and the banking house of Everett, Clark & Co. succumbed to the wave of financial depression which swept over the country during that year. After the crash of '57 James Mitchell became associated with Alexander Neely, of Belvidere, and later with Holden Putnam, R. Richardson, of Boston, and A. Page, of Rutland, Vermont, and conducted a prosperous business for many years under the firm name of James Mitchell & Co., at the northwest corner of Stephenson and Chicago streets.

When the call for volunteers was issued Holden Putnam entered the service and was killed at the battle of Mission Ridge. This event caused a dissolution of the firm, Mr. Mitchell remaining sole owner until Jan. 1, 1874, when J. W. Neff became a partner. After Mr. Mitchell's death, in August, 1874, the business was carried on by his heirs until September, 1876, at which date Mr. W. H. Mitchell, son of the deceased, took charge of the family interests in the bank and became a partner with Mr. Neff. The business was continued under the name of James Mitchell & Co. until 1884, when by mutual agreement the partnership was dissolved and the business discontinued.

Mr. Hyde, of DeForest, Hyde & Co., remained in business only a few weeks, but the other members of the firm continued until 1863, when their interests merged into the First National Bank.

The First National Bank.

On the 24th day of February, 1864, the First National Bank of Freeport was duly organized with a capital stock of $50,000, and with the following officers: President, George F. DeForest; cashier, E. Mayer; board of directors, W. P. Malburn, L. L. Munn, O. B. Bidwell, C. J. Fry, E. Mayer, G. F. DeForest and L. F. Burrell. On March 10th, 1865, the capital stock was increased to $100,000 with a

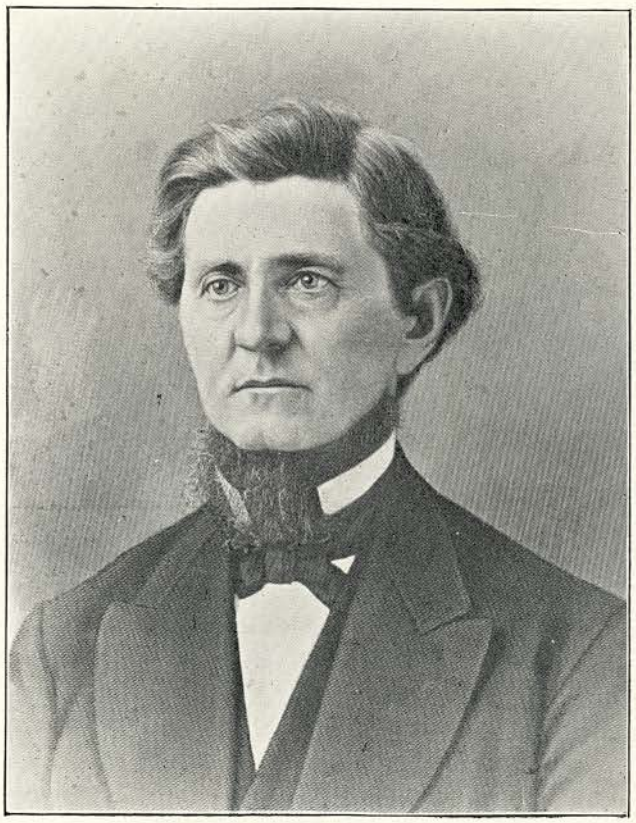
surplus of $25,000. In 1870 Mr. O. B. Bidwell was elected president of the bank and has served in that capacity ever since. The former president, Mr. G. F. DeForest, became cashier and held that position until his death in 1883, when A. H. Barshinger was elected to the office. In the year 1883 the charter of the First National Bank expired, and the bank was reorganized under the name of the Freeport National Bank, with the following officers: O. B. Bidwell, president; O. B. Sanford, vice president; A. H. Barshinger, cashier; John Burrell, O. B. Bidwell, C. H. Little, W. O. Wright and O. B. Sanford, directors. The capital and surplus was then $166,000, and deposits for a few years previous had averaged $300,000.

In May, 1887, by consent of the comptroller of the currency, the bank assumed its former title, the First National Bank of Freeport, which title it still bears. In 1891 death removed the cashier, Mr. A. H. Barshinger, and Mr. Addison Bidwell was elected to succeed him. The present officers of the bank are: President, O. B. Bidwell; vice president, Wm. O. Wright; cashier, Addison Bidwell; directors, John Erfert, C. H. Little, John Burrell, O. B. Bidwell and Wm. O. Wright. The business of the bank has always been large and profitable and conducted in a conservative manner. In conformity with the National Banking Act, its business is confined strictly to commercial banking, and the high standing of its officers and stockholders, comprising a large number of the most substantial citizens of Freeport, commends it to the favor of careful depositors and the business public.

The Second National Bank.

The Second National Bank of Freeport, the oldest banking institution under one organization in the city, was instituted and opened for business, with a capital stock of $50,000, in May, 1864. The capital was in 1865 increased to $75,000, and again to $100,000 in the same year. Its charter expired in 1883 and was immediately extended to 1903. Hon. John H. Addams, one of the founders of the bank, and a man whose memory is held in universal esteem, was its first president, a position to which he was annually re-elected until his death, which occurred August 17, 1881. The position made vacant by the death of Mr. Addams was filled by Mr. A. H. Wise, who soon resigned it on account of ill health. He was succeeded by Mr. M. Lawver, who in turn, after a short term of service, was followed by Dr. F. W. Hance. The doctor, however, could not give such time to the position as it demanded and in a short time the office was again vacant. The directors finally persuaded Hon. Jacob Krohn to assume the responsible position, and from 1883 to the present time Mr. Krohn has filled the office of president with entire satisfaction.

The first cashier of the bank was Alexander Stone. He retired in 1865, and was succeeded by the late L. W. Guiteau, at whose death, in 1880, Mr. J. Brown Taylor, the present incumbent, became cashier. The other officers of the bank at present are: Vice president, M. V. B. Elson; directors, Jacob Krohn, A. H. Wise, Dr. F. W. Hance, M. V. B. Elson and Reuben Siegfried.



JOHN H. ADDAMS.

Many of these gentlemen have been from an early day closely identified with the growth and prosperity of Freeport, and are now accounted among our ablest financiers. Immediately after its organization the bank opened for business in the old Plymouth block, corner of Stephenson and Van Buren streets, where it remained until the block was razed to give place to the opera house building, into which it was returned with the completion of that edifice, and where it has since remained.



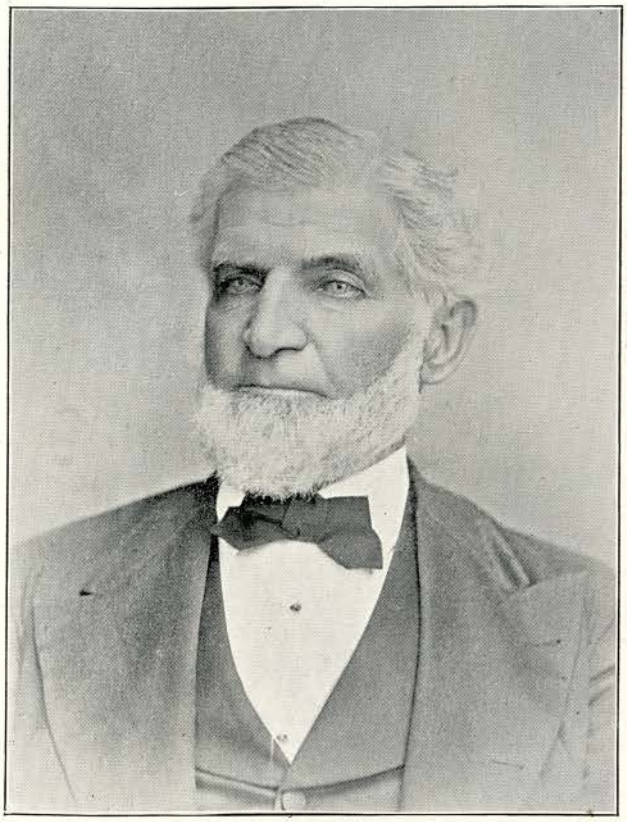
RESIDENCE OF W. A. MERRIFIELD.



RESIDENCE OF DR. S. H. AURAND.

Knowlton Brothers.

The firm of Knowlton Brothers, bankers, is composed of Messrs. D. A. Knowlton and Charles D. Knowlton, who, upon the death of their father, in 1876, succeeded to the firm of D. A. Knowlton & Sons. Mr. D. A. Knowlton, Sr., was one of the earliest settlers in Stephenson County and a man of great energy and business capacity. He amassed a large fortune, and, in company with his sons, established in 1869 the banking business now conducted in this city and in our neighboring village of Pecatonica by Messrs. Knowlton Brothers.



D. A. KNOWLTON, SR.

Both of these gentlemen were born in Freeport. In their early boyhood their parents returned to New York State to enjoy the comfortable fortune which they had accumulated. There both of the boys were educated, after which they returned in 1869 to Freeport and began their business careers as bankers in the building which they still occupy near the soldiers' monument. They have been known as cautious, honorable business men, who have always preferred to do a very safe business rather than a very large one. To this end they have given their attention principally to first-class investment securities and give special attention to first mortgage loans upon real estate. They are themselves largely interested in real estate in Freeport, and aside from their improved property they are owners of some of the finest unplatted land within the city limits. Their brother, Homer W. Knowlton, has been the cashier of their Pecatonica bank for many years. He is a man trusted and greatly esteemed in the community where he has lived and exerted his quiet and healthful influence for many years.

The German Bank.

The German Bank is an outgrowth of the private banking institution of Hettinger, Collmann Brothers & Co., organized May 20, 1876, with a nominal capital of $20,000, the same to be increased as business required, and with the following gentlemen composing the firm: Messrs. M. Hettinger, C. O. Collmann, A. Collmann, D. B. Schulte and Fred Gund. Under the management of these men of wealth and responsibility the institution prospered and surplus profits were continually added to the capital stock, which soon attained a size greatly in excess of the amount originally invested.

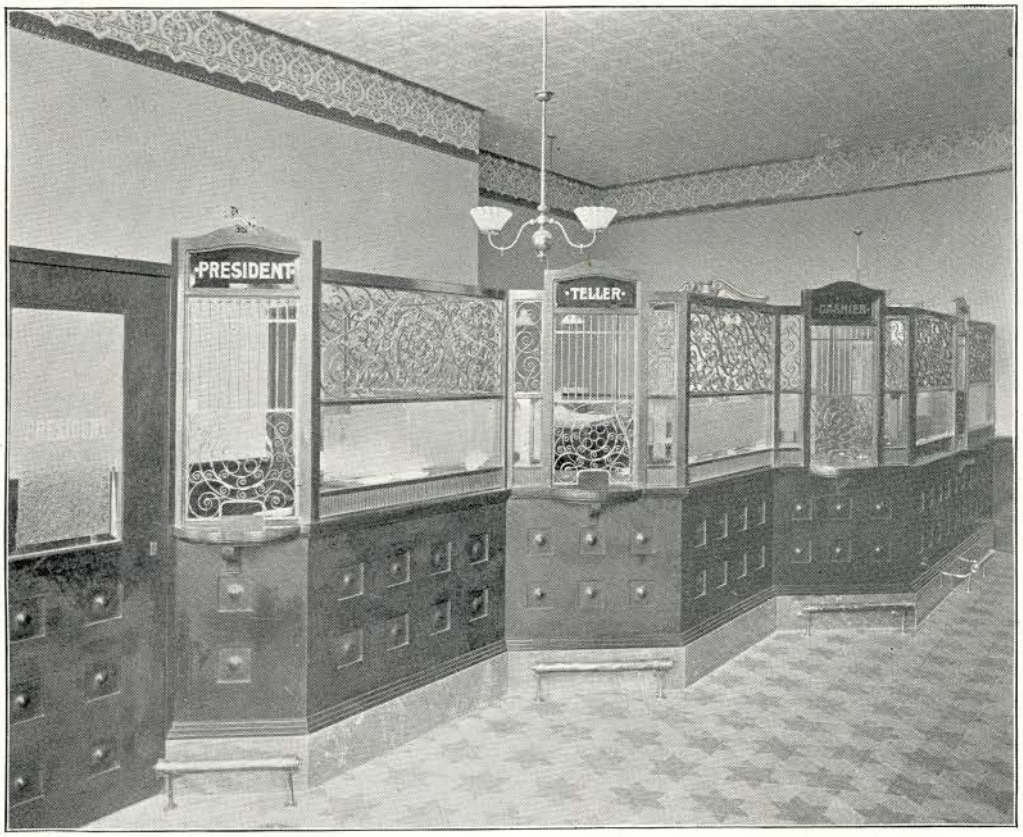
When the German Bank was organized M. Hettinger, the senior member of the firm, became its president and Esrom Mayer its cashier. Mr. Mayer remained with the bank until January, 1892, when he resigned and began arrangements for the organization of the Farmers & Merchants Bank, of which he is now the president.

By that time the German Bank had become one of the most solid institutions of the city. It was backed by a capital of over half a million and represented some of the most responsible financiers and ablest business men in Freeport. It conducted a general banking business, the same as incorporated banks, but its loans were confined chiefly to this city and outside paper was not taken.

On the first day of January, 1894, the German Bank was incorporated as a state bank under the laws of the State of Illinois, with a capital of $150,000 and the following officers: President, C. O. Collmann; vice president, M. Hettinger, Jr., cashier, D. F. Graham; assistant cashier, L. R. Jungkunz; directors, C. O. Collmann, D. B. Schulte, J. W. Henney, John Fosha, John Sullivan, M. Hettinger, Jr., and J. S. Collmann. On the 1st of January, 1895, M. Hettinger, Jr., retired, and C. E. Meyer was elected director, and J. S. Collmann succeeded to the vice presidency. The other officers have since remained the same.

Since its incorporation the capital of the bank has been greatly enlarged, and its loans have ex-

tended to neighboring cities. Yet, notwithstanding the large business which it transacts, it has always manifested a policy of conservatism and careful discrimination, which has enabled it to stand firmly the times of panic and financial depression. Mr. C. O. Collmann, its president, is one of Freeport's earliest settlers and is a man of wealth and influence. Death has removed three of the founders of the bank, Messrs. A. Collmann, M. Hettinger, Sr., and Fred Gund, but the influence which they exerted and the impetus which their excellent judgment and rare financial capacities gave to the institution are still felt.



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE STATE BANK.

A special feature of the bank is its safety deposit vaults, which are separate and apart from the bank's own vaults, and are steel lined and equipped with time locks. These safety deposit boxes are for the exclusive use of the patrons of the safety vault and are the only ones of the kind in the county.

The State Bank.

The State Bank of Freeport, although of comparatively recent organization, has enjoyed a degree of rapid growth and prosperity not usually attained by similar institutions in the first few years of their existence. It was organized at the present location, corner of Stephenson and Van Buren streets, in August, 1891, with a capital stock of $125,000, and is supported by some of Freeport's wealthiest and ablest financiers. Its officers are: D. C. Stover, president; R. G. Shumway and Henry Baier, vice presidents; H. H. Antrim, cashier; Fred Dorman, assistant cashier, and D. C. Stover, Dr. W. S. Caldwell, Wm. H. Wagner, L. M. Devore, Henry Baier, Fred Dorman, Jacob Schaetzel, R. G. Shumway and Louis Fosha, directors. The bank was started under auspicious circumstances, and, under the able management of the men who control it, has become recognized as one of Freeport's most solid and reliable institutions. It has always been a favorite with the business men of our city; its unusually extended deposits are largely those of active merchants, and it discounts much of the desirable commercial paper in the market. It has also made a specialty of investment securities, and has at all times an excellent line of mortgage investments to offer to its patrons. The president, who is also at the head of many of the largest manufacturing interests of the city, is an able and clear-headed financier, and is a vigorous exponent of the soundest principles governing banking and finance.

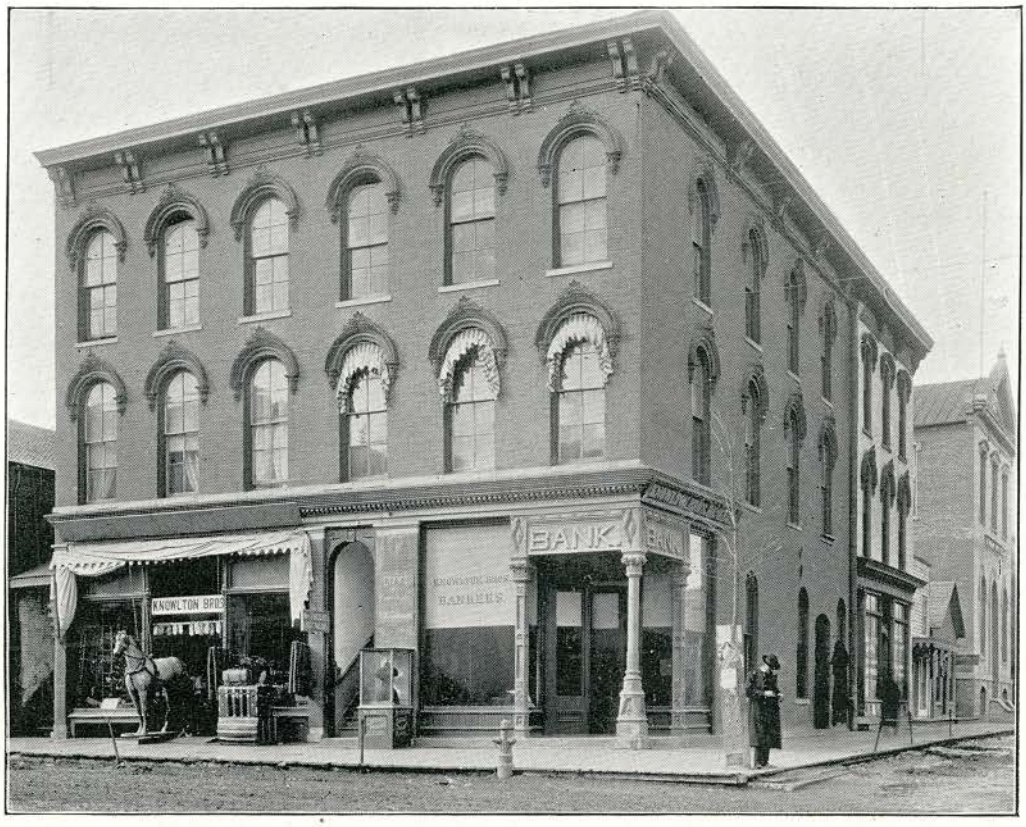
Farmers & Merchants Bank.



The Farmers & Merchants Bank is Freeport's youngest banking house. It was organized by Esrom Mayer, formerly cashier of the German Bank, in May, 1892, with a capital stock of $100,000, and opened for business on Chicago street. Subsequently it was removed to the southwest corner of Stephenson and Chicago streets, where it occupies one of the most spacious and elegantly furnished office rooms in the city.

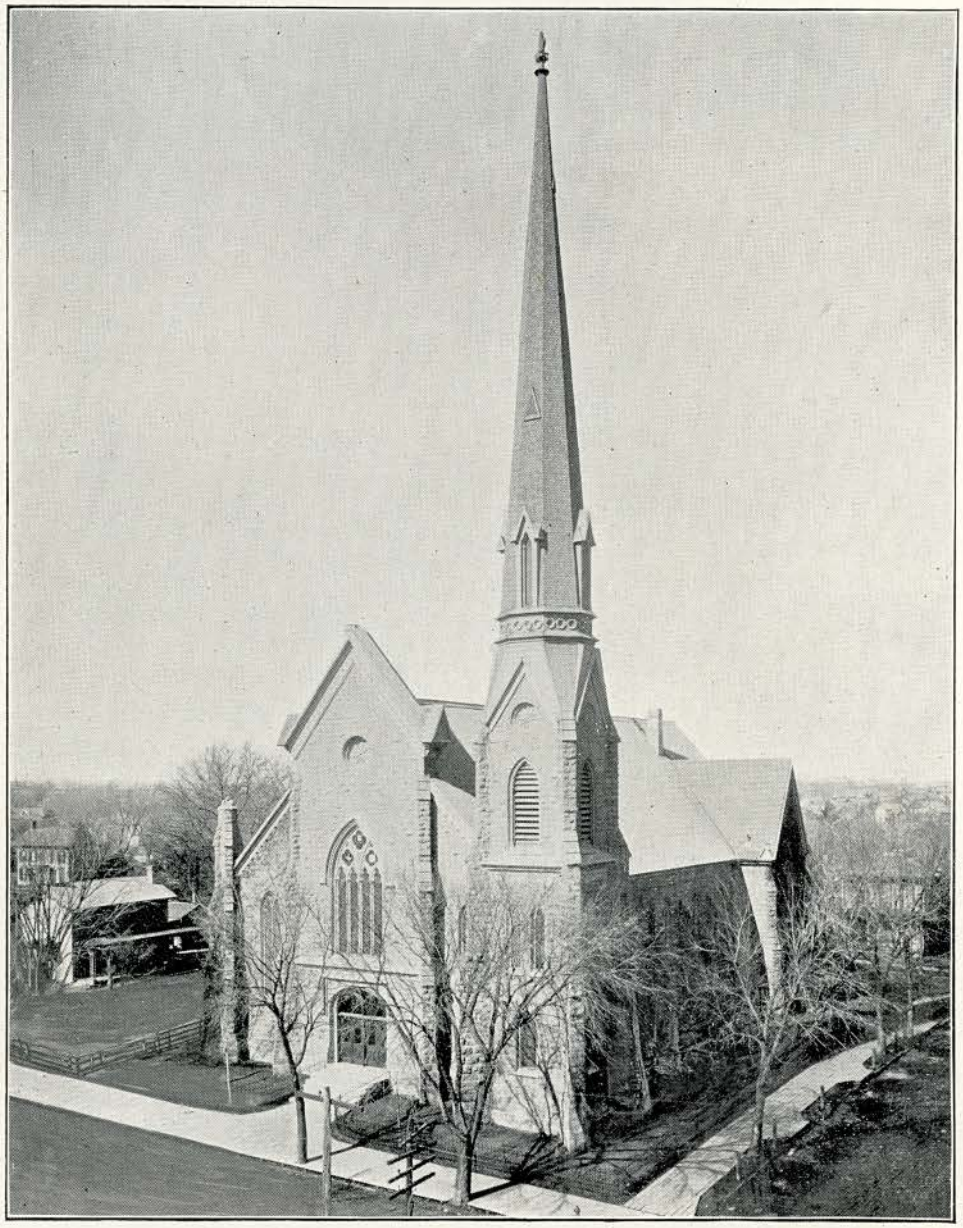
Although young in years the Farmers & Merchants Bank is supported by men of wide experience and splendid financial capacity, and during the few years of its existence has acquired a large and profitable business, which is to-day in a flourishing condition of active, healthy growth. Its officers are: Esrom Mayer, president; J. H. Snyder, vice president; J. H. Brockmeier, cashier.

The banking facilities of Freeport are unsurpassed by any city of the same size in the state. Its banks are conducted and controlled by men of both wealth and experience, whose judgment, foresight and tact, combined with a conservative regard for the protection of its patrons in all matters of a speculative nature, have enabled them to successfully withstand the periods of fluctuating markets and financial stringency which have assailed our country within the past quarter of a century. They have more money than they can employ at home and are continually extending their favors to neighboring cities, which are thus enabled to reap the advantages offered by ample capital and a most successfully conducted business.



KNOWLTON BROS.' BANK.

The Churches of Freeport.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

On the 24th day of November, fifty-four years ago, a little band of Christians, rich in faith and united by a bond of love for their God and humanity, met with Rev. Calvin Waterbury to adopt resolutions setting forth their confession of faith in the form and government of the Presbyterian Church of the United States. In that meeting of fourteen Christian men and women the First Presbyterian Church of Freeport was organized and started out on a mission of love and benevolence—a mission replete with the golden fruit of years of faithful and unremitting labor, and one which has sent forth sons



REV. CALVIN WATERBURY.
REV. ISAAC E. CAREY.
REV. H. D. JENKINS.

REV. JOHN C. DOWNER.
REV. B. VANZANDT.
REV. EDGAR P. HILL.

FORMER PASTORS FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

and daughters whose careers of influence have redounded with honor upon the home church.

Only one of the fourteen charter members—Asa W. Rice—is living at the present time. The members at that time included Philip and Mary Reitzell, O. H. Wright, Mrs. Emmaretta Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Lucas, Mrs. Elizabeth Lucas, Mrs. Sarah Young, Mrs. Nancy Rice, Orrin B. Munn, Mrs. Jane L. Wright, Samuel Spencer and Mrs. Elizabeth Spencer. To Rev. Calvin Waterbury is attached the honor of being the first pastor of the church. He was installed with an annual salary of four hundred dollars immediately after organization. He is held in grateful remembrance, not only for his personal excellence, but because of his liberality, his indefatigable zeal, and the broad and firm foundations upon which he built. During his ministry worship was held in the old court house, but the increasing wants of the church demanded a better place of meeting, and two lots were secured at the southeast corner of Walnut and Stephenson streets—one donated by Kirkpatrick and Baker and the other purchased for forty dollars. Plans were submitted and approved for a church edifice of brick and stone, 40 x 65, to cost four hundred and sixty dollars, and work was begun at once. The stone was quarried across the river and drawn to the spot by a team of oxen driven by L. L. Munn, and the large timbers were found in the neighboring woods.



RESIDENCE OF LOYAL L. MUNN.

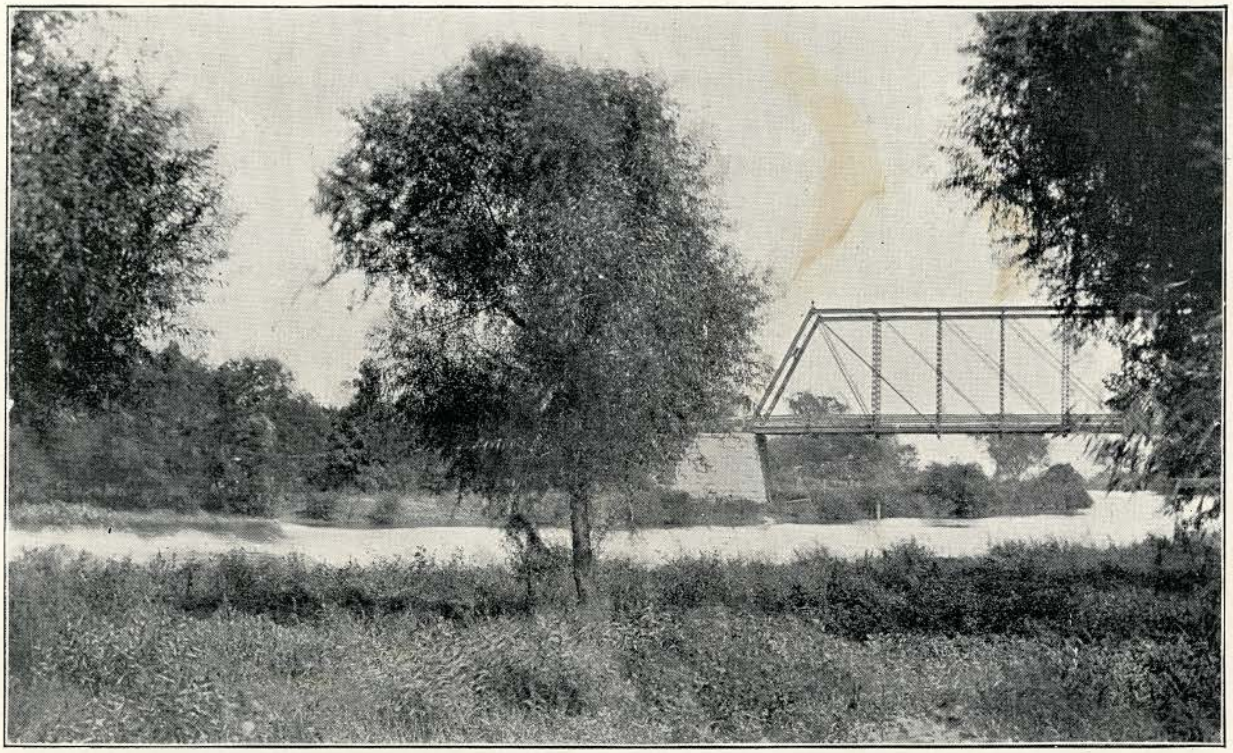
But long before the building was completed insuperable difficulties presented themselves to the zealous band of toilers, and in spite of the labor and self-denial exercised work was suspended and the building was left unfinished with a debt of two hundred dollars hanging over it and unprovided for. This was the darkest hour of the church's history. The pastor resigned and with him fifteen members of the congregation retired. But the church was

founded upon enduring principles, and notwithstanding the impending calamities it grew strong and seemed to thrive upon the adversities which surrounded it. Rev. J. C. Downer was called to the pastorate, and during his ministry the building was completed, in 1851, and accessions were annually made to the number of members. Rev. Downer's pastorate is described as "a period rich in spiritual results." He was a man of undaunted courage, firm in convictions and resolute in determination. Under his guidance great progress was made in the strength and welfare of his charge, and during this period the church experienced its first revival. This revival, which took place in the winter of 1850–51, was a powerful work of God, which vastly increased both the spiritual and numerical strength of the young church, and brought into its fold many who have been among its most efficient and valuable members, and some who have gone forth from it to shine as lights of the world.

Mr. Downer, who is still living in De Soto, Mo., wrote in his greeting to the church in 1892, referring to its early history: "No minister could ask for a better congregation of hearers, and none ever had more willing and capable helpers."

The old church was occupied continually for a period of sixteen years, during which the most gratifying success attended its pastors and congregation. In 1866 it was found that the congregation had again outgrown its quarters and that the old building was fast becoming inadequate to the demands made upon it. After much deliberation it was decided to erect a new building on the opposite corner of Walnut and Stephenson streets, and on the 7th of September of that year the corner stone was laid with impressive ceremonies, and on the 31st of October, 1867, the completed edifice was dedicated to the worship of God. Prof. F. W. Fiske, of Chicago, preached the dedicatory sermon, and was assisted in conducting the services by the Rev. J. W. Cunningham. In the evening of the same day Rev. Isaac E. Carey was installed as pastor, the installation sermon being preached by Rev. C. A. Williams, of Rockford, the charge to the pastor being given by Rev. A. Kent, of Galena, and that to the people by Rev. C. Marsh, of Mt. Carroll. The cost of the completed building with equipment was estimated at $50,000, and as but part of the amount had been paid, a heavy debt was left upon the church members.

But the munificence of these zealous people responded promptly and liberally, and on the day when the building was dedicated $17,000 was raised by popular subscription to cover the debt incurred by its erection. During Rev. Carey's pastorate oc-

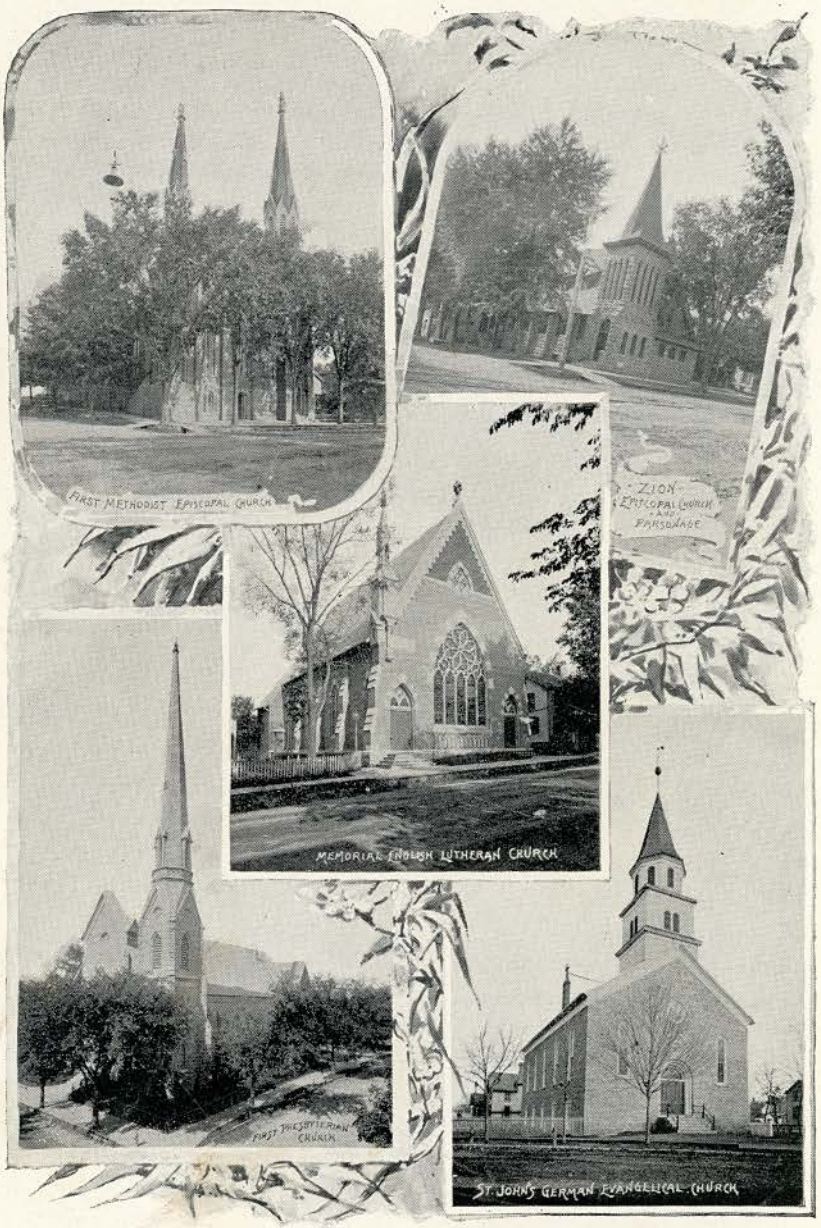


CEDARVILLE BRIDGE.

curred the two notable revivals of 1863–4 and 1866–7, at which time fully fifty new members were added to the church, among whom were many of its most efficient workers and heartiest supporters. Mr. Carey is now retired from the active ministry, and is passing the remaining days of a life of faithful service surrounded by loving friends and relatives in the quiet and beautiful town of Akron, Ohio.

In the year 1844 a Sunday School was organized in connection with the church, and John Rice was appointed superintendent and teacher. The school numbered eleven pupils, ten of whom united with the church and one has since entered the ministry.

After Rev. Carey's resignation in 1871, a call was extended to Rev. B. Van Zandt, who remained with the church a little less than two years, after which Rev. Carey was reinstated. At the close of Rev. Carey's second period of labor the church called Rev. H. D. Jenkins, D. D., to its field. Dr. Jenkins accepted the charge and remained with the church for a period of seventeen years. During Dr. Jenkins' long and pleasant ministry great progress was made; many new members were added, and the church became more intimately identified with the intellectual and religious life of the city. Improvements were made in the church building itself; the auditorium was remodeled and redecorated, and advantageous changes were made in the parlors and Sunday School room, enlarging them and adapting them to the more convenient handling of large classes.



In 1889 Dr. Jenkins received and accepted a call to a large and flourishing church in Sioux City, Iowa. His departure from Freeport caused deep regret among not only the members of his own church but also among those members of other sects who had associated with him and had learned to look to him for counsel and support.

During the seventeen years of his successful ministry in Freeport he had, by his cordial generosity, genial friendship and indiscriminating kindness to all who approached him, so endeared himself to the hearts of its citizens that his departure from them was deemed not only a loss to his own people but to the community at large. After a residence of five years in Sioux City, Dr. Jenkins was called to Kansas City, where he is now located.

In November, 1889, Rev. Edgar P. Hill began his labors as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church and remained until 1895, when he accepted a call to a larger field of usefulness in Portland, Oregon. Although young in years and experience when he accepted his charge in Freeport, Rev. Hill proved to be a man of unusual power and ability. His labors were not confined to the church alone; his field was the world at large as far as his voice and influence could be heard and felt. In the five years of his labors as pastor he exerted such an influence for good as was felt throughout the length and breadth of the city. He came at a time when the fire and zeal of an ardent and enthusiastic young man was most needed and when the labors of such a one could be most effective. His fearless and outspoken anathemas were hurled with crushing force against every form of vice, from the glaring crime of the grog shop to the polished and powdered sins lurking in ball room disguise. Mr. Hill's dauntless energy and his pure, unblemished character inspired the young men of the city to nobler lives and higher aspirations, and incited them to an effort for better laws, better government, purity in politics and the enfranchisement of the city from the grasp of the incubus of intemperance.

Mr. Hill was succeeded by Rev. Charles E. Dunn, the present incumbent. Rev. Dunn is a man of high scholarly attainments, broad in his views and his popularity with all classes in conjunction with his great personal influence betoken the most gratifying success in his labors here.

The First Presbyterian Church as it stands to-day is a large rectangular edifice of native white lime stone, severely plain in external appearance, but embodying the idea of massive solidity and grandeur so common to the early nineteenth century architecture. On the southeast corner a massive tower rears its pointed spire far above the surrounding buildings and seems to pierce the heavens above with its needle point. In the belfry swings a huge but soft-toned bell, a memorial of the late L. A. Warner, who was for many years closely identified with the labors and progress of the church. From the southwest corner of the building there formerly rose a smaller spire, but it was twice blown down during severe wind storms and has been replaced by a stone cap. There is but one main entrance to the building and it is guarded by four massive oaken doors. In the interior of the vestibule and to the right and left stairways lead to the gallery above, which is quadrant in form, is supplied with modern opera chairs and has a seating capacity of two hundred and fifty persons. The main floor of the spacious auditorium contains the regular church settees and will seat over eight hundred. Far above, a distance of fifty feet or more from the floor, spreads the vaulted ceiling, while behind the pulpit, rising above it and directly back of the choir loft, stands the great organ. This magnificent pipe organ, the largest and most splendid in the city, was dedicated at the fiftieth anniversary of the church as a jubilee thank offering in grateful remembrance of the heroic sacrifices, the simple faith and the earnest lives of those who had gone before.

Two gothic doorways lead into the Sunday School room, which is tastefully and conveniently arranged to accommodate over two hundred pupils. Its walls are delicately tinted and are hung with maps and charts illustrative of biblical scenes and events. The church parlors are on the second floor of the building, and are supplied with kitchen, stove, lavatories and every convenience necessary to the many demands made upon them.

The church is frescoed throughout in the most beautiful of tints and designs, and the variety and brilliancy of its variegated hues afford a beautiful and impressive sight as they sparkle under the pure light of hundreds of brilliant incandescent lamps.

At the fiftieth anniversary of the church, held in 1893, the total membership of the church was placed at 429, and the average attendance at Sunday School was given at 167. The church membership Jan. 1, 1896, was 562. The societies, charitable, social and industrial, which have been organized from time to time, and which are still in existence, include the Ladies' Aid Society, the Seed Sowers' Band, the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Y. P. S. C.

E., and the Industrial School, with an average attendance of about ninety-five pupils.

The First Presbyterian Church numbers among its members many of Freeport's most intelligent and influential citizens, and embraces a large number of leading business men and some of the most enlightened and intelligent women of the city, and exerts a powerful influence for good in the community.



SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

On the 30th of October, 1847, the Second Presbyterian Church of Freeport was organized, with a membership of twenty-seven persons, by the installation and ordination of three elders: A. H. Kerr, Samuel Dickey and James W. Barber. The other original members were: Mrs. Samuel Dickey, Mrs. J. W. Barber, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. McKibben, Mr. and Mrs. John Van Dyke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Badger, Mr. and Mrs. William Lamb, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Lamb, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Milliken, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Brown, Mrs. Jane McKibben, Mrs. Jane D. Lamb, the Misses Phoebe and Martha Dickey. The July following the organization of the church Rev. John Ustick accepted a call as stated supply for the church and became its first pastor. In 1850 the congregation had increased to such an extent as to render a church building necessary, and a building committee composed of David Nesbit, James Barfoot and J. W. Barber was appointed. Subscriptions were generous and a building costing about $6,000 was erected, and the first sermon preached in it in September, 1851. The church was dedicated three years later.

In the little building that the labors of a handful of members erected, services were conducted for forty-four years. Many marriages were solemnized there; funeral services for one after another of its

members were held within its walls; infants were baptized and confessions of faith were made before its pulpit.

But in forty-four years the congregation had outgrown the building, and the house that once fulfilled all that could be desired of it now proved unsuited to the needs of the 225 members who worshiped before its altar. A new church was projected, and its corner stone was laid on the 6th of August, 1895.

In 1850 a Sunday School was organized in connection with the church and has kept pace with its advancement and prosperity. Later other societies were organized, including a Ladies' Aid Society, a Y. P. S. C. E., a Junior Endeavor Society and a Men's League.

Rev. John Ustick, the first pastor, was succeeded by Rev. James Carroll, then followed in succession A. H. Lackey, P. B. Marr, D. M. Barber, Robert Proctor, W. J. Johnstone, B. Roberts, George Elliott, John Giffen, S. M. Crissman and W. B. Irwin.

During the winter of 1890–91, Rev. J. D. McCaughtry, of Staunton, Ill., was called upon several times to supply the pulpit, and later a call was extended to him to become the permanent pastor. In April, 1891, Rev. McCaughtry began his labors as pastor, and is still serving in that capacity. During his pastorate the new church edifice was built, and the congregation greatly increased in numbers.

The new Second Presbyterian Church occupies the site of the former building and is erected in the modern style of ecclesiastical architecture. The main building is almost a square and from the northeast corner rises a belfry tower. A false gable projects from the east side of the building, and in that side and in the front are large gothic windows. The whole building is of red pressed brick with red granite trimmings, a black slate roof and cornices of copper.



PECATONICA RIVER.

The entrances to the auditorium are through the two towers, the main tower forming a vestibule from which a staircase leads to the gallery. The floor slopes from the entrances to the pulpit, which is in the south end of the building, and behind which, in an extension of the building for that purpose, are the organ and choir loft. The gallery on the north is not large, but has a seating capacity of 125. It is symmetrical in shape and in no way detracts from the beauty of the church. The ceiling is lofty and vaulted to conform with the exterior lines of the roof, with the false gables breaking in from both the east and west.

The two large windows shown in the cut are among the chief beauties of the church. Both are

memorials, the one in front being the gift of the Sunday School classes to the church, and the other a memorial for the late Fred Flachtemeier and Ralph Yarger.

In the main tower is a memorial for Conrad Bokhof, and on the north side of the building is one for John L. Hughes, and two others, placed by the church, commemorate the good deeds of two deceased elders, John Swanzey and William Bruce.

All of the interior woodwork is of quarter sawed oak, the window casings, balcony and organ loft rails, with pews to match. The latter are both handsome and substantial, highly polished, with carved arms. The frescoing of the walls and ceiling has been done in soft, esthetic shades that harmonize perfectly with the coloring of the windows, the white daylight being everywhere kept out. The ceiling is decorated with alternate panels of oak and maple foliage patterns, done in delicate autumn tints, and the general color scheme is reflected in the carpet, which was the gift of the Ladies' Aid Society. The organ has been rearranged and redecorated to suit the new position.

One of the last things placed in the church was the pulpit, which was given by the scholars of R. D. Dirksen's Sunday School class. It is a beautiful piece of work, made of hand-carved oak to match the other finishings of the interior.



RESIDENCE OF DR. J. F. FAIR.

The other rooms provided for in the building are the pastor's study to the right of the pulpit, which is cozy and still has room enough, and a separate exterior door for convenience sake; a similar room to the left, which will do double duty as the Sunday School library room and cloak room for the choir; the lecture room on the north side, which is separated from the auditorium by a scarcely noticeable panel that can be dropped into the cellar when occasion requires, throwing the two rooms into one. The seats in the lecture room are arranged to face the pulpit, the floor being slightly higher than that of the main church, thus making a considerable increase in the seating capacity of the building. In

the rear of the lecture room, separated from it by folding doors, is the parlor, which is nicely furnished, and off that is the kitchen and lavatory conveniently arranged. The lecture room will be used for the Sunday School and for prayer meetings, and when occasion requires thrown into an auditorium.

The pews in the main body of the church are ranged in a quadrant about the pulpit, and the seating capacity is 400 on the main floor, 125 in the gallery and 200 in the lecture room, a total of 725. It is lighted with more that 200 incandescent lamps, is heated by hot air and well ventilated.

The total cost of the church in actual cash is something over $13,000, which does not include the old material and the work given, the organ or the value of the real estate. A very conservative estimate of the whole property is $20,000.

The manner and rapidity of the building of the church is a credit to both pastor and people. The inadequacy of the old building had been painfully manifest for years, and there had been much talk of building, but no definite action was taken until April, 1895, when a sermon which the pastor preached on the subject was followed immediately by subscriptions aggregating $6,100, and at the second meeting following that $2,000 more was raised. With such a foundation it was thought safe to proceed. A building committee was selected, and plans for the new structure were submitted and approved.

The farewell service was held on the 2nd day of June, 1895, and the work of tearing down began at once. The building committee included R. D. Dirksen, R. W. Smith, J. M. Smith, Alex. Nesbit, W. H. Snooks, W. J. Christler and E. Mayer.

The work was all done under the supervision of the building committee, of which R. D. Dirksen was chairman. Sixty days' work was donated by the men who did the building, and every member of the congregation proved to be a generous giver.

First M. E. Church.

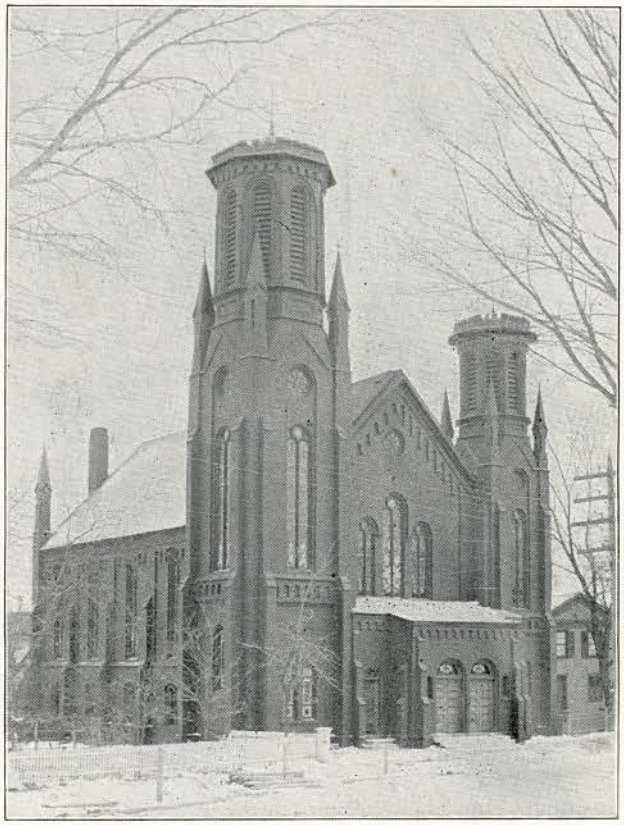
In 1834 Rev. James McKean, a traveling minister, while riding a circuit of 500 miles, stopped in the western part of Stephenson county, and gathering together the representatives of ten families residing there held services and delivered an address. Thus were the first Methodist services held in this county. Two years later Rev. Thos. W. Pope was sent to Stephenson county as a missionary, but he held no services. The following year Rev. McKean returned and remained two years, organizing classes in Freeport and vicinity. Rev. McKean was a man of great energy and perseverance, and the results of his labors are visible to this day. He was succeeded by Rev. Samuel Pillsbury, who came in 1839, and with the assistance of E. P. Wood and Rollin Brown traveled over an extended circuit.

In 1850 Freeport was organized into a separate charge, with a total membership of seven, under the pastorate of Rev. J. F. Devore. Services were held in a little red school building not far from the court house, and often in private houses. At rare intervals they were conducted in the old court house. Mr. Devore was a hard and enthusiastic worker, and soon after settling in Freeport he inaugurated a series of revival meetings, which so increased the membership that a permanent house of worship became necessary. Accordingly the lot now occupied by the church was purchased and preparations at once made for the erection of a suitable building. This was built by subscription, the members in Freeport contributing to their utmost, and farmers throughout the county, irrespective of denomination, donating both money and materials. So earnest was Rev. Devore that he borrowed an ox team from a farmer and assisted in hauling the materials. In the summer of 1851 the basement was completed and the superstructure enclosed. The absence of pews was supplied by the contributions of individuals. The cost of the structure thus far had been about $2,000, all being paid in labor and materials, save $500 in money. It is asserted by some that the dedicatory sermon was preached by Presiding Elder Richard Haney, though others maintain that the Rev. D. W. Pinckney officiated.

In 1852 Rev. Devore was succeeded by Rev. C. C. Best. During Rev. Best's ministry services were conducted in the basement of the church, the completion of the upper portion being delayed until 1853, when it was finished under the ministry of Rev. H. Whipple. In 1855 the church was dedicated, the Rev. Silas Boales preaching the dedicatory sermon. Dr. Henman had accepted an invitation to preach the sermon, but died before the day appointed for the services to be held.

Rev. Whipple was followed by Rev. C. M. Woodruff in 1855, Miles L. Reed in 1856, Thos. North in 1857, J. C. Stoughton, David Teed, W. F. Stewart and J. L. Olmsted, during whose several ministries revival meetings and other efforts greatly increased the church membership. In 1863 Joseph Wardle was sent to Freeport as a missionary, and his labors were in the highest degree successful. Then labors were suspended during 1864, but in the next year

Robert McCutcheon renewed the missionary work and organized the Embury Church, taking with him a membership of sixty from the First Methodist. A church was subsequently built by the new charge, costing $24,000, of which $13,700 was subscribed on the day of dedication, upon which occasion the Rev. Hatfield preached. In 1864 Rev. W. C. Willing became pastor of the First M. E. Church, and during his pastorate the church was enlarged, entailing a cost of $13,000. While these repairs were in progress the congregation worshiped in Plymouth hall.



EMBURY M. E. CHURCH.

In 1867 Rev. F. P. Cleveland accepted the charge, and during his administration a parsonage was erected at a cost of $3,500. In 1870 $800 was expended in repairing and refrescoing the church, and the Rev. W. A. Smith occupied the pulpit, remaining until 1873, when Rev. Cleveland returned, who continued his labors three years and was followed by Revs. S. A. W. Jewett and C. E. Mandeville.

During the pastorate of Rev. Mandeville the congregation increased to 250 members. The next pastor was Rev. Lewis Meredith, who after three years of service was succeeded by Rev. DeLoss M. Tompkins. He was followed in a three years' time by O. F. Matteson, who remained with the church three years. Rev. Tompkins was then returned to the pastorate and remained two years. Rev. C. A. Bunker next assumed the charge, and after three years of most efficient work was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. N. O. Freeman.

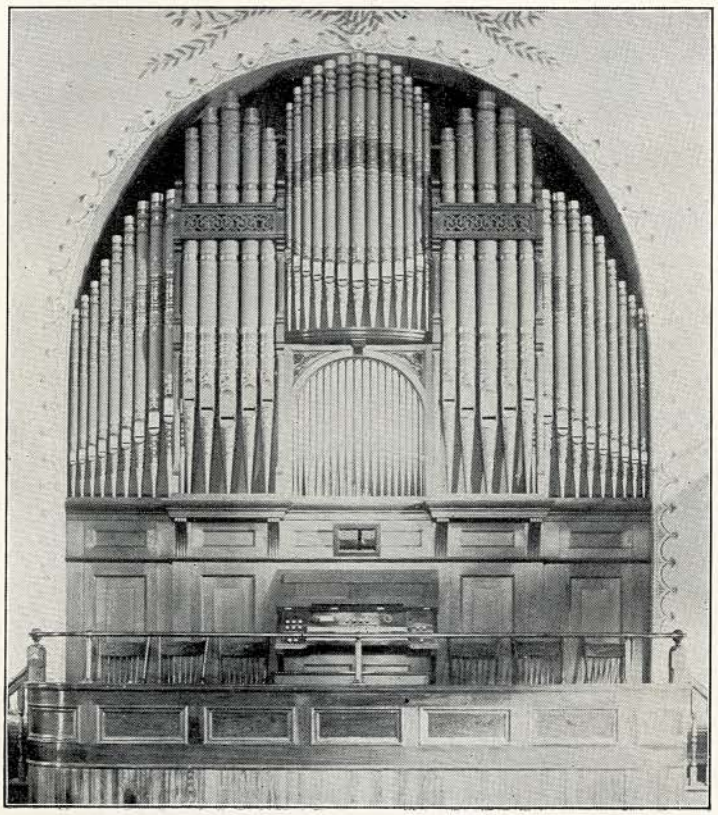
The church to-day is in a healthy and flourishing condition, with a constantly increasing membership and a large and prosperous Sunday School.

Embury M. E. Church.

The movement which finally culminated in the founding of the Embury M. E. Church began in the year 1863. In that year a Sunday School was organized and held meetings in a hall on Stephenson street, and later in the year Rev. Joseph Wardle was sent as a missionary to Freeport, where he attained marked success. The church was permanently organized in the fall of 1865 by members of the sect residing in the southern part of the city, who had previously acknowledged allegiance to the First M. E. Church. These consisted of the Rev. F. C. Winslow, the Rev. Mr. McCutcheon and wife, Hollis Jewell and wife, John Barnes and wife, Joseph Carey and wife, the Rev. Joseph Best and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Abraham German, William Sells, Mrs.

Sechrist, Mrs. J. H. Staver, Mrs. Naylor, Cornelius Furst and Geo. Swentzell.

Ten of the congregation subscribed $1,000 each for the purchase of a lot and building the church, and on Thursday, June 30, 1866, the corner stone of the present edifice was laid at the northwest angle of the main tower, in the presence of a considerable attendance and with the following exercises: After an appropriate hymn by the congregation prayer was offered by Presiding Elder Richard A. Blanchard, who also read the ritual; the scripture lesson



EMBURY ORGAN.

was read by Rev. W. C. Willing and was followed by an address by Rev. J. F. Yates, of Galena, after which the usual mementoes were placed in the stone, including a copy of the Bible, Methodist hymn book, discipline of the M. E. Church, minutes of the Rock River Conference, statement of the organization and history of the church, list of builders of the edifice, declaration of independence, constitution of the United States and of several States, copies of the local and State newspapers, specimens of national coin, etc. This being concluded, the congregation was dismissed with the benediction.

The building was rapidly pushed to completion and was finished in the fall of 1867 at a cost of $23,000, all of which was provided for before, or on, the dedication day. It was dedicated in September of the same year, the Revs. J. H. Yates and S. A. W. Jewett officiating. The church received its name from Philip Embury, who was the first Methodist preacher in America. After Rev. Joseph Wardle's removal Rev. John H. Reaves succeeded to the ministry. He was a man of great fervor and eloquence, but owing to failing health he was obliged to resign after a few weeks' service. Rev. R. McCutcheon, a resident local minister, filled out the remainder of the year assisted by Messrs. F. C. Winslow and Joseph S. Best, local elders. In the fall of 1866 Francis A. Read became pastor and remained the full pastoral term of three years, which was marked by steady growth and prosperity. In 1869 came the inimitable and irrepressible Rev. F. A. Hardin. The first winter of his pastorate witnessed a most sweeping revival, during which over 200 people became probationers in Embury Church. He remained until the spring of 1871 when he was succeeded by Hooper Crews, one of the pioneer members of the Rock River Conference, a stately, genial, generous man, whose praise is in all the churches. He remained at Embury until the conference of 1873. The next pastorate was

shared equally by Revs. S. G. Lathrop and I. E. Springer, each remaining six months. In 1874 Rev. Hardin returned and filled the place for three more years. In 1877 he was succeeded by Rev. G. S. Young, now pastor of the State Street Church, Chicago. He remained two years and was succeeded by Rev. Sanford Washburn, who left at the end of the first year to take charge of the Mendota District. In 1880 Rev. H. L. Martin began a full pastoral term of three years, which was very prosperous. He was followed by Rev. Joseph Wardle, who returned to Embury Church just twenty years after his entrance upon this field. The three years of his pastorate included many stirring revivals, in which large numbers were added to the church membership. In 1886 Rev. J. A. Matlack became pastor, followed in 1889 by Rev. N. J. Harkness, who in turn after four years of prosperity was succeeded by Rev. T. V. E. Sweet in 1893. During the second year of Rev. Sweet's pastorate the church building was entirely remodeled and reopened in January, 1896. The expense of repair, including a new pipe organ, was $9,000. At the conference of 1895 Rev. Sweet was appointed presidind elder of Freeport district and Rev. W. H. Haight, the present incumbent, was appointed pastor of Embury Church. Since the organization of the church there have been 1127 probationers received and 524 baptisms recorded. At the last annual conference the retiring pastor reported as follows:



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

No. of members,	425
No. of probationers,	59
Value of church building,	$20,000
Value of parsonage,	3,600

The church building is of brick, with stone facings and trimmings. The interior is handsomely decorated and lighted by electricity. The building is surmounted by two towers and presents an appearance both attractive and substantial.

Grace Episcopal Church.

The history of Grace Parish dates back previous to the year 1849, when a little band held services with some regularity in a room on Galena street under the leadership of Rev. James Bentley. The Parish was not formally organized until June 17, 1850. An extract from the minutes of the meeting called for the purpose of organization reads as follows:

"We whose names are hereunto affixed, deeply sensible of the Christian religion and earnestly desiring to promote its holy influence in our own hearts, and in those of our families and neighbors, do hereby associate ourselves under the name of Zion Parish, Freeport, in communion with the Protestant Episcopal Church of the U. S. of A., and Diocese of Illinois, the authority of whose constitutions and canons we do hereby recognize, and to whose liturgy and mode of worship we promise to conform. Witness our hands, (signed),

JAMES BENTLEY, GEORGE F. JOHNSON,
CHARLES POWELL, WM. BACON, (Clerk.)
ANDREW F. HOLLENBACH,

The first vestry, elected July 12, 1850, consisted of the following men: A. F. Hollenbach, Senior Warden; Daniel Brewster, Junior Warden; G. F. Johnson, Treasurer; Charles Powell; George Purinton; Wm. Bacon, Clerk.

The work of building was begun in 1851, the congregation meanwhile continuing service in a rented room. On the 16th of February, 1853, the church edifice, located at the corner of Cherry and Stephenson streets, was consecrated by Bishop Whitehouse, assisted by the Revs. Messrs. McKeoun of Elgin, Benedict of Galena, and Bentley the rector. This frame building stood for eight years when, on the 18th of July, 1861, it was totally destroyed in a tornado, entailing serious loss, and necessitating the procuration of an audience room for worship until the damage inflicted could be repaired. Soon afterwards the house was rebuilt and enlarged by inserting a section in the middle. Then followed a season of great temporal prosperity, every pew being rented and more room demanded by the audiences that regularly filled the church. For a period of twenty years, during which the Parish passed



RESIDENCE OF JACOB KROHN.

through many vicissitudes and contended with obstacles which at times threatened to check its progress, the old frame building served as a house of worship. In that time the following rectors had served:

Rev. James Bentley, 1849–53
Rev. A. J. Warner, 1853–55
Rev. Adams, 1856–57
Rev. I. L. Grover, 1857–58
Rev. R. L. Crittenden, 1858–59
Rev. S. R. Weldon, 1860–66

cepted. During his rectorship the present church edifice was projected and the corner-stone laid Aug. 24, 1887, by Dean John Wilkinson of Dixon, assisted by clergymen from Chicago, Galena, Sycamore and Amboy. The church and rectory as they stand to-day were designed by and erected under the supervision of Henry E. Starbuck of Chicago, who succeeded in placing upon a lot 60 x 120 feet two buildings in one and making at the same time as complete, handsome and substantial an edifice as



GALENA STREET—LOOKING WEST.

Rev. J. N. Clark, 1866–68
Rev. W. I. Johnson, 1868–71
Rev. G. W. Dean, 1872–75
Rev. R. F. Sweet, 1876–84
Rev. J. B. Draper, 1884–86

On the 13th of June, 1886, Rev. Wm. C. DeWitt first visited the Parish and conducted services here. Shortly afterwards he was called, through the diocesan authority, to the charge of the Parish. At this time he was in the deaconate but was advanced to the priesthood in the following February. The first term for which he was called expired in September, 1887, when a second call without limitation of time was issued to him by the vestrymen and by him accan be found in the Northwest. The building was estimated to cost $11,000 and the work was completed within those figures.

The church and rectory are built of native white limestone left with bold rock face, and approach in style the architecture of the early English. The edifice is so constructed that the rectory dove-tails with the church proper, and the uniting room is used for the vestry and study, opening both from the chancel and the house. The audience room, including the chancel, is 72 x 37 feet in dimensions and will seat 300 persons. The vestibule, extending the full width of the church in front, is ten feet wide at the entrance, diminishing in the center to allow

space for closets and font. The church is finished in highly polished cherry with rough walls tinted cream color and bordered by a dark freeze. The roof is open timber and finished nearly to the ridge, so that a height of nearly thirty feet is secured to the audience room. At the chancel end are the organ and choir room on the left and vestry on the right. The chancel is gothic in design, enriched with polished arch mouldings. The brass chancel rail was the gift of Mrs. C. G. Duck, of Clifton, Ill., and the brass eagle lectern was given by Freeport Commandery, No. 7.



AUDITORIUM AT OAKDALE PARK.

The rectory is most convenient in every detail. It includes, besides the study mentioned, a reception room 11 x 14, with large bow window; a parlor 16 x 20; dining room 16 x 16; kitchen with boxed entry 12 x 14, and a wide hall bending around the study from the vestibule to a recess behind the chancel of the church. The second story includes five large rooms and bath room. There are mantles and fire places in the parlor, dining room and one chamber.

In 1889 Rev. DeWitt was succeeded by Rev. Marcus Lane, who remained with the church until October, 1895, when he resigned. The Rev. Frederic W. Keator was elected to succeed him and is the present rector of the parish, having entered upon his duties January 1, 1896.

First Baptist Church.

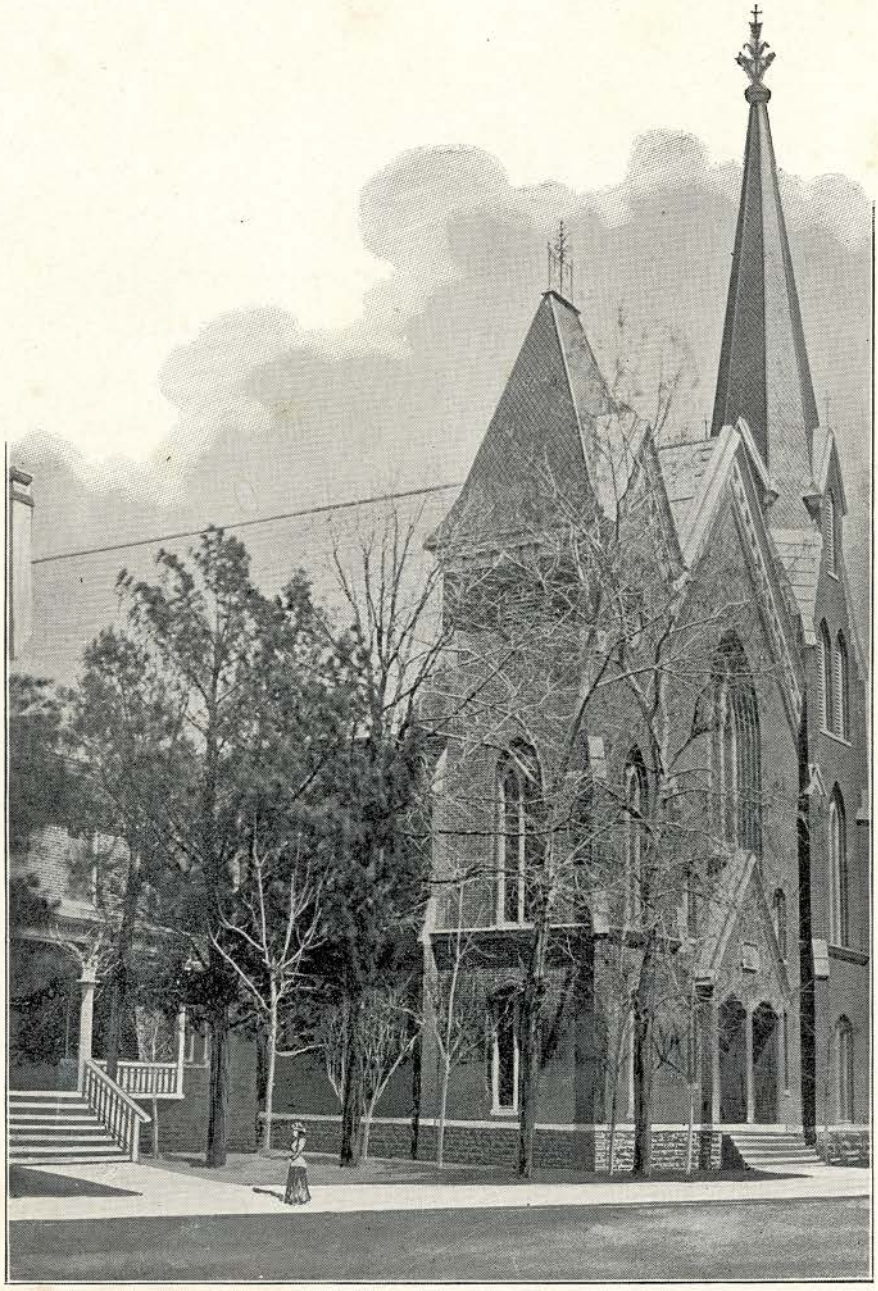
In the year 1845 Freeport was a struggling little village of 400 inhabitants, among whom were found twenty-six Baptists. In the fall of that year fourteen of these Baptists assembled to organize a church, and Rev. James Schofield, who had just settled in Freeport, was chosen pastor, with a salary of $300 a year, one half of which was paid by the Home Mission Society and the other half by the church. Fortunately Mr. Schofield had acquired a little property before entering the ministry, and so was enabled to keep his family from actual need.

An effort was soon made to build a suitable meeting-house, and the subscription list showed amounts from fifty cents to ten dollars. The pastor, owing to numerical and financial weakness of his members, was compelled to seek assistance from the surrounding towns. Belvidere and Chicago responded liberally to his appeal, and Judge Jesse B. Thomas, father of Rev. Jesse B. Thomas, D. D., Deacon Hulbert, father of Dean Hulbert, Dr. L. D. Boone and others gave assistance. While in Chicago Rev. Schofield purchased lumber and shingles, and these were loaded on wagons and carefully marked "Baptist Church of Freeport," and started on the way. Owing to the rough condition of the roads much of this material was scattered along the

way, and afterwards picked up, and in time every stick found its way to its destination. At last the house was completed, at a cost of $4,000, and on Christmas day, 1850, it was dedicated, the late Rev. Ichabod Clark, of Rockford, Ill., preaching the dedicatory sermon. In the two months following this service fifty persons united with the church, most of them by baptism.

In the autumn of 1851 Rev. Schofield resigned, and was succeeded by two short pastorates. Finally, in 1854, the church doors were closed, owing to the presence of cholera in the town. Many of the members had died and the church was pastorless.

In June, 1855, Rev. Ichabod Clark visited Freeport, encouraged the little band and reorganized the Sunday School. In the following autumn Rev. O. D. Taylor was appointed by the General Association of the State to take charge of the Freeport pastorate, with a salary of $600 per year from its treasury. The church was then struggling under a $400 debt, on which interest was exacted at the rate of 24 per cent. In the spring of 1857 a revival brought seventeen additions by baptism and a large number by letter and experience. When Rev. Taylor resigned the church was self-supporting. A brief pastorate under Rev. A. G. Thomas followed, and in June,



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

1859, the Rev. N. F. Ravlin accepted the charge.

In December, 1861, Dr. Wm. Crowell, of St. Louis, accepted a call to the pastorate. In the following year the lot and house were sold to the German Catholic Society, and the lot on which the present edifice stands was purchased and a chapel built.

In 1866 Rev. A. W. Tousey came, and proved to be one of the most efficient pastors the church ever had. In the eighteen months of his labors seventy-one persons were added to the church, forty-nine of them by baptism. During his pastorate the church withdrew from the Rock Run Association and united with the Dixon Association. Owing to failing health Rev. Tousey was compelled to resign. Two years later he passed away.

He was succeeded by C. W. Palmer, who became pastor in October, 1868. His labors resulted in a great increase in the Sunday School. For two years after his departure no regular preaching services were held, owing to a debt of $1,600, which hindered the prosecution of the work. In April, 1870, Alfred H. Wise placed in the hands of the trustees securities to cover the full amount of the debt. This generous act instilled new life into the church, and an effort was made to secure a new pastor, which resulted in extending a call to Rev. S. B. Gilbert, which he accepted, and in June, 1871, began his labors in Freeport. His pastorate was marked by a steady growth. In the summer of 1874 the chapel was enlarged, and in the fall of that year W. H. Dorward assumed the pastorate. In 1875 Rev. H. W. Brown conducted special meetings, which resulted in the accession to the church membership of more than thirty persons.

On Sunday, December 26, the chapel was completely destroyed by fire, but on the same day a meeting was called at the residence of J. M. Bailey, at which it was resolved to rebuild it at once. By



RESIDENCE OF DR. D. C. L. MEASE.

December, 1876, the lecture room of the new edifice was ready for service, and when, in 1878, Rev. Dorward retired from the field, the church was left united and strong, with a new house of worship and a constantly increasing membership.

In November, 1878, Dr. D. H. Cooley became pastor. During the next year the auditorium was completed and furnished, the desired end being greatly hastened by the services of the late Deacon Robert Schofield, brother of Rev. James Schofield. The house, which cost $14,500, was dedicated June 29, 1879. Alfred H. Wise was the efficient chairman of the building committee. Early in 1882 Dr. Cooley resigned. Since his pastorate the church has been in charge of Revs. E. P. Savage, R. L. Halsey, W. H. Parker, A. W. Fuller and Wm. C. Spencer.

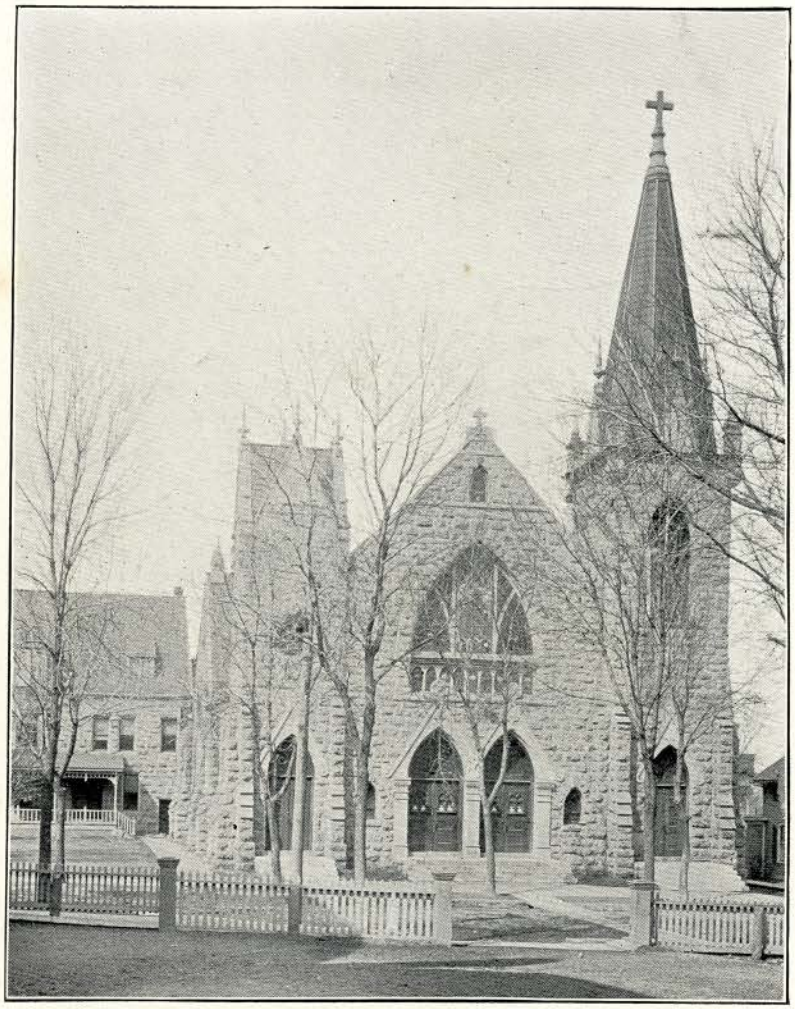
The following persons have been members of the church for the period named: Fifty years, Mrs.

Caroline S. Wise; 40 to 48 years, A. H. Wise, Mrs. Sabrina Ketchum, A. W. Ford; 35 to 40 years, J. M. Bailey, Mrs. Anna O. Bailey; 25 to 30 years, Miss Sarah Ketchum, Mrs. Harriet Winters, Darius Winters.

The diaconate has contained many good men. The deacons at present are: E. Ellis, G. F. Brigham, S. C. Schofield, G. B. Turneaure and John M. Wise.

ple and unostentatious; no attempt is made at adornment or display, but the entire building is arranged with regard to securing the most perfect effects in light and ventilation and the comfort of pastor and congregation.

Connected with the church and maintained by it is a large and efficient Sunday School, with about 300 on the roll call and an average attendance of 150. The church property is valued at $20,000.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

The First Baptist Church is an imposing edifice of red pressed brick with white marble trimmings. It is built in the heavy style of the Renaissance period, with but little attempt at outward display or adornment. It is located in one of the most beautiful and picturesque parts of Stephenson Street, and is surrounded by massive oaks and elms.

The auditorium is elevated some distance above the street, the lower portion of the church being reserved for lecture halls and class rooms. Beneath the long platform on which the pulpit rests is the baptistry, directly back of which are the choir loft and organ. The decorations of the church are sim-

St. Mary's Church.

The beautiful and imposing church of St. Mary's stands as a monument to the energy, fervor and religious zeal of the Catholic community of Freeport, a community which in the last six years has by self-abnegation and unbounded generosity given over $72,000 to the erection, equipment and maintenance of one of the most modern and architecturally beautiful temples of worship in northern Illinois. The history of the rise and progress of the Catholic parish of Freeport is commensurate with the story of the birth and subsequent growth of the city itself, and is a record of faithful labor and de-

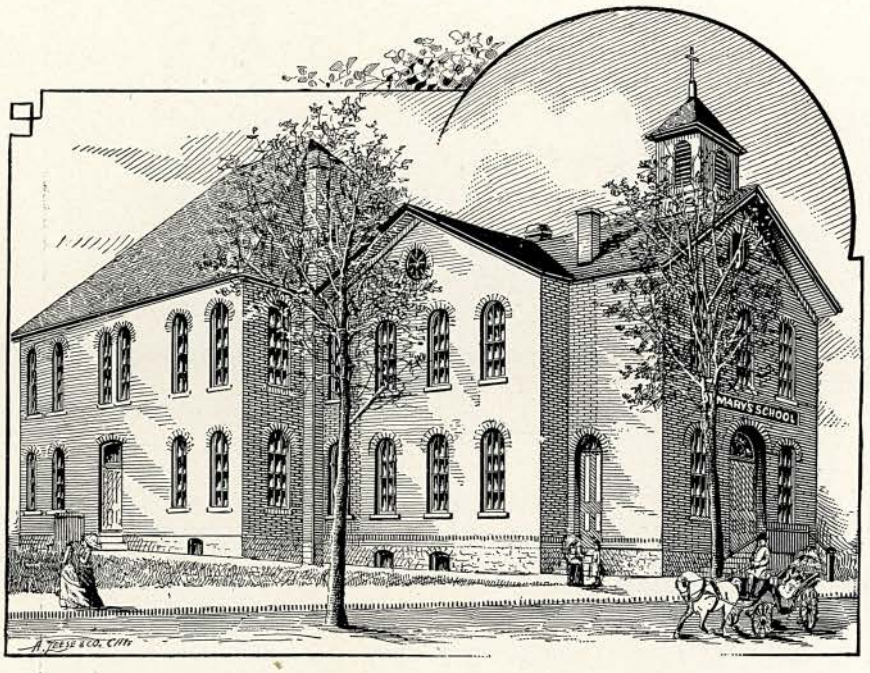
votion to which they may point with every feeling of pride and satisfaction.

Sixty-nine years ago, when the little village of Freeport, a mere handful of frame buildings and little stores, struggled with the impediments which thwart the progress of every incipient hamlet, the first mass was offered in the house of one Simon Brady by Father Stephen Vincent Badin, who was on his way from Kankakee to Galena and Prairie du Chien.

As far as is ascertainable Father Badin conducted the first mass offered up to Almighty God in Stephenson County. As the Catholic settlers of the county increased in numbers from 1831 to 1843, their spiritual wants were administered by priests residing in Galena. In 1843 Father Derwin was appointed by the Bishop of St. Louis to take charge of New Dublin. His parish was extended over the counties of Stephenson, Lee, Ogle and Winnebago, with his residence at New Dublin. In 1846 Father John Kavanaugh was appointed by the Bishop of Chicago to succeed Father Derwin, and this district was at the same time transferred from the jurisdiction of St. Louis to that of Chicago.

In 1848 Father Kavanaugh's unremitting labor resulted in the organization of the present parish of St. Mary's. In lieu of a church, mass was offered up at the house of Mrs. Katherine Egan, who is today one of the few surviving members of the first parish. Three years after the organization of the parish Father Kavanaugh succeeded in raising funds sufficient to erect the first Catholic church in Freeport. This church, a low frame structure, was razed in 1855 and replaced by a larger, more modern and convenient brick building, which stood until 1890, when it was removed to make room for the present handsome edifice.

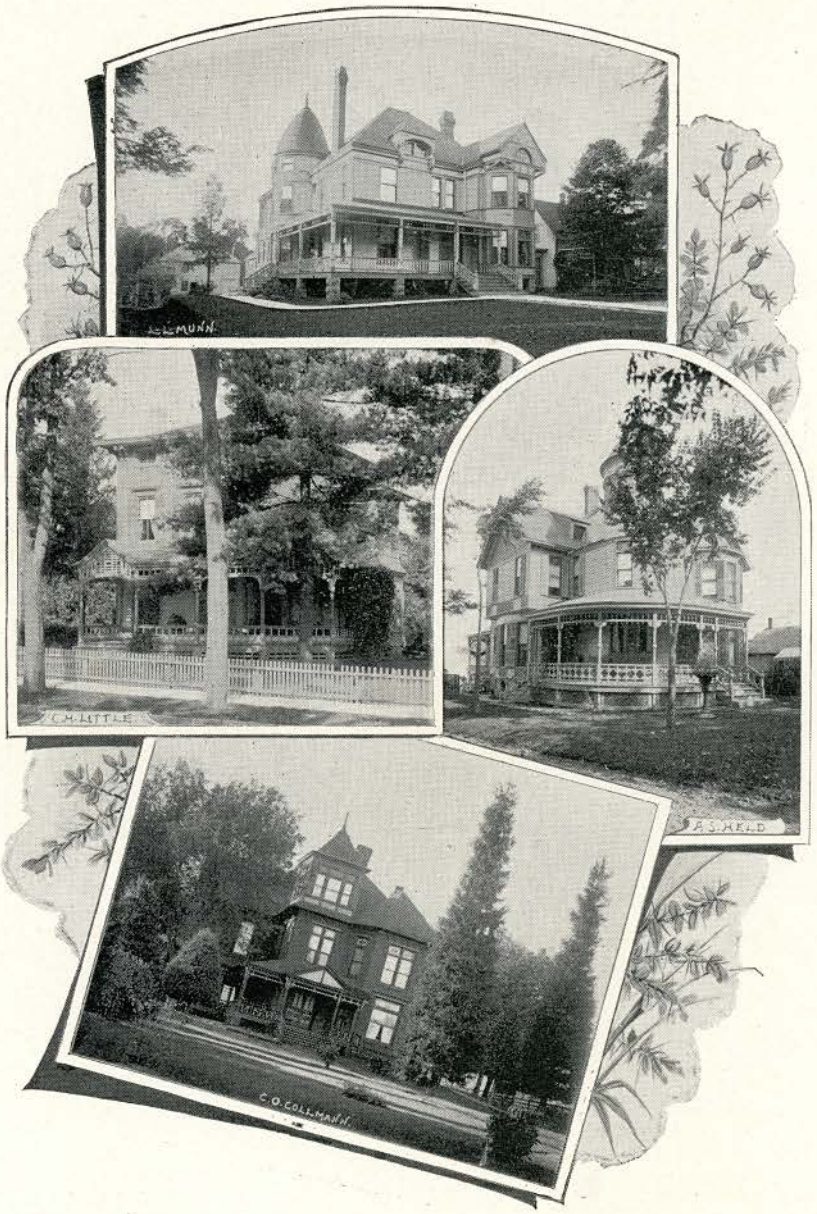
In 1867 Rev. M. J. Hanly became pastor of St. Mary's. He was succeeded in 1869 by Rev. P. L. Henderiekx. Rev. F. J. Murtaugh was pastor in 1870, Rev. Maurice Stack in 1871, Rev. Thos. F. Mangan in 1877, and Rev. Michael Welby in 1887. On the 1st day of January, 1890, Father Welby died in New Mexico. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. W. A. Horan in 1889, with Rev. L. X. DuFour as assistant pastor.



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

In the year 1868 Father Hanly organized St. Mary's School, which is controlled and maintained by the district parish, and which to-day has a large number of pupils enrolled. When the new church was erected, in 1890, the capacity of the school building was trebled and other improvements made, rendering it equal in all points of convenience and comfort to the most modern of public school houses. The school was chartered by an act of the Illinois Legislature in 1892. The convent in connection with the church also underwent extensive improvements in 1892, and was increased to twice its former size.

All these improvements and the erection of new buildings necessarily entailed an enormous debt upon the parish of St. Mary's, but the incessant toil of Fr. Horan, in conjunction with an almost unparalleled spirit of generosity on the part of the church members, meeting the debt with a determination unprecedented, succeeded not only in liquidating it, but in raising, from the year 1890 to 1896, almost $80,000. In 1893 Cardinal Gibbons visited Freeport, and was most royally entertained by the Cathlics of the city.



The present church of St. Mary's is a large, almost square structure, built of native lime stone, in the modern style of ecclesiastical architecture. To the right rises a lofty spire, from which in the near future a chime of sweet-toned bells will proclaim the hours of worship throughout the city. The interior of the main building is finished throughout with highly polished quarter-sawed oak, and its walls glow in the softest and most harmonious of tints which the skill of the decorator can produce, and their warm hues blending with the multi-colored rays which pierce over twenty memorial windows, produce a medley of soft light which falls with pleasing effect throughout the building.

In the sanctuary and beneath the largest and most beautiful of the memorial windows stand three magnificent altars of white marble with pillars and trimmings of onyx, expressions of the munificence of the church societies, and of John Tracy and family, of Freeport, and Joseph Barron and sisters, of Shannon, Ill. These altars were dedicated with

unusually impressive ceremonies in December, 1895.

From the south end of the church and joined to it extends a large building of the same material and architecture as the church proper, which constitutes the home of the priests. This residence was arranged and built with regard to every detail of convenience and comfort of its residents. It is supplied throughout with every modern convenience, is spacious and well lighted and forms in every respect one of the most convenient and pleasant parochial residences in the state.



ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL.

St. Mary's Parish is in a condition of vigorous growth and progress, with a large membership, among whom are some of our city's most intelligent and progressive citizens.

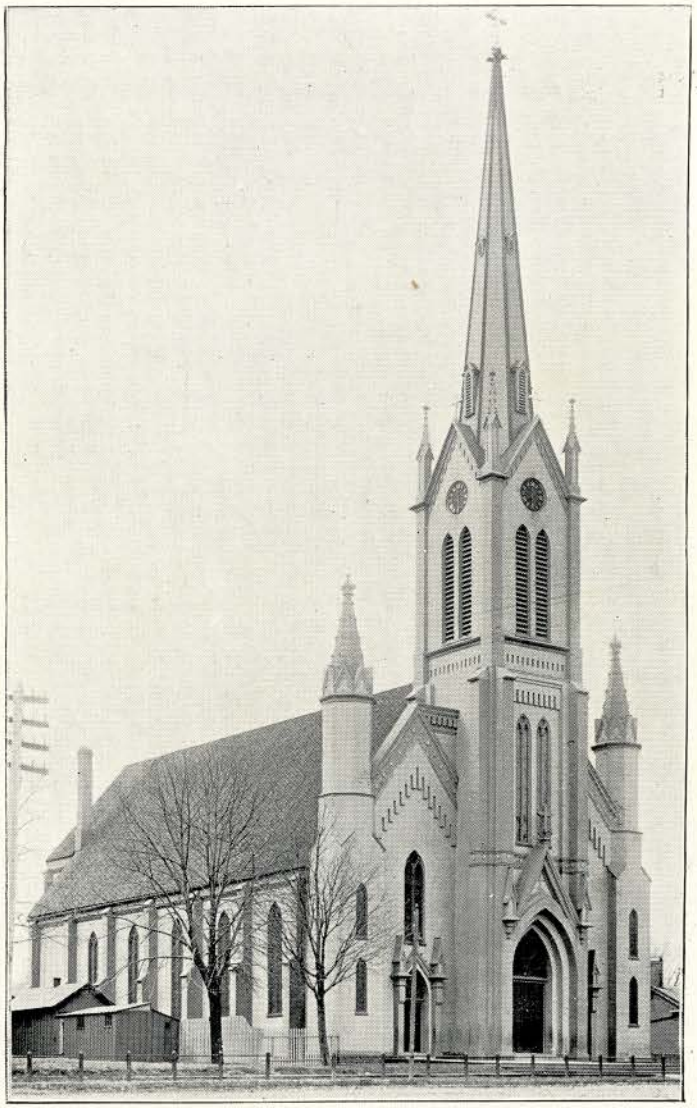
St. Joseph's Church.

The spiritual wants of the German Catholics were formerly administered by priests from Galena, whose district also included the counties contiguous to Stephenson. In the year 1842 Rev. C. H. Ostlangenberg, who was stationed at Galena, made occasional visits to the Catholic communities throughout northwestern Illinois. He was succeeded in 1850 by the Rev. R. Heimerling, who made regular visits to Freeport. When the Rev. Father Cavanagh organized St. Mary's Parish the German Catholics held service with them, and continued to do so until they were able to secure a permanent house of worship. In 1854 Rev. F. Kalvelage succeeded Rev. Father Cavanagh, and preached alternately in English and German. When Father Kalvelage was called to St. Francis' Church in Chicago, in 1859, Rev. Thos. O'Gara took charge of the Freeport Parish. As Father O'Gara did not speak German he had from time to time German priests here to administer the sacraments to the German people. Among these German priests were Rev. B. Harderer in 1859, Rev. John Mehlman and Rev. G. Uhland in 1860, and Rev. P. Fisher, who assisted Father O'Gara from October, 1860, to August, 1861.

In August, 1861, the Rev. John Westkamp was directed to Freeport to assist Rev. Father O'Gara. As the German Catholics at this time numbered about one hundred families, Father Westkamp was authorized to establish a German congregation. On the 4th of June, 1862, they bought the old Baptist Church for $2,000, a frame building 40 x 60, which was dedicated on the 3rd day of August, 1862, the Rev. Jos. Mueller, C. SS. R., of Chicago, officiating. This building was used for ten years, when, owing to the rapid increase in the Catholic population of the city, the old church was found to be too small

for the congregation, and in the fall of 1871 Rev. J. G. Balluff, who had succeded Father Westkamp, made arrangements for a new building. In the fall of 1871 the preliminary arrangements were completed, and early in the spring of 1872 the old building was moved back on Pleasant street, and work on the present St. Joseph's Church was begun. The corner stone was laid in June, 1872, by the Rt. Rev. Thos. Foley, D. D., Bishop of Chicago, who dedicated the church on the fourth Sunday of Advent in the same year. The church building is 50 x 150, built of brick, in the gothic style of architecture, and is one of the most ornate and complete houses of worship in Freeport. The auditorium, including the two galleries, is capable of seating comfortably about 1000 people, and is lighted by five windows on each side and seven in the sanctuary. It is ornamented with donative offerings from members, with station pictures, and many pieces of statuary of Munich composition, illustrating sacred subjects. The acoustic properties of the church are of a superior order. The church cost, with furniture and equipments, about $30,000.

Early in 1874 Father Balluff resigned, and was succeeded in March of the same year by Rev. C. Kalvelage. During the period of his ministry the steeple, 175 feet high, was erected, bells purchased and improvements made in the interior, including altars, altar railing, pulpit and a number of statues which adorn the sanctuary.



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH.

Connected with the church is a parochial school under the tutorship of the sisters of St. Francis of Joliet, employing five teachers and affording instruction in the ordinary branches to an average daily attendance of 260 pupils.

The first school house was erected in 1861. It

was a one story frame building about 24 x 36, and was located near St. Mary's Church on Union street. When the old Baptist Church had been bought in 1862 the school was moved to this place, and soon afterwards another story was added to accommodate the increasing number of pupils. In 1883 a new school building was erected at a cost of $5500. It is a two story brick edifice with a stone basement. The basement contains boiler and coal rooms, and a room 22 x 34 for society purposes. In each of the two stories there are two school rooms, 24 x 36, with wardrobes and other accommodations and modern improvements. The building is well lighted and ventilated and is heated by hot water.

PASTORAL RESIDENCE.

In March, 1865, a pastoral residence was purchased for $1800. This served until November, 1895, when a larger and more modern residence was projected. The new home occupies a site purchased from the Oyler heirs for $3100, and cost when completed about $8500. It is a two story brick building with white marble trimmings and marble steps. It is finished throughout in highly polished quarter-sawed oak, and furnished with a care that has omitted no detail which might add to the comfort and convenience of its resident.

The entire church property, including a cemetery of four acres, located one and one-half miles south of the city, represents a total valuation of about $75,000.

ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL.

Man's humanity to man, his sympathy for the afflicted, and a heaven-born desire to alleviate pain and suffering, have all found expression in the noble work accomplished within the walls of St. Francis' Hospital—a work of love, of which the outer world knows but little, and which is rewarded only by the fervent gratitude of those who have found restored health and happiness through its ministrations.

The hospital building, a large four story brick edifice, occupies a beautiful site just on the southern boundary of the city, and surrounded on the west and south by broad fields and green meadows, bounded by groves of pines and rugged oaks. The building was erected in the year 1889 at a cost of $20,000, and was dedicated on the 12th of Feburary, 1890.

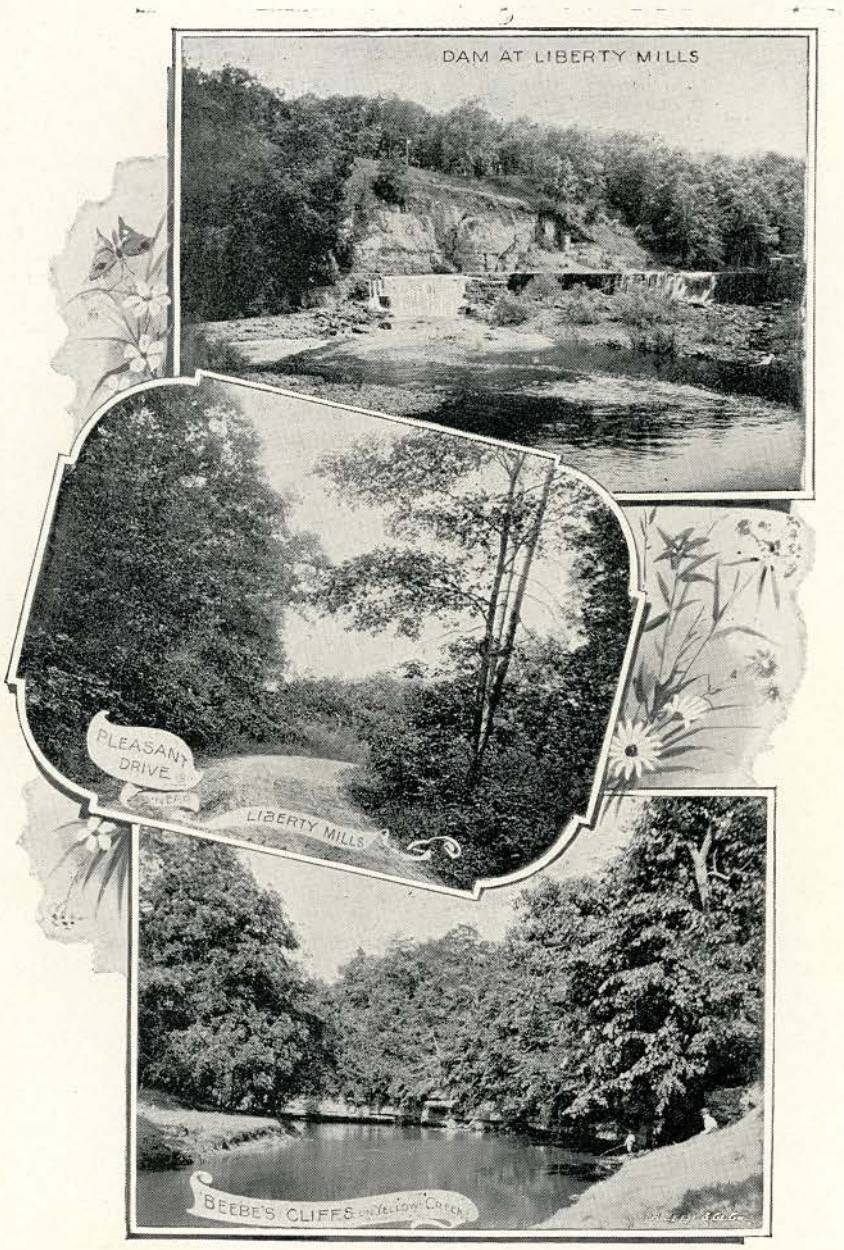


RESIDENCE OF HENRY DORMAN.

Two days afterwards the first patient was admitted.

The hospital is a charitable institution, and is founded upon principles which disregard race, color, religion, sect or nationality, but consider man only as one great brotherhood, of which every member is entitled to the loving service of his every fellow man. The entire building with its great charge is under the care of the Catholic Sisters of St. Francis, Sister Mary Ida, Superior, a fact which alone is positive assurance of the most scrupulous care for the welfare of the patients and conscientious regard for every detail that would tend to palliate the sufferings of its inmates.

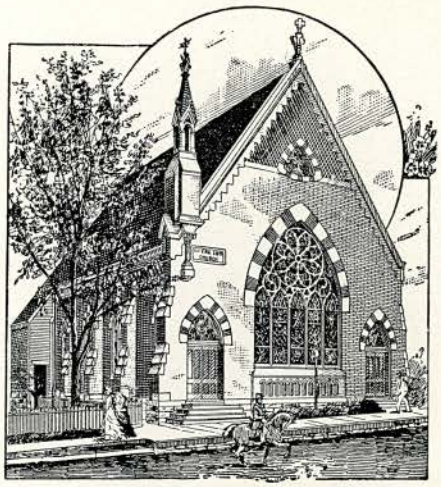
During the first year of its existence sixty-eight patients were cared for at the hospital. The next year the number had increased to 146. The institution has no regularly appointed staff of physicians and surgeons, each patient being at liberty to choose any attendant he may desire, and the leading physicians of the city have availed themselves of the privilege of sending their patients to the hospital, where they realize that the most beneficial results may be obtained. In addition to hospital work the sisters nurse patients in private families as far as time and circumstances will permit.

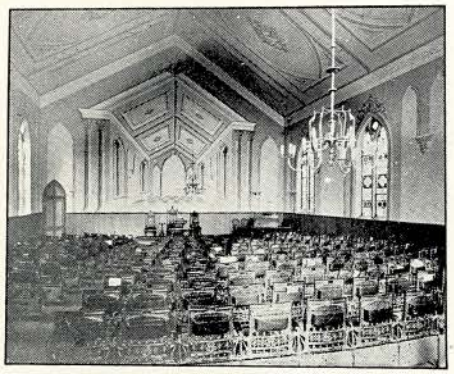


The hospital building itself is a paragon of convenience and utility. It is spacious, light and well ventilated, finished throughout in oak and supplied with every convenience known to architect and sanitary engineer. It has a frontage of 105 feet on Wal-

nut street and is 48 feet deep. It is built of brick, four stories high with stone basement and a handsome tower. The building is heated with steam and lighted with gas and electricity. All the rooms are supplied with hot and cold water. In the large basement are located the kitchen, dining room and laundry, and also a room for paupers. The first floor contains the parlors, reception room, operating room, physicians' office, sisters' apartments, bath rooms, etc. The other floors are devoted to wards.

The institution is sustained partially by what the patients are able to pay and partly by charitable contributions of friends and benefactors. The entire property, including furniture, is valued at $35,000.





MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH—EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR.

Memorial Lutheran Church.

The history of the various efforts to establish an Evangelical Lutheran Mission in Freeport is one of alternating success and failure. As early as 1852 Rev. Ephraim Miller, in his report as president of the synod at its session in Chicago, spoke of arrangements being made to send a missionary to Freeport to begin labor there early in November, but for some unknown reason the project miscarried. Two years later another effort was made to establish a mission here, but as there was at that time no general home mission board, missionary enterprises had to be carried on by each synod separately, and the absence of union and systematic endeavor left Freeport without its mission. In 1862 Rev. Solomon Ritz, superintendent of missions in this synod, said in his report: "I visited Freeport several times, and made every effort possible to see what prospects there were of organizing a Lutheran Church. I found some Lutherans, but the cry was 'the war' and 'the hard times,' hence I concluded to leave that place alone till after the war."

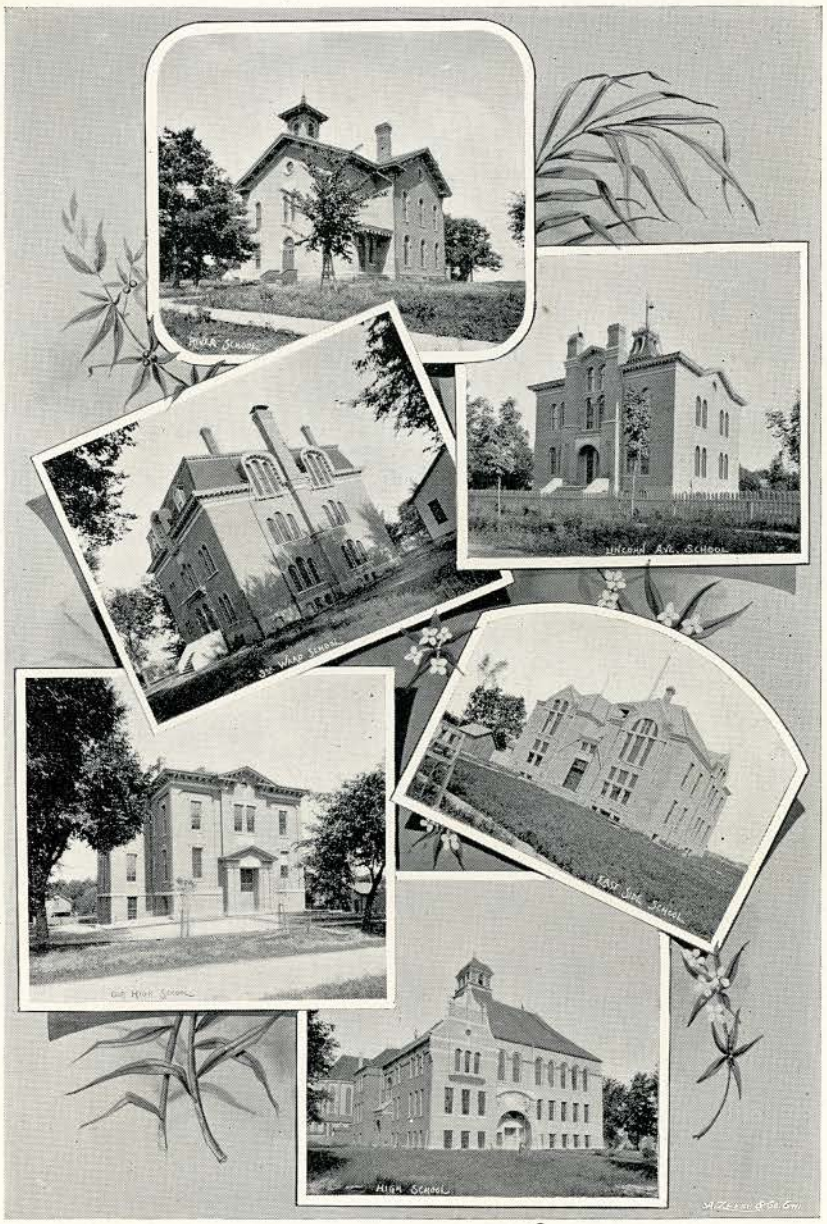
The year 1863 opened with nothing definite done for Freeport, but at the fall meeting of the synod it was designated as a synodical mission field. The following year Rev. S. W. Harkey sent Rev. T. F. Easterday to explore the field at Freeport, who reported that he saw nothing sufficiently promising to warrant the founding of a mission there. But the fact that Rev. Easterday was connected with the Lake Superior Presbytery may explain his inability to see anything "sufficiently promising" in the field.

At the synod of 1865, however, definite action was taken, and Freeport was chosen as a mission field, and $200 were voted to it. Rev. J. M. Lingle was placed in charge of the mission, and everything pointed to the speedy erection of a church, when adversities beset the enterprise. Rev. Lingle resigned after a year's labor, and although Rev. Weiser afterwards visited Freeport to see what could be done, he met with no encouragement, and was finally obliged to discontinue his visits.

No further attempt was made to establish a mission for a year, when, owing to Dr. S. W. Harkey's efforts, the synod pledged itself to devote $600 to the cause, and to support a missionary there at all hazards. It seemed then that something would be done, but a few weeks sufficed to show how futile were all attempts in that direction. The years 1867 and '68 were blank as far as any attempts to establish a permanent mission here were concerned. Towards the latter part of 1868 a conference committee made a thorough investigation of the field at Freeport and reported between forty and fifty Luth-

erans in the city, some of whom would be willing to give $500 towards building a church.

This report, signed by G. J. Donmeyer and John Stoll, two clergymen then residing in Stephenson county, was received and adopted. As a result, Rev. S. N. St. John was sent to the Freeport mission at a salary of $40 per month. But Rev. St. John proved to be a licentiate with little or no experience and consequently was permitted to abandon the field with the permission of the president of the Synod. Ten silent years followed in which not a word was heard about the Freeport mission. In 1879 the conference again took up the question and on the 12th of November of that year effected an organization with twenty members, who by unanimous vote elected Rev. J. W. Goodlin pastor. But Rev. Goodlin declined, as did also the pastor who was next called. In the face of these discouragements interest in the cause declined and the organization went to pieces. In 1881, after thirty years of fruitless endeavor, the enterprise seemed as far from success as ever.



In 1881, however, the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society, in looking about for a place to take up their mission, settled on Freeport, and Thos. F. Reeser, of Williamsport, Pa., was sent to the field June 1st of that year. A Sunday School was formed which met in Temperance hall, where preaching services were also held. In December, 1884, the new church was built and occupied. The lot on

which the church stands, 52 feet front and 79½ feet deep, was purchased Sept. 16, 1882, for $900, and the corner-stone laid Oct. 16, 1883. Rev. F. W. Conrad, D.D., preached the dedication sermon.

Rev. Reeser resigned Sept. 1, 1885, and in the following January Rev. A. M. Barrett took charge. He remained with the mission for two dark and discouraging years and was succeeded Nov. 1, 1888, by Rev. H. A. Ott. Under Rev. Ott's leadership no church in the synod increased more rapidly in membership, raised more money on its debt, or was more loyal to the benevolent demands of the synod than the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Freeport.

Rev. Mr. Ott resigned the pastorate in July, 1896, after eight years of faithful labor. His successor has not yet been appointed.



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.

Trinity Church.

At the annual session of the Illinois Conference of the Evangelical Association, held in Naperville, Ill., in April, 1867, upon a motion of Rev. Henry Rohland and seconded by Rev. S. Dickover, the Salem Mission of Freeport was established. For some reason, however, it was not supplied with a preacher until the spring of 1869, when Rev. Henry Messner was sent as pastor and Rev. D. B. Byers was elected presiding elder. There were fifty-four original members, most of whom came by letter from Emanuel Church on Oak street. The following constituted the first quarterly conference: Class leaders, Paul W. Rockey, Rev. D. W. Grissinger; exhorters, H. W. Pease, John Miller; trustees, John Barshinger, Paul W. Rockey, D. W. Grissinger, John Woodside, Simon Anstine; stewards, T. Y. Fiss, John Wolfinger, Elias Bamberger.

For about six months the young society worshiped in "Commercial Hall" on Stephenson street. A Sabbath School was organized and the whole system of church work set in motion. A house and lot were purchased on Pleasant street from David Sunderland and immediately the erection of the present Salem Church began. In March, 1870, the new sanctuary was dedicated. The entire cost of the church and lot was $7,236.31. In 1888 a new parsonage was built at a cost of nearly $1100. The conference year of 1893–4 will long be remembered by this congregation. On account of circumstances

over which they had no control whatever, they were compelled to secure a new church home. A house and lot were purchased on the corner of Union and Pleasant streets, the congregation re-incorporated under the name of "Trinity Evangelical Church of Freeport," and the present beautiful edifice erected under the very efficient and ardent labors of Rev. J. H. Keagle. Nearly seventy people were received into the church during this year, and all the lines of work greatly strengthened. It was a remarkable year, and the valuable property will ever stand as a noble monument of the principles, piety and self-denial of a devoted people. Rev. Wm. Caton was at this time the heroic presiding elder, and rendered most helpful service. Rev. Henry Rohland, one of the most truly pious, gifted and dignified preachers the Evangelical Church ever had, was also a member of the congregation at this time, and took a deep interest in the erection of Trinity Church. He did not long enjoy its hallowed associations and privileges, however, for on April 14, 1895, on the evening of a glorious Easter Sabbath, God sent his chariot and took his beloved servant to himself. His name will ever be sacredly linked with Trinity, and his life will ever prove a gracious inspiration to the young, as also a worthy pattern to the old.

The society now numbers 200 members, and the Sunday School, including the Home Department, about 250. Following are the various church organizations: Old People's Prayermeeting, Young People's Prayermeeting, Woman's Missionary Society, Young Ladies' Missionary Society, Mission Band, Keystone League of Christian Endeavor, Junior League, Ladies' Aid Society, Normal Class, Choir and Orchestra.

One of the former members, Rev. T. W. Woodside, is an honored missionary in West Africa under the American Board, where he has already spent eight years with his family in self-denying service.



TRINITY CHURCH AND PARSONAGE.

The following have been pastors of this congregation since its organization:

H. Messner, 1869–70
E. C. Condo, 1871–73
D. B. Byers, 1873–76
C. Schmucker, 1876–79
W. H. Bucks, 1879–80
D. B. Byers, 1880–82
W. H. Fouke, 1882–84
S. A. Miller, 1884
W. Caton, 1885–88
W. H. Fouke, 1888–91
J. H. Keagle, 1891–94
S. F. Entorf, 1894

Salem Church.

The Salem Church belongs to the Evangelical Association, and was organized on April 27, 1869. The meeting at which the organization was effected was presided over by Rev. D. B. Byers, presiding elder of the Freeport District. Rev. H. Messner, the pastor, was present, and P. W. Rockey officiated as secretary. Articles of incorporation were adopted, and a board of trustees, consisting of Rev. D. W. Grissinger, John Woodside, P. W. Rockey, John Barshinger and Simon Anstine, was appointed. The charter members of the church included Mr. and Mrs. John Woodside, Mr. and Mrs. John Barshinger, Mr. and Mrs. John Miller, Mr. and Mrs. John Wolfinger, Mr. and Mrs. John Dickover, Mr. and Mrs. Simon Anstine, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Pease, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Fiss, Mr. and Mrs. Elias Bamberger, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Clark, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Spitler, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fox, Mr. and Mrs. John Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Hime, Rev. D. W. Grissinger and wife, Samuel Clair, Mr. and Mrs. J. Baymiller, Miss Susan Baymiller, Aaron H. Barshinger, Mrs. H. Dengler, Miss E. Dengler, Mr. and Mrs. John Fritz, Miss C. Fritz, Mr. and Mrs. Elias Koonz, Mrs. Carrie Klock, Mrs. Mary Kaufman, Mrs. Sarah Kyle, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Penticoff, Mrs. E. Neuman, P. W. and Mrs. Rockey, Miss P. H. Reinhuber, Miss Rebecca Rohland, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Shaffer, Mrs. Anna Stibgen, Aaron and Thomas H. Woodside, Mrs. Sarah Woodside, Misses Mary and Lizzie Woodside, the Revs. D. B. Byers and Henry Messner, Mesdames Byers and Messner, and Mr. and Mrs. Elias J. Duth.

Services were at first held in Commercial Hall on Stephenson street, where a Sabbath School was ultimately opened and the system of church work inaugurated. A committee was appointed to procure a suitable site for a church building and to secure funds for the erection of the same. A lot was soon purchased of David Sunderland on Pleasant street for $2500 and a gothic frame edifice 40 x 60 feet and two stories high was erected. The church was erected by members of the congregation with the pastor acting as foreman, and so effectually was the work prosecuted that the lecture room was finished and occupied in November of the same year. In the following March the house was completed and dedicated to the service of God.

The following pastors have officiated: Revs. H. Messner, 1869 to 1870; E. C. Condo, 1871–73; D. B. Byers, 1873–76; C. Schmucker, 1876–79; W. H. Bucks, 1879–80; D. B. Byers, 1880–82; W. H. Fouke, 1882–84; S. A. Miller, 1884; W. Caton, 1885–88; W. H. Fouke, 1888–91.

In 1890 occurred the withdrawal of the Dubs faction of the Illinois Conference, and with it the membership of the Salem Church with the exception of two members. The seceders, however, remained in control of the property until April, 1893, when the Supreme Court of Illinois decided that all property belonged to the Evangelical Association and must be handed over.

When again in control of the property the Illinois Conference stationed Rev. H. A. Kramer to Salem Church to rebuild the society. At the close of the year he reported fourteen conversions, a membership of twenty, a Sunday School of fifty-five and a Young People's Alliance of thirty.

In April, 1894, Rev. W. B. Rilling was in charge of the work. At the close of the first year he was able to report eight conversions, seventeen accessions, four removals, leaving a total of thirty-three. Also a Sunday School of seventy-five, and a Y. P. A. of thirty members.

In April, 1895, Rev. W. B. Rilling returned as pastor and put in a year of hard work. Besides performing all pastoral duties he superintended the repairing of the church. The church was reshingled, painted, carpeted, etc., at an expenditure of over $800, and now presents a very attractive appearance. At the close of the second year the pastor reported nineteen conversions, twenty-three accessions, two moved away, leaving a total membership of fifty-three, a Sunday School of one hundred, and a Y. P. A. of thirty members.

In April, 1896, Rev. Rilling was again returned. Early in the spring the parsonage was neatly repaired, both the interior and exterior.

This society is composed mostly of promising young people. While the membership is not large, the attendance is good, especially on Sunday evenings, which gives the church a promising outlook for the future.

St. John's Church.

St. John's German Evangelical Church was organized in 1847 by the following named persons: H. Kochsmeier, P. Tewes, A. Mengedohd, A. Boedeker, B. Boedeker, B. Huenkemeier, F. Hanke, W. Mundhenke, C. Reesenberger, C. Lesemann, C. Biene, C. Altenberg, F. Bodmann, H. Burkhart and E. Beine, elder. Meetings were held in 1848 by E. Beine, local preacher, and continued for several years in a school house in the western part of the

city. During the same year the organization of the church was completed according to the laws of the "Evangelical Verein of the West," and in 1850 a lot at the corner of State (now Galena Ave.) and Union streets was purchased and a church edifice, 33 x 40, commenced. The building was completed in 1852, and a year later the Rev. J. Zimmerman became pastor and in 1854 the congregation united with the German Synod of the West.

In 1856 a parsonage and school house were erected on the church lot and teachers secured to instruct the youthful members in German and other branches. The year previous Mr. Zimmerman was succeeded by Rev. W. Kampmeier, who remained ten years. During his ministry the present stone church building, 44 x 75 with a spire 100 feet high and an auditorium capable of seating 700 people, was completed at a cost of $5,000 contributed by members of the congregation. In 1866 Rev. P. H. Hoefer accepted charge of the parish and was succeeded in 1870 by Rev. D. M. Fotch, who remained six years and was followed by Rev. C. Hoffmeister, who in turn was followed by Rev. Martin Otto. Rev. Otto, after several years of most efficient service, was succeeded by Rev. N. Severing, who died May 20, 1896. In January, 1887, the church was remodeled and refurnished, making it more modern in every respect. There is also connected with the church a large and prosperous school in charge of Henry Hueneke.



RESIDENCE OF AUGUST BERGMAN.

Emanuel Evangelical.

The Emanuel Evangelical is one of Freeport's most substantial churches. It was organized in 1851 with the following membership: John Krinbill, Fred. Asche, Jos. Miess, John Marter, Jacob Heim, H. Thomas, G. Thomas, G. Mainzer, A. Brenner, L. Metzger, M. Metzger, John Mayer, Christian

Mainzer, B. Mainzer, Mr. Lemberger, Catherine Stoskopf, William Ellebrecht, J. Wolf, H. Fahringer and J. Frey.

During the following year stirring revivals greatly increased the number of members and a church building was soon under contemplation. Mr. Miess had donated eighty acres of land, which was sold for $450 and the proceeds used in the erection of a brick church edifice, 40 x 50 in dimensions. The building committee was composed of Rev. H. Rohland, Jos. Miess, J. Krinbill, J. Marter and Wm. Ellebrecht. The building was at that time situated in the center of the present Oak street, where it remained until 1868, when it was removed to the site which the new edifice now occupies. The latter, located at 18 and 20 Oak street, is constructed of red brick, ornamented with a steeple, and affords a seating capacity for 350 worshipers. It was completed in 1874, under the pastorate of Rev. A. Fuessle; F. Mayer, E. Vieregge, F. Heim and F. Asche constituting the building committee; Elias Bamberger being the architect.

The ministry of the Evangelical Association is itinerant, and years ago the term of service was usually but one year at a place, which fact will explain the number of pastors who have officiated at Emanuel Church to date, as follows: H. Rohland, C. Augenstein, J. G. Escher, L. H. Eiterman, J. Reigel, C. Kopp, E. Musselman, D. B. Byers, D. Kraemer, J. Schneider, H. Messner, A. Stahley, W. J. Walker, M. Stamm, A. Fuessle, Wm. Schrims and A. Huelster, two of whom have served a term of three years in succession and five a term of two years.

In 1868 the quarterly conference of the society petitioned for the privilege of preaching in English once in two weeks. This was denied and a division resulted, those members preferring English preaching being organized into Salem Mission.

The Emanuel Evangelical Church is now in a condition of prosperity and growth, and under the leadership of its excellent pastor, Rev. Theodore Alberding, bids fair to enter upon an unprecedented era of effective labor.

Third Presbyterian.

The Third Presbyterian Church was organized in 1867 with a congregation of fifteen members under the charge of Rev. John Vanderlass. The old court house, which had afforded temporary shelter to so many religious bodies before the several denominations had secured houses of their own, was again called into service by this rising sect. In 1868 the present church edifice, 141 and 143 South Galena avenue, was completed and opened for service. It is a frame building 34 x 56, with a seating capacity of 250, and cost, with the adjoining parsonage, $4500.

After three years of effective labor Mr. Vanderlass was succeeded by Rev. E. A. Elfeld, who retired in September, 1879. For almost a year after that the church was without a pastor, but on the 1st of July, 1880, Rev. C. Buettle accepted the charge and remained for two years. The congregation then numbered sixty-two members, and the church property was valued at $5000. Rev. F. W. Witte was pastor from 1885 to 1886, and Rev. Wm. Diekhoff from 1888 to 1896, the church having been without a pastor for two years previous to his ministry.

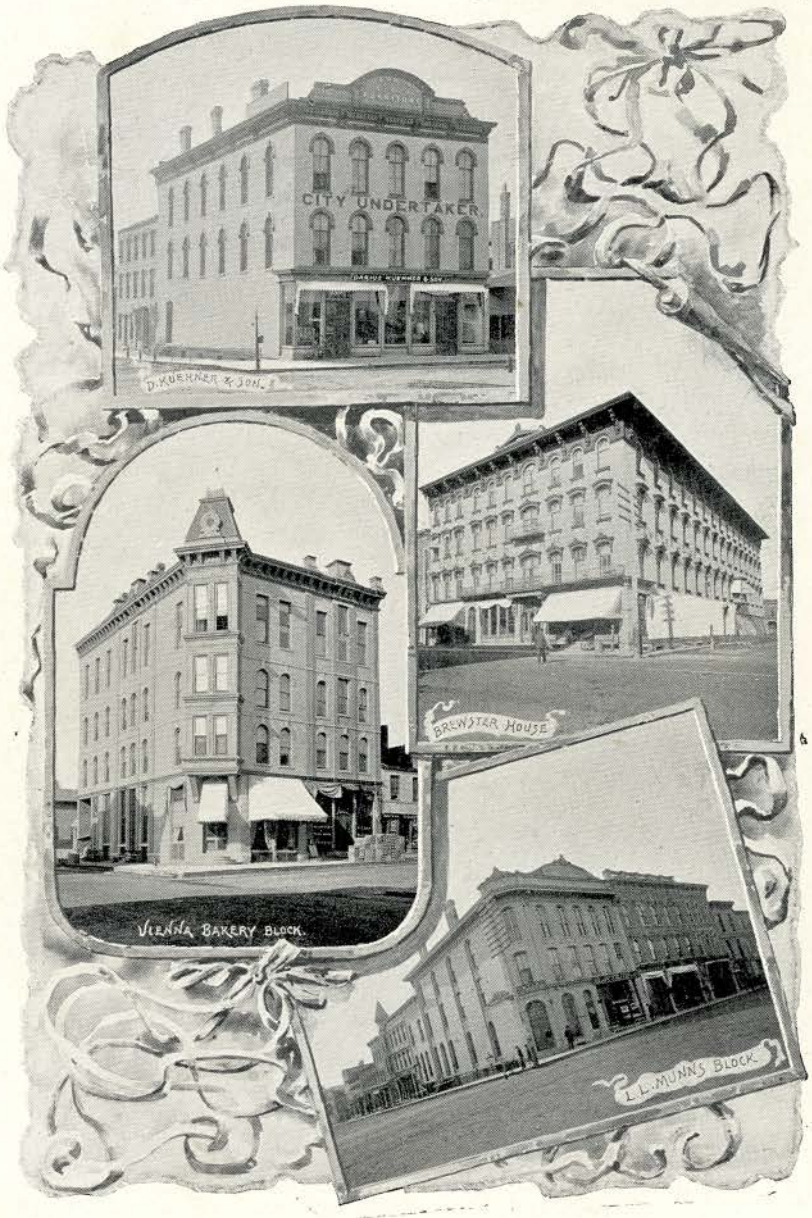
First German Reformed.

The First German Reformed Church was organized about the year 1862, its charter members being Henry Schulte, Henry H. Frank, Conrad Rodeke, Peter Belger, H. Billiker, Mr. Ode and several others whose names cannot be ascertained. For a time the Rev. Mr. Seaman had charge of the little flock which worshiped in a hall above the drug store of F. Weise, on the corner of what was then Galena and Exchange streets, and when he retired Rev. O. Accola assumed pastoral relations to the church, which had become somewhat divided. Rev. Accola united the members again and secured means for the building of a modest frame edifice on the corner of Williams and Union streets. After a short period of effective labor the pastor resigned, and the church was again left without a head. As a result the congregation once more became demoralized and abandoned worship in the house which had been erected for that purpose. This continued until 1869, when Rev. A. Schrader accepted the pastorate, and during five years of most efficient service succeeded in placing the organization once more on a firm foundation. After building up and prospering the cause in a most gratifying degree Rev. Schrader retired in 1874 and was succeeded by Rev. John Wernly, under whose administration a new church was erected. Work was begun on this edifice in May, 1879, and dedicated September 27th of the same year. It is of red brick, 30 x 50, with a spire 100 feet high. The total cost was about $3,000. In 1880 the congregation numbered 100 members and the church property, including a parsonage erected in 1873, was valued at $5,000. The pastors who have served since 1880 are Revs. J. Wernly, J. J. Jannett and E. Brunoehler, the present pastor.

German M. E. Church.

In the early days of Freeport there lived throughout the county a large number of Germans who had embraced the religion of John Wesley and who strove to advance the cause as defined by his statutes.

To remove the inconvenience caused by the absence of a minister, Rev. Mr. Vosholl was appointed a missionary and assigned to Freeport, where he arrived Oct. 3, 1854. To him is due the credit of establishing the German M. E. Church. Soon after reaching the field of his future labors Rev. Vosholl collected a congregation and held services in the basement of the First Methodist Church while raising funds and completing arrangements for the erection of a permanent house of worship. In the year 1858 a church edifice was erected on the corner of Chicago and Spring streets, at a cost of $1500, and occupied until 1872, when it was razed to give place to the present one. In 1887 the present house of worship was removed to the corner of Jackson and South Galena avenue, where it still stands. In 1880 the congregation numbered about fifty members, but from that year, owing to continual drafts made thereon by reason of removals, the number diminished until the membership numbered but twenty-two. Since that time new life has been infused into the church, and now it is in a most flourishing condition of prosperity, having a church membership of over sixty, and a Sabbath School with an average attendance of seventy-five. About seventy of the



younger members of the church have joined the Epworth League, and are actively promoting the interests of that body and of the church itself. The following pastors have served since the church was established:

Revs. H. Vosholl, H. Richter, F. Fiegenbaum, R. Tillman, C. Holl, Charles Scheuler, Jr., George Haas, E. R. Irmsher, B. Becker, E. J. Funk, F. Schmidt, A. Brenner, G. E. Hiller, E. Uhl, F. H. Wellemeyer, W. V. Schlung, E. Christ, C. Hess, Rev. Stetter and J. H. Klaus, the present incumbent. Rev. Klaus accepted the pastorate in 1891 and has accomplished an excellent work during the past five years.

People's Church.

The People's Church of Freeport belongs essentially to the people. It is founded upon principles which have emanated from the intellectual advance of a mighty race and which have left behind the shadowy realms of superstition and blind faith to enter into the clear light of truth and reason. The principles upon which this church is founded are broad enough to disregard sect, dogma or creed, and great enough to embrace all mankind in fraternal union, uniting man to fellow man by a bond of love for humanity, respect for man's belief and liberality towards all individual reason and pure thought. "We desire to know the truth," said its founders, "to live the right, to help humanity in all worthy ways, and to further intellectual, ethical and religious culture."

The movement that culminated in the organization of this church in Freeport grew out of the efforts of Rev. A. N. Alcott of Elgin, secretary of the Congress of Liberal Religions. This congress is composed of liberal ministers and societies, and includes Jews, Unitarians, Universalists, and members of the societies of Ethical Culture. The object of the organization is to enter communities where no liberal church exists and there to crystalize the people into a non-sectarian body for the purpose of leading them into ways of purity, honesty and sobriety. Freeport was chosen as an excellent field in which to try this experiment, and the church was accordingly established here in January, 1895, with Rev. A. N. Alcott as pastor. Services were at first held in the Knights of the Globe hall. On the first of September, 1895, the church began to occupy the old Temperance hall and continued to hold services there until the fall of the ensuing year, when a larger audience room and better accommodations were secured at the Knights of the Globe hall. During the summer of '96 no services were held in the church, owing to the excessive torridity. Services were, however, resumed in the early fall, being inaugurated by an all day open meeting at Taylor's Park, at which several prominent speakers, including Miss Bartlett, of Kalamazoo, were present. The church was organized with a president and three trustees. In connection a Sunday School was established and subsequently an Efficiency League and Good Citizenship Club were formed.

Rev. Alcott remained with the church for a year and then resigned, owing to the expiration of his term of service as secretary of the Congress of Liberal Religions.

A call was at once extended to Rev. G. B. Penney of Streator, which he accepted. He has proven to be a man of great energy and rare capabilities and has been highly influential in extending the movement in which he is so deeply interested.

Thus far the church has no enrolled membership, but every one who attends its services or supports the movement is considered a member. The church extends fellowship to all without discrimination, and considers itself an organization only in so far as organization is necessary to carry on its business.

Its present officers are: President, F. J. Kunz; secretary, Dr. C. R. Sheetz; treasurer, J. Hoffman; third trustee, Dr. L. G. Voigt.

The Sunday School is admirably adapted to the presentation of Natural Religion to the growing mind, and to instruct the child in religious culture without teaching anything that more mature intelligence might reject.

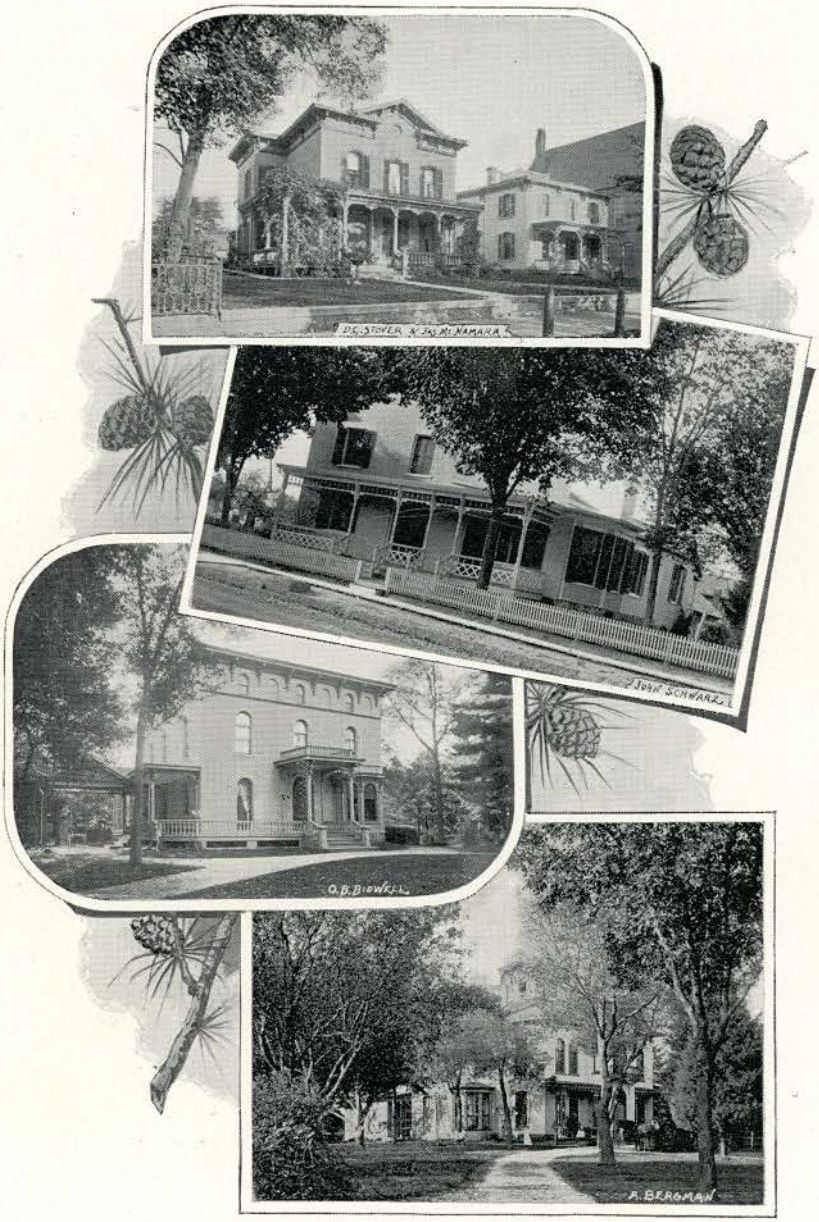
The Efficiency League is organized for the purpose of increasing in all practical ways the efficiency of the church, and the Good Citizenship Club is instituted for the purpose of the critical study of both local and general governmental institutions, involving an open discussion of existing conditions and relations and aiming to develop a sense of personal responsibility.

United Brethren.

The United Brethren Church of Freeport is of such recent organization that little can be said regarding its history. Prior to the year 1892 members of the brotherhood had lived in Freeport, but not in sufficient numbers to warrant organization into a permanent body, and consequently, although union was desired and attempted, nothing was really accomplished until the early spring of that year. On the 13th of March, 1892, nineteen members of

the brotherhood met and adopted resolutions organizing the United Brethren Church of Freeport. The charter members were: Dr. L. B. Peck, Ira Long, Eva Long, Sarah Whitehead, Rev. N. G. Whitney, Mrs. M. L. Whitney, George R. Ringer, Anna M. Ringer, A. E. Peck, Lizzie DeJongh, Anna M. Myers, Ezra Durling, George Brown, M. C. Brown, O. P. Spielman, Noah Peck, Mrs. E. A. Peck, M. Adleman and Mrs. M. Adleman.

Rev. Whitney, the first pastor, remained with the church until it was placed upon a firm foundation and a house of worship was erected. He was succeeded, after a pastorate of two years' duration, by Rev. H. O. Ross, who had formerly been located in West Virginia and who is now in Adeline, Ill. In the spring of 1893 the church building was completed and formally opened. Rev. Ross resigned in the following year and was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. Herrick, under whose leadership the church has greatly increased in membership and influence. The church building is a modest two story brick edifice, built in gothic style with projecting gables and a handsome tower. Its auditorium will seat about 150 persons, and its halls and lecture rooms are designed to accommodate as many more. Although opened for use in 1893, the church has not yet been formally dedicated.



The church membership includes 91 persons, and 130 pupils are enrolled in the Sunday School.

German Immanuel.

Rev. T. J. Grosse founded the German Immanuel Lutheran Church of Freeport in 1877. He was at that time connected with the Lutheran Seminary at Addison, in DuPage county, Ill., but removed to Freeport Feb. 23, 1877. During the first year of the church's existence the congregation increased to thirty-seven members and prosperity attended the efforts made to build up and sustain the association. A lot was purchased at the corner of Union and Pleasant streets the same year and a small but comfortable church was erected upon it. A parochial school was also established and placed under the care of Prof. F. Gase. Pupils to the number of fifty were educated in German and English branches. In October, 1877, the congregation, which had by that time increased to fifty-five members, extended a call to Rev. F. Behrens, which was accepted. Rev. Behrens was followed in 1880 by Rev. H. D. Schmidt, the present pastor. The church has a membership of 104 persons and a large and flourishing Sunday School with an average attendance of 100.

First Free Methodist.

The First Free Methodist Church has been in existence in Freeport for many years, although quiescent from 1865 to 1877. In 1877 the congregation was completely reorganized, and consisted of the following members: Perry Crowden and wife, Jacob Mease and wife and David Moore. The Rev. J. Buss was called to the pastorate, and aided by the faithful few who constituted the membership, revived the church. Up to 1877 services were held in convenient halls and elsewhere, but during that year a frame building 28 x 40 and capable of seating 250 persons was erected on Exchange street at a cost of $1000.

In 1878 a revival was conducted by Revs. W. F. Manly and A. F. Ferris, through whose labors ninety-



PROPOSED MASONIC TEMPLE.

one persons were converted and the church membership increased to forty. In 1880 C. S. Spaulding was pastor. He was followed the next year by Rev. E. C. Best. The pastors who have served since that time are: Revs. J. W. Carter, 1882–83; Thos. Fluck, 1884; Wm. Ferries, 1885; W. E. Coquillette, 1887; George English, 1889; P. Fay, 1890–91; M. H. Kendrick, 1892; C. B. Wetherald, 1893–94, and P. W. Newcomer, the present incumbent. The church is in a prosperous condition, and has a membership of thirty-six persons, with a Sunday School of about forty young people.



YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Young Men's Christian Association.

Back in 1868 a convention of the Sunday Schools of Stephenson County was held, and the subject of an association for young men was discussed. D. L. Moody, an evangelist who has never been surpassed in good work, was present at the convention, and suggested the organization of a young men's society whose object should be to extend a home, entertainment, education and Christian fellowship to every young man in the city, regardless of race, color or pecuniary circumstances. An organization was at once effected for Freeport, and the citizens took up the matter with great enthusiasm.

R. B. Currier was elected president of the society, and the local branch of the Y. M. C. A. of the United States was started out on its mission of benevolence. Two association rooms were secured over Maynard's dry goods store and work was at once begun. The work was at first conducted largely along spiritual lines and no general secretary was employed, but for a short time in the winter of 1869–70 the services of a city missionary were secured, whose labors were almost entirely along religious channels.

It must be remembered, however, that in those days the Y. M. C. A. work was much less definite in its aim than it now is, and it lacked the thoroughness in organization which makes it so successful to-day. For these reasons the association in Freeport was destined to be very short-lived. Enthusi-

asm in the movement cooled after a few months, and after four years of uncertain and wavering existence the local association ceased to exist.

Two years afterwards, in 1876, the Germans of the city again took up the cause and endeavored to effect a permanent organization. Rooms were secured in a building on the southeast corner of Stephenson and Van Buren streets, during which time C. R. Bickenbach was president, and for five years the association prospered and seemed to be entirely successful, but in January, 1881, the furniture and all the records of the Y. M. C. A. were totally destroyed by fire, and the association was by the exigencies of circumstances forced to dissolve.

For a year nothing further was done. Then again the citizens went at the work with an indefatigable determination to effect a strong and permanent organization in Freeport, and on the 29th of May, 1882, the association which is still in existence was organized. The organization was effected in the parlors of the First Presbyterian Church, and the following officers of the association were elected: President, Prof. C. C. Snyder; vice presidents, I. F. Kleckner and C. R. Bickenbach; corresponding secretary, E. B. Winger; recording secretary, W. A. Merrifield; treasurer, A. H. Barshinger; directors at large, Jacob Williams, E. B. Winger and F. A. Jayne. About fifty gentlemen signed the constitution and paid the membership fee of $1.00. In the following July the first general secretary, F. G. Perkins, entered upon his duties. He resigned in March, 1883, and W. W. Smith was elected to succeed him.

Mr. Smith will always be pleasantly remembered by those who associated with him during his term of service in our city. He was a man of great activity and deep sincerity, and his universal kindness won him hosts of friends and made him a great favorite with our young men. During the seven years of his incumbency the association increased greatly in numbers and raised sufficient funds to remodel their rooms and add a gymnasium, as well as to pay all expenses incidental to its maintenance. In November, 1889, Mr. Smith resigned, and was succeeded by C. R. Bradley, J. A. Schaad and W. L. Cahoon, each of whom acted as temporary secretary for short periods until June, 1891, when J. P. Bailey accepted a call to the position. In July, 1894, Mr. Bailey accepted a call to Rockford and subsequently to Rock Island, where he is now located. He was succeeded by J. M. Burdge, who in May, 1896, gave way to the present secretary, H. L. Sawyer.

Immediately upon organization in 1882 the association secured rooms above the drug store of Emmert & Burrell, where it remained until it was able to move into its own building. Among the first men who suggested a permanent building for the Y. M. C. A. was E. E. Brown, at that time assistant state secretary. His suggestion came in the most acceptable form of a ten dollar bill in April, 1885. The idea was taken up at once by the local Ladies' Auxiliary, and after a lapse of two years the building fund had grown to about $1000. The city council generously voted to furnish the stone for the basement and first story of the building, on the condition that the contemplated building should contain suitable quarters for a public library. The German Insurance Company at once followed with a gift of $1000. A site was secured from Isaac Zartman on the corner of Walnut and Stephenson streets, and the corner-stone was laid October 19, 1888. The edifice was completed during the ensuing year at a cost of over $26,000, and was opened Oct. 6, 1889, by a meeting in the auditorium conducted by Evangelist E. W. Bliss preparatory to revival services under the charge of D. L. Moody.

For several years after the building was occupied a heavy debt burdened the association, and continued to do so until November, 1894, when, encouraged by the Pastors' Association, a canvass for funds was started, largely under the leadership of Rev. E. P. Hill, which resulted in securing pledges sufficient to lift the entire indebtedness.

The Y. M. C. A. building is an ornament to the street on which it stands and a credit to the benevolence and enterprise of our citizens. It is a commodious structure, three stories high, the lower one being built of native lime stone and the upper ones of red brick. The offices, reading rooms, association rooms, parlors and auditorium are on the second floor, and bath rooms and a gymnasium, equipped with all modern appliances, are situated in the basement. The association is generously supported by our citizens, who have given both time and money to the movement, and great good has been accomplished in the ranks of our young men.

The Early Bar of Freeport.

[We are indebted to Hon. H. C. Burchard for the following interesting account of the early bar of Freeport.]

The characters and abilities of the early members of the Freeport bar can be better appreciated if considered in connection with the time, place and circumstances—the theatre of action—in other words, where their talents were displayed. It seems appropriate, therefore, to first briefly state the organization of Stephenson County and its courts, and to outline the judicial system of the State which existed at that time.

Stephenson County was created and its boundaries were defined by an act of the Legislature of Illinois, passed on the 4th day of March, 1837. This act provided for county officers to be chosen at an election held at the house of William Baker in Freeport, on the first Monday in May, 1837, and named three commissioners who were authorized to locate the county seat. A site was first selected in the present southeastern limits of the city, near the Arcade addition, but as Mary Myott, an Indian girl, had the right, by an act of Congress, to enter upon any unoccupied public land, she claimed to have made her location upon this site, and the commissioners accordingly chose the claim of Wm. Baker as the county seat and located the court house upon the public square where it now stands. At this time, as far as the records show, there were no lawyers living in Freeport or elsewhere in Stephenson County.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COURT.

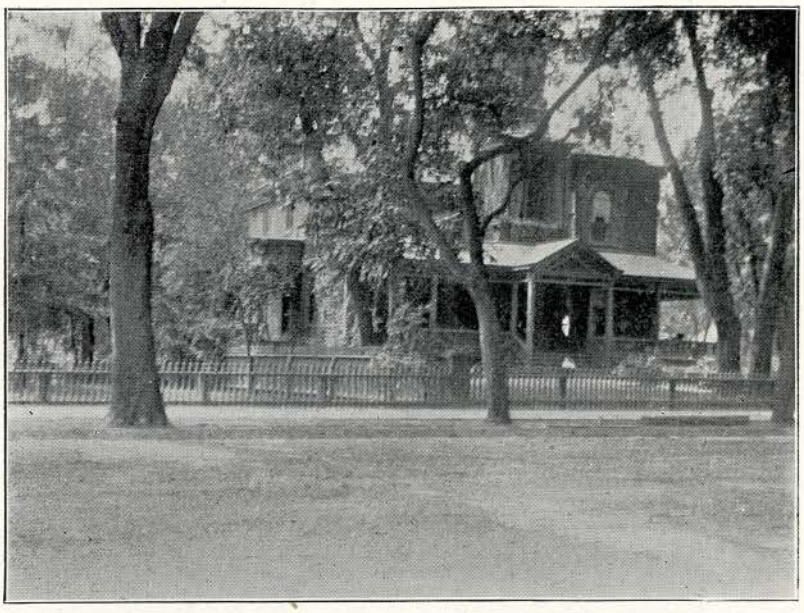
At the time Stephenson County was created, the State had been divided into nine judicial circuits, in each of which a circuit judge was elected and required to hold annually one or more terms of court in each county included in his circuit. Prior to its organization Stephenson County was attached to JoDaviess County, then in the Sixth Judicial Circuit. To legally hold court in Stephenson County, it became necessary for the legislature to designate the district to which it should belong, and the terms when the court should be held. Accordingly, by an act passed February 22, 1839, the county was placed in the Sixth Judicial Circuit, which included Jo Daviess, Boone, Winnebago, Whiteside, Rock Island and Carroll counties. Subsequently, at the same session, and on the second day of March, terms of the court were directed to be held on the third Mondays of April and September. The court records, however, show that the first session of the Stephenson County Circuit Court was held at a special term on the 27th day of August, 1839.

EARLY JUDGES.

The court was opened by Daniel Stone, judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, and the term was continued for three days. Hubbard Graves was sheriff and John A. Clark was clerk of the court. Judge Stone attended and presided at the two succeeding terms of the Stephenson County Circuit Court as circuit judge, but before the next April term was legislated out of office by an act of the legislature passed February 23, 1841. This act, probably for reasons stated by Governor Ford in his history of Illinois, abolished the circuit judges, re-arranged the judicial circuits, appointed additional supreme court judges and required them to hold circuit courts. Thomas C. Brown was by the same act appointed judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, to which Mercer and Henry counties were added. He continued to hold the circuit court of Stephenson County until August, 1846, at which time a law had been passed

providing for the election of circuit judges, and Benjamin R. Sheldon had been chosen judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit.

Upon the adoption of the constitution of 1848 the courts were reorganized and additional judicial circuits were created. The counties of JoDaviess, Stephenson and Winnebago, previously in the sixth, were made the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit. Judge Sheldon, residing in JoDaviess County, was a resident no longer in the sixth but in the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit. He therefore became a candidate for judge in the new district, was elected and held the position by successive elections for over twenty years, and until his election in 1870 as one of the justices of the Supreme Court of the State.



RESIDENCE OF D. A. KNOWLTON, JR.

THE OLD COURT HOUSE.

It is a pity that no photograph or picture exists to give us a visual representation of the old two-story frame building, with its plain clap-board sides and shingle roof, as it stood in the public square surrounded by a rough board fence. The court room where Judge Sheldon presided in 1855, sitting upon a raised platform behind a pine desk, had on its right two tiers of seats for the jury. Fronting the judge and beyond the railing that enclosed the table and chairs for the privileged lawyers, were rows of pine benches, ruthlessly disfigured by witnesses and spectators whose incessant whittling was only temporarily checked by the warning of the judge not to mar the court room. In winter a hot stove occupied the center of the room. The windows had to be raised frequently for ventilation, and again lowered to exclude the cold air, and bench and bar were alternately roasted and frozen. I can yet hear Judge Sheldon give his order, "Mr. Sheriff, raise the window," or "Mr. Sheriff, lower the window," as he feared suffocation from odors or dreaded cold chills from the sharp winter air. The dilapidated appearance of the building was felt to be a discredit to the city and county. In 1854 the loosened clap-boards were shaking in the wind and the sky was visible through the broken plastering. The room was at that time procured for the use of Fred Douglas, the colored orator, to make an anti-slavery speech. Although accustomed to plantation life and to uncomfortable and unsightly audience rooms, he said in his opening remarks, "I have spoken in England in the finest halls, and in this country in churches and, where no better accommodations could be had, in barns, but of all the God-forsaken places, this beats them all!"

One evening at Plymouth Hall (the site of the present Opera House) while M. P. Sweet was making a speech, the cry of "Fire!" was heard on the street. It was reported that the court house was burning. Mr. Sweet paused and said, "It is the old court house, let it burn." The audience cheered and remained seated, but the fire was extinguished.

It was a great relief to the members of the bar, as well as to the citizens of Freeport, when the build-

ing was removed in 1870 and the attractive and commodious structure that now occupies its site was erected.

LAWYERS AT THE FIRST TERM.

Of the many names of those who afterwards composed the Freeport bar, the court records of the first term in 1839 mention only Martin P. Sweet, Seth B. Farwell and Thomas J. Turner, the latter merely as party plaintiff in one and defendant in three suits.



RESIDENCE OF JAMES P. YOUNGER.

Mr. Sweet was then a resident of Winnebago County. Mr. Turner had not been admitted to practice. Mr. Purinton arrived in Freeport four months later, and if a Freeport bar then existed, and Mr. Farwell lived in Freeport, he was its only member. But there were other lawyers in attendance at this term of court, and the names of Campbell, Drummond, Kemble, Tomlin appear upon the court docket as attorneys for plaintiff or defendant. Seventeen of the thirty-five cases on the law docket were appeals from justices of the peace, and thirteen of them were dismissed for want of jurisdiction because improperly taken to that court. In the short three days' session the grand jury returned four indictments, two criminal trials were had, six judgments were taken by default, and one judgment rendered in an appeal case for $\$3.18\frac{3}{4}$ and costs.

THE SECOND AND SUCCEEDING TERMS.

The business of the court could not have been much greater at the second term held on the 7th of April, 1840, for it adjourned on the second day. S. F. Hall, state's attorney, and Jason Marsh were in attendance from Winnebago County, Campbell and Drummond from JoDaviess County and George Purinton and Martin P. Sweet, who had become residents of Stephenson County, appeared as attorneys in several suits. As to the standing, ability and eloquence of those lawyers from abroad who practiced for a brief period in Stephenson County at its first organization, we can judge from the statements of those who then heard them and from their subsequent successful careers. Those who listened to

Thompson Campbell and E. D. Baker in the noted trials at the old court house, still speak of their wit, readiness in repartee, and wonderful power in addressing a jury. Eloquence in those early days, as in these later ones, must have exercised its magic influence when E. D. Baker, fresh from Springfield, had but to unstrap his trunk at a Galena hotel and without the aid of patronage or local friends to start his boom, could by voice and speech win, as he did, his nomination and election to Congress from this district. It is not more surprising that afterwards a brief sojourn on the Pacific Coast sent him to the U. S. Senate, and that he there acquired a national reputation as an orator and statesman.

Thompson Campbell, who repeatedly addressed juries in the old court house, was afterwards elected state's attorney for the judicial district and a member of Congress in 1850. Subsequently he became Secretary of State for Illinois, and in 1853 was appointed by President Pierce commissioner to settle land claims under the treaty with Mexico. He removed to California, where he died.

In the many cases at the Freeport bar which Judge Drummond managed and argued, he must, to some extent, have exhibited the legal knowledge, sound judgment and argumentative ability which later characterized his rulings and decisions as a federal judge.

James S. Loop, who was state's attorney in 1845, was a frequent attendant during all this period. He was acknowledged by all his contemporaries to be able to state his client's case more clearly and to present its salient and winning points more concisely than any other advocate at the bar.

Marsh, Burnap and Wight, considered the ablest chancery lawyers in the circuit, attended from term to term. E. B. Washburn, who appeared for a friend, prosecuted his suit with the same zeal and tenacity that he displayed in after years in political life.

With such associates and antagonists it is not strange that Martin P. Sweet and Thomas J. Turner grew to become and to be ranked among the foremost advocates and most successful lawyers in northern Illinois. Their selection as candidates of their party for high honors—Sweet in 1844 and again in 1850, and Turner in 1846—shows the popularity they attained at this period and the high estimation of their abilities.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. C. H. STOCKING.

As the settlement and population of the county and legal business increased, Freeport became an inviting field. As early as 1850 many of the lawyers had been admitted to practice and had become prominent residents of Freeport, among them being Thos. J. Turner, Thos. F. Goodhue, Charles Betts, F. W. S. Brawley, Charles F. Bagg, John A. Clark, John Coates and Charles Clark. Before 1857, these, with Hiram Bright, U. D. Meacham, J. B. Smith, Samuel Sankey, J. C. Kean, E. P. Barton and J. M. Bailey, all now deceased, and those at present living, constituted the Freeport bar.

GOLDEN TIMES FOR THE BAR.

The year 1856 was the most prosperous in the history of the city. The impetus given its growth by the completion of the two railroads to the town, and the project for the building of another, had increased not only its population but the market value of its real estate. High rates of interest had attracted foreign capital and investment, secured by the personal guarantees of prominent citizens in manufacturing enterprises, hotels and business stores. But within a year the condition had changed. The failure of the Ohio Life & Trust Company in 1857, and the consequent panic shocked credit and depressed values from one end of the country to another. The mutual distrust of the banks caused them to lock up the money in their vaults, and depositors as well as borrowers were for many weeks denied any portion of it. Merchants received little cash from sales, and consequently their notes went to protest. This was, judged by the number of suits instituted, the harvest season of the Freeport bar. The cases on the circuit court docket for the December term, 1857, numbered at common law 302, and 49 in chancery, and at the April term, 1858, the number had risen to 392 at common law, and the next year to 183 in chancery, many of the latter being mortgage foreclosures. But the money paid —the fees and costs—mostly came out of the pockets of the creditor plaintiffs and not from the assets of the debtors, some of whom subsequently went into voluntary bankruptcy.

This is a marked contrast to the business of the circuit court at the present time. Although the number of lawyers is considerably increased, scarcely one-fourth as many cases are now entered upon the docket. It is claimed that there is much less legal business and litigation in Stephenson County than in the adjoining counties. While this is injurious to the profession, it is no loss to the community. Law suits, though sometimes necessary to ascertain and settle legal rights, entail loss of time besides pecuniary costs and loss upon witnesses, and juries attending court temporarily withdrawn from productive employment. The discouragement and decrease of litigation is therefore beneficial. The county is to be congratulated that the cases on the court docket have diminished. This is not all due to the character and disposition of the people of the



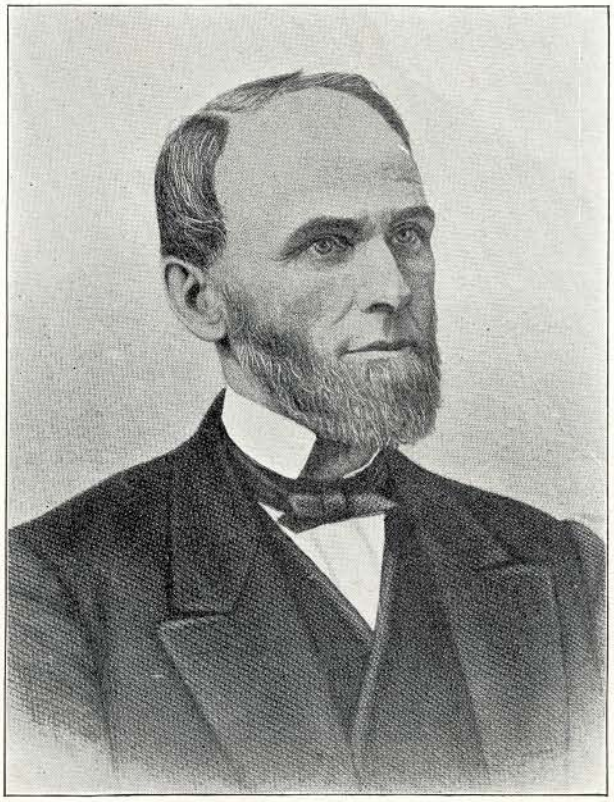
RESIDENCE OF A. E. HANKE.

county. Many who formerly practiced at our bar were noted for compromising and dismissing suits which they had commenced. Blessed are the peacemakers. Those lawyers deserve this blessing for their successful efforts in adjusting and settling, rather than litigating, conflicting claims.

The lawyers of Freeport, and especially those who came here at an early day and grew up with the county, have always taken a leading part in matters that concerned the prosperity of the city. Scarcely one of our business enterprises has been planned and consummated without their counsel and assistance in giving it legal shape. They were associated with business men and often selected as spokesmen for them in all efforts made to secure the location of public buildings and institutions, railroads to be built and manufactories to be established.

PERSONNEL OF THE EARLY FREEPORT BAR.

Thomas J. Turner, by reason of his prominence, is entitled to be mentioned among the first. His name does not appear on the court record as an attorney earlier than 1841. He had previously been elected one of the associate county justices of the peace, had studied law and had been admitted to the bar. The court house, which he had in December, 1837, contracted with the county commissioners to build, was completed by him in 1838. Subsequent litigation growing out of this contract and his election as probate justice doubtless induced him to abandon his occupation as millwright and builder. It was not long after his appearance that he became one of the leading lawyers, not only in Stephenson County, but in all the neighboring counties. He was tall, erect, athletic and graceful. His manner, voice and delivery commanded attention even when discussing subjects of minor importance. He was most effective as a jury lawyer. He enlivened his arguments with apt illustrations and entertaining anecdotes stowed in an unusually retentive memory or pictured in his fertile imagination. In 1845 he was appointed by Governor Ford state's attorney for the Sixth Judicial Circuit, which then included Stephenson as well as Rock Island, among other counties, and at the three succeeding terms of the Stephenson circuit court his name is entered as attorney for the people on the criminal docket. He managed, or assisted, in the trial at Rock Island of the murderers of Col. Davenport. His ability and fearlessness in prosecuting the gang of murderers and horse thieves that at that time infested Northern Illinois, made him hosts of friends and admirers in this congressional district. His nomination and election to Congress in 1846 was a natural consequence. Upon the organization of the town of Freeport in 1850, Mr. Turner was elected a trustee and president of the board of trustees. In 1854 he became an active and leading opponent of those who supported the repeal of the Missouri Compromise and the Kansas and Nebraska Bill. He replied briefly to a four hours' speech in its justification made by Stephen A. Douglas in front of the old Pennsylvania House, then standing on the present sight of Munn's building. He was sent the following fall to the Legisla-



THOMAS. J. TURNER.

ture as an anti-Nebraska Democrat and helped elect Trumbull to the U. S. Senate, voting at first, however, for Lincoln for senator. He procured the passage of a bill introduced by him to create the city of Freeport by special charter, and was afterwards elected its first mayor. Early in 1861 he was a member of the Peace Conference that met at Washington, and soon after its adjournment he was elected and commissioned Colonel of the 15th Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. He continued in the service until compelled to resign in 1862 on account of failing health, having become so enfeebled from the exposure and hardships of southern campaigns that his life was despaired of. In 1864 he was chairman of the

Republican State Central Committee of Illinois. He was an unfluential and valuable member of the convention that framed the State Constitution of 1870, and was elected to the first Legislature that met after its adoption.

He removed to Chicago in July, 1871, and was there during the great fire in November of that year, which consumed his office and valuable library. He died on the 3rd day of April, 1874, at Hot Springs, where, hopeless of other relief, he had gone for the purpose of regaining health. He will always be remembered as one of the pioneers in the early settlement of Stephenson County, and as contributing, by his personal efforts, as much or more than any other citizen to the prosperity and permanent growth of Freeport.

MARTIN P. SWEET.

Martin P. Sweet, who settled in Freeport in 1840, was one of the earliest members of the Freeport bar and doubtless its most eloquent orator. He had a



MARTIN P. SWEET.

finely modulated voice, and its tones, whether he was attempting to soothe or arouse an audience, were responsive to his feelings and thoughts. As an advocate he was at that time unsurpassed. He was especially skillful in examining witnesses and an adept in using words that would lessen or intensify the effect of their statements. He had a special faculty of toning down and getting a witness to modify his statement of damaging facts; apparently repeating the language of the witness, he would substitute less expressive words and weaken the force of the testimony. In political addresses he never failed to entertain his hearers and excite the enthusiasm of his party friends. He was popular with the masses in northwestern Illinois and twice was nominated for member of Congress. In 1844 he expected to be elected, and probably would have obtained the coveted position but for the Mormon vote, which was solidly cast against his party. His second defeat in 1850 by a small majority must have been a sore disappointment. The exclusion of slavery from the territories—"free soil"—had become in the minds of many a subject of paramount importance for congressional action. The irrepressible conflict between freedom and slavery had arisen in the Galena district. Party ties were weakening and many voters desired before casting their ballots to have the opinions and pledges of the candidates. A series of questions were submitted to each. Mr. Sweet made candid answer, outlining his views of the proper legislation. These, like those of Lincoln at Freeport in 1858, though strongly against slavery, were not framed to suit the extreme radicals of his party. On the other hand his opponent, Thompson Campbell, an adroit politician, gave them more satisfactory answers regardless of the policy of his party. It is reported that he said he would "out-nigger Sweet," which he effectually did, but he paid no attention to these pledges after election. Disheartened, Mr. Sweet withdrew from politics and closed his law office and during the next five years was an earnest and devoted minister of the gospel. In 1855 he resumed practice at Freeport, where he continued to reside until his death. At a bar meeting held on the announcement of Mr. Sweet's death, Hon. T. J. Turner, extolling his genius and eloquence as an orator, said of him: "Few men ever possessed that magnetic power which charms an audience in a greater degree. Logical in argument, terrible in invective and quick in repartee, he carried the judgments of a jury or audience, or, failing here, his quick sympathies and deep pathos led them along against the convictions of judgment."

Judge Sheldon said of Mr. Sweet: "As an effective speaker and logical orator he had no superior, and at times he was the leading genius, outstripping all others in his judicial circuit."

JUDGE PURINTON.

George Purinton was the best educated of all the early members of the Freeport bar. He was graduated from Bowdoin College, Maine, in 1836, and the following year was for a few months a professor in Baltimore College. He became a student in the office of Judge Wilson, one of the supreme judges in 1838, and was soon after admitted to practice in all the courts of the State. At that time the acts of the legislature were required to be submitted for approval to a council of revision, of which the supreme justices were members. In 1842 he was appointed secretary of the council. In 1848 he was elected county judge, the duties of which office he creditably discharged. His fellow citizens always had perfect confidence in his integrity and respect for his judicial decisions. Although not distinguished as an advocate, he was always regarded as a sound lawyer and a safe counsellor.

THOMAS F. GOODHUE.

No lawyer in Stephenson County was more successful than Thos. F. Goodhue in winning the verdict of a jury in a doubtful case. He had obtained his knowledge of legal principles and the rules of practice from study in his early years and by experience in the courts, and he was not accustomed to look for, nor to depend upon, reported decisions. He assumed that what common sense and justice dictated to be done was law, and upon that foundation he rested the rightfulness of his client's case and built his arguments. His reasoning was so convincing that frequently the jury gave him a verdict even when an adverse court instruction denied his propositions and favored the other side. He died at his home in Freeport Nov. 3, 1889.



THOMAS F. GOODHUE.

JOHN A. CLARK.

John A. Clark was for several years clerk of the circuit court, at first by appointment of the judge in 1839. He held the office until 1852. Afterwards as a lawyer he gave his attention principally to office and probate business, which, if not at that time lucrative, was remunerative for the time employed. His genial and kind disposition gained him warm friends. In early life he was a surveyor and located many of the township and section lines in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. In 1866 he was appointed, through the influence of E. B. Washburn, surveyor general of Utah, and subsequently was railroad land commissioner at Kansas City, where he died.



JOHN A. CLARK.

CHARLES A. CLARK.

Among the most promising young members of the bar during this period must be mentioned Chas. A. Clark, who was spoken of in the highest terms of commendation by his associates in the profession, and whose early death was universally deplored. Had he lived it is probable he would have ranked among the ablest lawyers of the Freeport bar and would have taken some of the positions and honors that were after his death attained by others.

JOHN C. KEAN.

Mr. Kean came to Freeport in 1851 from Meadville, Penn., where he was educated at Allegheny College and where he studied law and was admitted to the bar. Soon after his arrival here he took a leading part in local politics and became an influential and popular member of his party. He was elected a justice of the peace in 1856, alderman of the city in 1858, and city attorney in 1862, which last office he held for several succeeding terms. During his service the city ordinances were twice revised and compiled by him.

U. D. MEACHAM.

Mr. Meacham settled in Freeport in 1852 and entered into a partnership with Thomas J. Turner, which continued for two years. For eight years before coming to Freeport he had practiced law at Elkhorn, Wis., and it was not difficult for him soon after his arrival here to obtain a leading position at the bar. He was elected in 1856 state's attorney for the Fourteenth Judicial District, and in 1862 mayor of Freeport. His success and strength as a lawyer lay in his dogged tenacity, which seldom permitted him to acknowledge or be conscious of defeat. If overruled by the court upon one proposition he suggested additional reasons or precedents to sustain his



RESIDENCE OF HENRY BAIER.

views, and he often argued with the court until the judge, wearied or convinced thereby, gave a modified or more favorable decision.

HIRAM BRIGHT.

No lawyer rose more rapidly into prominence at the Freeport bar than Hiram Bright, who there commenced practice in 1854. He was an indefatigable worker, had an extensive acquaintance throughout the county, and clients and friends so numerous that his opponents had to exercise unusual care in selecting a jury. His personal influence sometimes secured for him a favorable verdict, though the evidence and instructions of the court favored the opposing party. In 1862 he was a candidate for Congress against E. B. Washburn, and then made a most effective canvass, largely reducing the latter's majority in the district. In 1860 he was elected mayor of Freeport. Subsequently a partial stroke of palsy incapacitated him for public speaking. He was frequently unable to recall or pronounce some of the words he attempted to utter in conversation, and the contrast between his condition at that time and his former fluency was pitiful.

J. BRIGHT SMITH.

Mr. Smith came to Freeport in 1855 and immediately became a partner of Hiram Bright. His courteous manners made a favorable impression upon first acquaintance, and his legal knowledge and forensic talent added strength to the firm. He afterwards removed to Colorado and was elected or appointed one of the three supreme court judges of that State.

SAMUEL SANKEY.

Mr. Sankey was elected a justice of the peace and was a practicing lawyer in 1856, but did not remain a permanent member of the Freeport bar. He removed to California and died there.

EDWARD P. BARTON.

No lawyer at the Freeport bar gained more friends among his legal associates or was more deeply lamented at his death than E. P. Barton. Unassuming, urbane and social in his manners, kind and sympathetic in disposition, quick in apprehension and entertaing in conversation, his society was a source of pleasure to his intimate friends, and was enjoyed even by casual acquaintances.

He had received, before making Freeport his home in 1856, a thorough literary and legal education at Hamilton College, in the State of New York, and after a post-graduate study of one year under



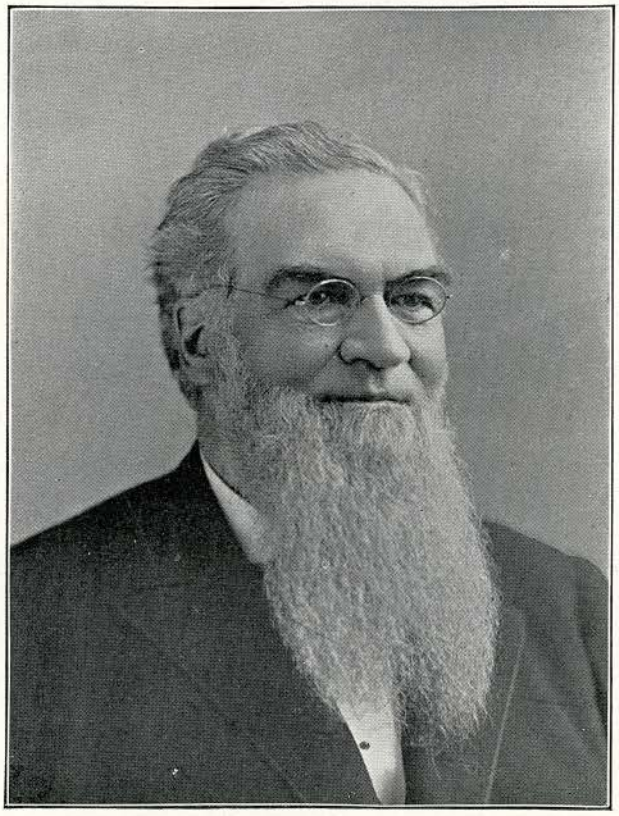
EDWARD P. BARTON.

its distinguished law professor, Theodore W. Dwight, had been admitted to the bar and subsequently was a practicing lawyer in the city of New York under the code of that State. In the spring of 1856 he became the junior member of the firm of Turner, Burchard & Barton, and began at once to study and familiarize himself with the common law rules and forms of pleading which differed materially in many respects from those established by the code. As a result it was seldom, that after a most critical examination, a substantial error or omission, not purposely intended, could be found in papers drafted by him and filed in the court. Upon the retirement of Mr. Turner from the firm in 1858, Messrs. Burchard & Barton continued in partnership, and soon after, by the accession of Henry M. Barnum, the firm became known under the style of Burchard, Barton & Barnum, and continued to exist for fourteen years. In 1874 the firm became Barton & Barnum, and continued in active practice until Mr. Barton's election as county judge in 1886. Although solicited to be a candidate for circuit judge, a position which he was admirably qualified to fill, he invariably declined. He was unwilling to forego the enjoyment of home life, from which a frequent absence on court duties would necessarily separate him. The office of county judge would not require such sacrifice,

and he therefore accepted the nomination and was elected to the position, which he held for four years. His sudden death in 1893 was a shock to the entire community.

JOSEPH M. BAILEY.

When Mr. Bailey arrived in Freeport in 1856, he opened an office in A. T. Green's one story frame building adjoining the office of Turner, Burchard & Barton, then located on the corner where Knowlton

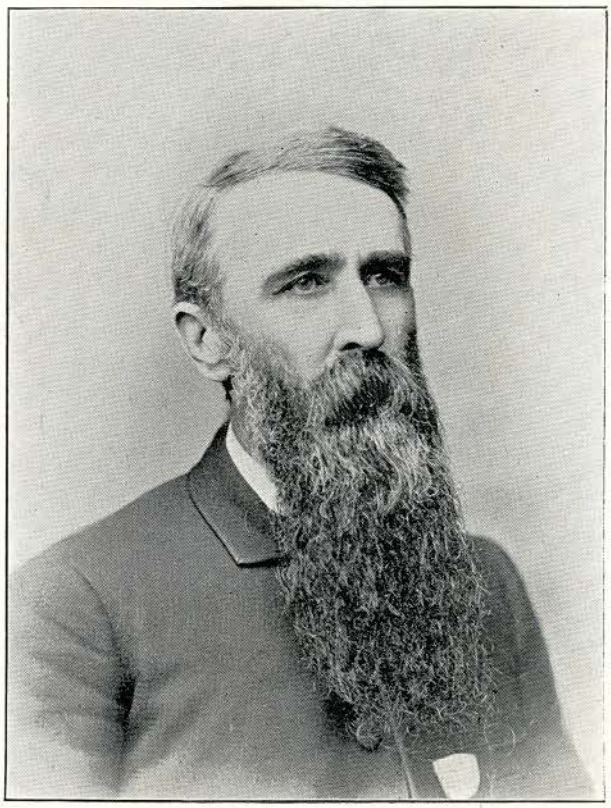


JOSEPH M. BAILEY.

Brothers' bank now stands. His first legal business was to assist them in taking the deposition of a witness to be used in a chancery suit pending in the circuit court. The precision of his language and his skill in framing a sentence so as to express the exact meaning intended at once gave a favorable impression. He had completed his literary education at the Rochester University and his legal studies in a law office in that city. He became associated as a partner in 1857 with U. D. Meacham, who was then state's attorney for the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit. The frequent absence of the latter attending court in other counties left Mr. Bailey in charge of the office and of the law and chancery business. He soon gained a reputation as a sound lawyer, safe counsellor, careful pleader and persuasive advocate. In 1863 he became a partner with F. W. S. Brawley, and while practicing with him was elected in 1866 to the Illinois Legislature and was re-elected in 1868. Ten years later, while enjoying an extensive and lucrative practice in a partnership with James I. Neff, he was elected one of the judges of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, and soon afterwards was assigned duty on the appellate court. He there so distinguished himself, his written opinions were expressed in such clearness, and fortified by such apt citations and logical reasoning, that it became evident that of all the judges in the judicial district he was the best fitted to succeed Judge Sheldon as a justice of the supreme court. While holding that high office he became chief justice, and thus attained the highest honor awarded to those considered the ablest of the legal profession. He was a diligent, hardworking judge, as well as lawyer, and his arguments showed faithful study and careful research. Before the completion of his first term as a justice of the supreme court his health failed, but he resolutely continued to perform his judicial duties until late in the summer of 1895. He then came home to recuperate and rest, but gradually became weaker until death finally ensued.

JAMES I. NEFF.

Mr. Neff came to Freeport ten years later than any of the lawyers who have been mentioned, but



JAMES I. NEFF.

at the time of his death in 1893 he had been for twenty-five years in active practice with them and his name should not be omitted here. During this period he ranked with the best of our lawyers as an influential and successful advocate. Soon after his admission to practice he entered into partnership with Thomas J. Turner in June, 1867, and was associated with him until the removal of the latter to Chicago in 1869. He had commenced the study of law at Mifflin, Ohio, soon after his graduation at Dickenson Seminary at Williamsport, Pa., and in 1862 he enlisted in the 101st Ohio Infantry, in which regiment he served until mustered out in June, 1865, having attained the rank of captain. His education and military experience rightly gave him confidence in his ability, and although young in the profession, he did not hesitate to engage in legal contests and measure swords with the veterans of the Freeport bar. In 1869 he formed a partnership with Joseph M. Bailey, and for the next ten years the firm enjoyed an extensive practice in the supreme and circuit courts of the State. Upon the election of Mr. Bailey as circuit judge, the partnership was dissolved and the firm of Neff & Stearns was formed, which continued until Mr. Neff's death. In 1878 he was elected to the Illinois Legislature and from that time he became active and influential in the politics of the State. He was a member of the State Board of Equalization from 1884 to 1892, and during that period was chairman of some of its most important committees.



The Present Bar of Freeport.

HORATIO CHAPIN BURCHARD.

Hon. Horatio C. Burchard is one of the oldest members of the present bar of Freeport, and has for many years been actively identified with the prosperity of our city and the growth of her permanent institutions. For several years he figured conspicuously in the political history of Stephenson County



HORATIO C. BURCHARD.

and was the incumbent of numerous governmental offices of honor and distinction. He is the eldest son of Horatio Burchard and Frances Chapin, and was born in the town of Marshall, Oneida Co., N. Y., Sept. 22, 1825. His grandparents belonged to prominent New England families of English ancestry and were, on the father's side, Jonathan Burchard and Beulah Ely, of Springfield, Mass., and on his mother's side, Benjamin Chapin and Sarah Fuller. His grandfather, Jonathan Burchard, was one of the pioneer settlers of Oneida County, and arrived there in 1797. Until he was thirteen years old Mr. Burchard's boyhood was spent in Marshall. His father then decided to seek a home in the west, and removed in 1838, with his family, to Aurora, N. Y., and two years later to Beloit, Wis. Both Beloit and Aurora possessed educational facilities unusual for new towns at that time, their academic schools then ranking among the best in their respective states. Mr. Burchard's father wished to give his son a college education and the boy gladly embraced the opportunities and advantages afforded for preparation for college. In the spring of 1847 he entered Hamilton College at Clinton, N. Y., from which he was graduated in 1850. Having selected the legal profession as his future calling, he began, while an undergraduate, a course of law under Hon. T. W. Dwight, of that college. He returned to Wisconsin after graduation and continued his legal studies until 1852, when he was admitted to the bar. He at once began practice in the courts at Monroe. In 1854 he removed to Freeport and took charge of the public schools as general manager and head teacher. The year following, having been enrolled a member of the Illinois bar, he resumed practice as a lawyer and for many years was actively engaged in professional labor in the courts of Stephenson and adjoining counties. He became associated with Thomas J. Turner, and the firm continued under the style of Turner & Burchard until 1856, when E. P. Barton was admitted as a partner. In 1864, T. J. Turner retiring, H. M. Barnum was added to the firm, which continued as Burchard, Barton &

Barnum until 1874, when Mr. Burchard withdrew, owing to his congressional duties.

In 1857 Mr. Burchard was chosen school commissioner of Stephenson County and held the office for three years. In 1862 he was elected a representative for Stephenson County to the State Legislature, and was re-elected in 1864. During his first term he was a member of the Committee on Claims, and during his second term, chairman of the Committee on Banks and Corporations. He engaged actively in legislation, especially during his second term, and proposed, drafted and secured the passage of many important laws, among them the Registry Law of 1865, and the law providing for taking the votes of union soldiers absent on military duty. For the next four years he held no public office excepting trusteeship of the Illinois Industrial University, then just established at Champaign, but in 1869 he was elected a Representative in Congress to succeed Hon. E. B. Washburne, who had accepted a portfolio in President Grant's cabinet. Upon being sworn in as a Member of Congress at the ensuing December session, Mr. Burchard was appointed by the Speaker, Mr. Blaine, a member of the Committee on Banking and Currency, of which Gen. Garfield was the chairman. In the succeeding Congress he was appointed a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, considered the most important committee in the House, and subsequently re-appointed by Speaker Blaine in the following Congress, and then again by Speakers Kerr and Randall, making eight years of continuous service upon that committee. During these five terms of Congressional service, embracing the ten years from 1869 to 1879, the most important measures and national legislation, relating to reconstruction in the seceded states, to the coinage and currency of the country, to the refunding of the bonded debt, and the resumption of specie payments, and to the modification and reduction of tariff and internal revenue taxation, were the paramount subjects of discussion and practical consideration. The records of the debates in Congress show his patient study and earnest efforts to understand and adopt the wisest action upon these difficult questions, and the prominent part he took in their ultimate disposition.

In the year 1879 President Hayes appointed Mr. Burchard Director of the United States Mints, the duties of which office were entered upon by Mr. Burchard immediately after the expiration of the Congressional term. He was stationed at Washington, and had charge of all the mints and assay offices of the United States, ten in number. It was while holding this office that Mr. Burchard achieved his greatest success. His vast knowledge of the finances of the country, and his great store of statistics, always at instant command, made him eminently qualified to fill that responsible position. The coinage act of 1873, which created the mints bureau, had suspended, and the act of 1878 had directed the resumption of the coinage of silver dollars. Both of these laws had occasioned great discussion, and the expression of widely divergent views as to their wisdom and utility. Mr. Burchard at once saw the importance of giving accurate information to the members of Congress and to the country in regard to the production, coinage, use and circulation of the precious metals, and to that end began to collect monetary statistics, not only as to the United States, but also as to the other commercial countries of the world. To facilitate the collection of such statistics Congress made, after he became Director, an annual appropriation of nearly $5,000. The information which Mr. Burchard gathered was embodied in his five special annual reports on the production of the precious metals in the United States, showing in detail as far as practicable, the amounts yielded by the principal mines or mining regions of the states and territories. At the end of his first term, in 1884, he was reappointed by President Arthur to a second term, but upon the incoming of the Democratic administration in 1885, was removed and his place given to one who had been identified with that party. In the following September Mr. Burchard was appointed by Gov. Oglesby upon the commission to revise the revenue laws of the State, and report the recommendations agreed upon to the succeeding Legislature. Upon the conclusion of his duties on this commission Mr. Burchard, in 1886, resumed the practice of law and opened his office at Freeport. He was soon afterwards elected to membership in the International Statistical Institute which met at Rome, and which was composed of statisticians and writers on economic questions of the highest standing in their respective countries.

Mr. Burchard still continues in active practice, and is held in the highest regard by the local members of the profession.

CHARLES BETTS.

Judge Betts has been a member of the Freeport bar since 1847. He was born in Batavia, N. Y., June 13, 1824, and received his early education in that city. At an early age he began to read law and

concluded his studies under the mentorship of Hon. John H. Martindale. He was admitted to the bar in 1847, and in the following year emigrated to Illinois and located in Freeport, then a very small village. In the political campaign of 1852, when but twenty-eight years of age, he received, unsolicited, the nomination of the Whig party for the office of Auditor General of the State of Illinois. Since the political revolution of 1858, Mr. Betts has cast in his lot with the Democratic party, the sentiments and principles of which he has energetically supported.



CLIFTON COTTAGE.

He was a warm admirer of Stephen A. Douglas, with whom he was personally acquainted and in whose interests he conscientiously labored.

At the Congressional convention of the Democratic party of the Third Congressional District, in 1870, he received, without solicitation, the nomination for Congress in this district, strongly Republican, and, where the candidate of his party was defeated two years previous by ten thousand majority, he reduced that majority nearly one half.

Mr. Betts is no longer engaged in practice, having retired from active business life about 1880.

HENRY M. BARNUM.

H. M. Barnum has long been an honored member of the Freeport bar. He is a native of Addison County, Vt., where he was born Feb. 6, 1835, and where he grew up to manhood. He early attended the district schools of his county, and in due time entered Middlebury College, from which he graduated with the class of '58. In the following year he came west and at once located in Freeport, where he began the study of law, and where, having pursued his studies to successful completion, he was admitted to the bar in 1861. Although well qualified to begin practice at once, he decided to wait a few years before so doing, and in the meantime accepted a position as teacher in the public schools of the city. He was subsequently appointed principal of the high school, and remained in that capacity until the year 1864, when he resigned to enter upon the practice of his chosen profession. On the 8th of August of that year he was united in marriage to Miss Ellen P. Wright, a resident of Addison Co., Vt.

On returning to Freeport he became associated with H. C. Burchard and E. P. Barton in the prac-

tice of law, the firm being known as Burchard, Barton & Barnum, and continued with them until Mr. Burchard's election to Congress in 1871. The firm then dissolved, and Mr. Barnum formed a partnership with Mr. Barton, which remained in existence until the death of the latter in 1893.

In 1867 Mr. Barnum was elected city attorney, and subsequently held the office of justice of the peace, as well as other offices. He took a prominent part in all matters of an educational nature, and served for several years as a member of the board of education, and of the public library board.

During his legal career in this city Mr. Barnum has ranked among the foremost in his profession. For years the firm of Burchard, Barton & Barnum was the leading law firm of the city, and its members were considered the most successful practitioners in the northwest. Mr. Barnum is still actively engaged in the practice of law, and is held in the highest confidence, being regarded as a safe counsellor and a lawyer of excellent judgment and ability.

JAMES H. STEARNS.

Judge Stearns occupies a prominent place among the senior members of the present bar, with whom his legal training was acquired and among whom his professional labors have been exerted. He is a native of New Hampshire, having been born in the town of Hancock Jan. 9, 1841. During his early boyhood his parents decided to come west, and located at Racine, Wis., and there Mr. Stearns entered the public schools and received his preliminary education. In due time he prepared for college and entered Harvard University, from which institution of learning he graduated in 1862. Seven years later he married Miss Ruth M. Chapin, of Dubuque, Ia.

In 1871 Mr. Stearns located in Freeport. In 1876 he entered the law office of Judge J. M. Bailey, with whom as preceptor he pursued legal studies until he was admitted to the bar in May, 1878. While pursuing his studies in this city he became associated with Hon. James I. Neff, and in the fall subsequent to his admission to the bar formed a partnership with him under the firm name of Neff & Stearns, the firm of Bailey & Neff having been dissolved owing to the election of the former to the bench.

In 1880 Mr. Stearns was elected city attorney, an office which he held for one term. In 1889 he was appointed corporation counsel and served in that capacity until his election as county judge in 1894. He also served as master in chancery for several years.

Mr. Stearns has always ranked among the foremost of our legal practitioners, and is regarded



JAMES H. STEARNS.

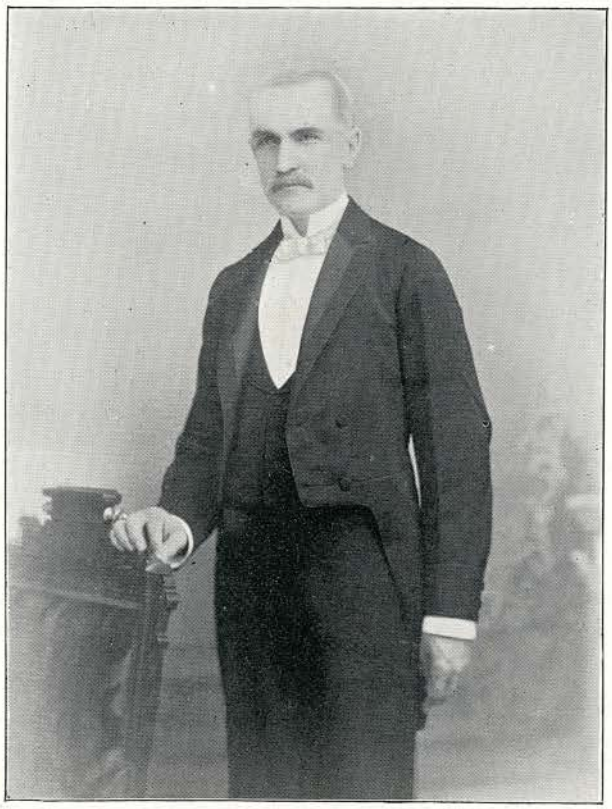
as a lawyer of more than ordinary ability. He has been eminently successful in the discharge of the duties involved in the numerous public offices which he has held, and his marked ability as an advocate, in conjunction with his public spirit and enterprise as a citizen, have caused him to be held in the highest esteem and confidence by all who have associated with him.

JAMES S. COCHRAN.

Ex-Senator James S. Cochran was born in Pittsburg, Pa., on the 22d of February, 1834. His father, James B. Cochran, M. D., was a man of broad education and liberal views, being a graduate of the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, where he received his degree in 1824. His mother, Susan Cochran, a graduate of the Emmittsburgh Female Seminary, Emmittsburgh, Maryland, where she completed her college course in 1824, was a daughter of Zadoc Cramer, an early settler of Pittsburg, and the founder of the first book publication house west of the Alleghany Mountains. Zodac Cramer was

also the author of several works, among them one written in 1811 and entitled "The Navigator," a treatise on how to navigate the Alleghany, Monongahela, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. Copies of his works are now deposited in the Carnegie Library at Alleghany, Pa.

James S. Cochran was the second of three children, Zadoc C., James S. and Mary E., now the wife of Joseph Emmert, a leading citizen and prominent



JAMES S. COCHRAN.

business man of this city. Attended by his older brother, he entered Bethany College, Va., where he spent two years under that eminent scholar and divine, Alexander Campbell, the founder of the Campbellite Church. After that the two brothers became students of Jefferson College, Pa. Mr. Cochran later began the study of law in the office of Messrs. Shaler, Stanton & Umbstetter, at Pittsburg, Pa., and afterwards attended the law school of Judge J. W. Brockenbaugh, at Lexington, Va. In 1858 he was admitted to the bar at Pittsburg, and on the 3d of July of the same year came to Freeport and entered upon the practice of his chosen profession.

Mr. Cochran at once met with success in Freeport. He began practice here during the golden times for the bar, for at the April term of court, in 1858, there were 392 cases at common law on the Circuit Court docket. In 1861 he was elected City Attorney for the city of Freeport, and in 1872 was elected State's Attorney for Stephenson County. In the latter capacity Mr. Cochran served most acceptably for a period of twelve years, until 1884, when he was elected State Senator for the Twelfth Senatorial District, comprising the counties of JoDaviess, Carroll and Stephenson. Of his work in the Thirty-fifth General Assembly it is said that the Journal of the Legislature will exhibit the fact that more of his public measures pertaining to general subjects became law than those of any other member of either branch of the Legislature. During the session of the Thirty-fifth General Assembly commencing January 5th, 1887, he introduced nineteen bills, eight of which became law. Among other public measures, he was the author of "An Act to encourage the planting of trees," by which the Governor is required by law to designate annually in the spring an "Arbor Day." Other measures which became laws are: "An Act to authorize the inmates of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home in the State of Illinois to vote at elections," and "An Act to prevent telegraph, telephone, electric light and other companies from acquiring a prescriptive right to the use of buildings or lands." Also a law to regulate the attendance of teachers upon teachers' institutes, which provided that teachers of the county may attend county institutes for a stated time during the term without a deduction in wages being made.

Of this Legislature it was said: "The Illinois Legislature which recently adjourned is generally conceded to be the most industrious and useful Legislature that has assembled in Illinois for many years. This senatorial district is honored by being represented by Hon. James S. Cochran, one of the most sensible, practical and industrious members of either branch of the Legislature. No abler man has ever been sent to Springfield from Stephenson County, and we do not forget the many able ones who have represented us there. Mr. Cochran made a splendid reputation, and his constituents welcome him home with the plaudit of 'well done, good and faithful servant.'"

Mr. Cochran was chairman of the Committee on Insurance, and a member of the Committees on Judiciary, Judicial Department, Revenue, Corporations, State Charitable Institutions and Rules. He took an active interest in the reform of the revenue laws of the State, and examined with care the nature of all bills for which he voted. He was never found voting for the passage of a bill of doubtful import.

In 1887 Mr. Cochran was appointed chairman of the Committee on Joint Memorial Services held in the House of Representatives on the 22d day of February of that year, in memory of Hon. David Davis and Hon. John A. Logan. These services were largely attended by representatives from every State in the Union and were unusually impressive.

In all his measures Mr. Cochran kept constantly before him the best interests of the greatest number, and, discarding all selfish motives, labored zealously for the welfare of his constituents and the ultimate benefit of the State. He can now look back upon his record with pride and satisfaction in a work conscientiously advocated and faithfully performed.

Mr. Cochran has always been a Republican in politics and has labored zealously for the promulgation of that party's interests. Ho took part in the memorable struggle for the election of a United States Senator before the Thirty-fourth General Assembly of Illinois, in 1885, which resulted in the election of John A. Logan on May 9th, 1885. No election for United States Senator has ever occurred where the result gave such universal satisfaction or attracted such widespread attention. It has been said that no Spartan band ever followed a gallant leader with more courage and loyalty than did the Republican members of the Thirty-fourth General Assembly adhere to the fortunes of General Logan.

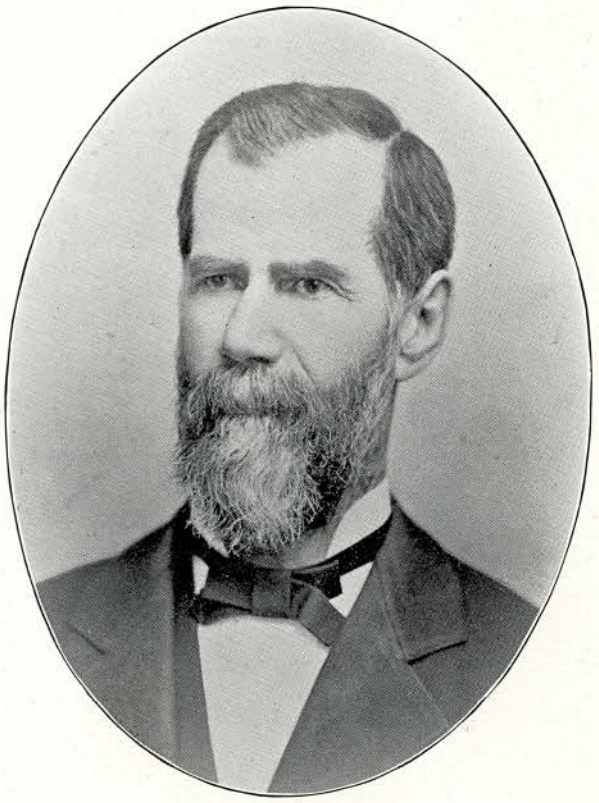
In 1863 Mr. Cochran married Miss Eva Tarbox, daughter of Horace Tarbox, one of the early settlers of Stephenson County. Mrs. Cochran died in April, 1877, leaving two children, James A. Cochran, now a resident of Denver, Colo., surviving.

Mr. Cochran is a member of the Masonic fraternity, being affiliated with Evergreen Lodge. He has also taken a conspicuous part in the interest of education in the public schools of Freeport, and served twelve years as a member of the Board of Education.

As long as he shall live in our midst Freeport will proudly claim him as her son and hold him before the world as one of her noblest representatives, whose example all who labor for a purer citizenship, equity in laws, and the moral and social advancement of their fellowmen may well strive to emulate.

JOHN COATES.

Judge Coates, the patriarch of the Freeport bar, enjoys the distinction of being the oldest attorney in practice in Stephenson County. For almost half a century he has been a familiar figure in our court rooms, and in the little brick office building, now a landmark, and long before our city had become incorporated, he had been elected county judge, and had filled other important offices incident to the profession. The family of Judge Coates was of old South stock. His paternal grand-father emigrated from Scotland to America in 1773 and died while participating in the Revolutionary War. Mr. Coates was born in Lycoming County, Penn., on the 23rd



JOHN COATES.

day of June, 1819. He early attended the district schools of his native county and after attaining manhood came west and settled in Illinois in 1845. He at once determined to enter the legal profession and began to read law that year. In 1847 he removed to Stephenson County and entered the law office of T. J. Turner, and in the following spring was admitted to the bar. After five years of active practice, during which time his natural abilities and close attention to the duties of his profession secured acknowledgment at the hands of his fellow citizens, he was elected County Judge in 1853, which office he held four years. In 1866 he was elected City Attorney, and was subsequently chosen to fill the offices of Justice of the Peace, County Attorney and Supervisor. In November, 1856, he was united in marriage to Mrs. Ellen V. Carroll, a native of Princeton, N. J., and the widow of Rev. J. W. Carroll, a Presbyterian minister. Judge Coates has long been an

active and consistent churchman, and helped to organize the Second Presbyterian Church of this city, of which he has been one of the strongest supporters. He is a quiet, unassuming man, well read in all lines, an able counsellor and a successful practitioner. Although beyond the three score years and ten allotted to man, Judge Coates continues active in the profession and in the discharge of the various business and social duties of life.

HENRY C. HYDE.

Judge Hyde has been a member of the bar of Freeport for over thirty-seven years. He was born in Springfield, Mass., July 19, 1836, but when a year and a half old removed to Winnebago County, Illinois, where his early boyhood was spent on his father's farm. His desire for an education was early evinced and consent was obtained to attend Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin, from which institution Mr. Hyde graduated in 1856. He had previously decided to adopt the legal profession and immediately after graduating began the study of law. In 1859 he was admitted to the bar and at once opened an office in Freeport in the room which he has ever since continued to occupy.

Mr. Hyde entered the legal field when many of the members of the early bar of Freeport were still engaged in active practice, and he was forced to cross swords with some of the most brilliant lawyers who have ever plead before our circuit courts. In 1860 he was elected city attorney and discharged the duties connected with the office in a manner creditable to both himself and the city. He never aspired to civic offices and repeatedly refused to allow his name to be offered as candidate for any office not directly appertaining to the profession he represented. In 1883 he was elected County Judge and held the office for a period of thirteen years.

In 1865 Mr. Hyde was united in marriage to Miss Mary C. Morrow, daughter of Judge Morrow of Missouri, a lawyer and judge of extended reputation. A daughter, who died in early life, and two sons have resulted from the union. One son has entered the profession which his father has so successfully practiced.

Judge Hyde has always been regarded as a man of excellent judgment, deep erudition and splendid legal capacity. He has secured a reputation for safe counsel and rare foresight in all matters involving litigation, and as a clear and lucid expounder of the law he stands eminent among the local members of the profession.

MICHAEL STOSKOPF.

Michael Stoskopf has been associated with the legal fraternity of this city for over twenty years. During that time he has seen the city grow from a mere village to its present proportions, and has identified himself with every step of her progress. His parents, both natives of France, came to Illinois in 1841, and settled in Stephenson County in July of that year. Here their son Michael was born June 7, 1845. Prior to removing to the United States Mr. Stoskopf, Sr., engaged in blacksmithing in his native town, and after locating in Freeport pursued that vocation in partnership with M. Hettinger, Sr., for many years. His earnings were invested in real estate and farm lands which surrounded our village, and which at that time were beginning to give



MICHAEL STOSKOPF.

promise of soon becoming valuable. Mr. Stoskopf later engaged in the milling business and continued in that line for a few years. Subsequently he retired from active business life and devoted himself to developing and improving his property. He took a deep interest in the growing town, and no man in Stephenson County (not himself a builder) has erected more substantial houses than he.

Michael was in due time placed in the public schools of Freeport and was graduated upon the completion of the full course. He showed him-

self a deep thinker and a student of excellent capabilities. Following his natural proclivities, he dedevoted himself to the study of law after the completion of his school course, and later entered the law office of Bailey & Neff, under the preceptorship of whose master minds he acquired a practical knowledge of the legal profession. On the 11th of June, 1873, he was admitted to the bar. He at once opened an office, and in a short time became favorably known among clients and colleagues. Shortly after being admitted to the bar he was elected justice of the peace, and remained in office four years. In 1874 he was chosen master in chancery, and so entirely satisfactory were his services in connection with the office that he was retained in that capacity for a period of twelve years.

By this time Mr. Stoskopf had built up an extensive practice. He had been unusually successful as an advocate, and was well and favorably known not only in his own county but throughout northern Illinois. He advocated the principles of pure Democracy and was a leader of the local members of that party. At the thirty-sixth General Assembly of the State Legislature in 1889 he represented his party in this district, and in 1895 was again honored by being returned to the assembly. At the session of 1889 the celebrated library bill, authorizing a tax for library purposes, was introduced. Mr. Stoskopf at once recognized the merits of the bill, and exerted every effort to secure its passage, which he did in spite of strenuous opposition. His policy regarding this and other measures of importance received general recognition and commendation from both constituents and opponents. Mr. Stoskopf never acted from personal or selfish motives, but in every measure that was introduced sought the elements that might secure the welfare of the general public, and his stubborn opposition to measures calculated to enhance political power or the wealth of private parties or corporations won for him a well-merited reputation for strict integrity and fidelity to the people whom he represented.

Mr. Stoskopf at an early age identified himself with the Masonic fraternity, and has attained the 33° of the A. A. S. R., an honor accorded only a select few in each State. He is also a member of the K. G. M. B. A., and is attorney and counsellor for that organization.

No man stands higher in public confidence and estimation than he, and none enjoys to a greater degree a reputation for responsibility, strict business integrity and legal capacity. He is equally respected by constituents from all ranks and parties, regardless of political beliefs or party differences, and his wide professional experience and deep erudition, displayed, whether before the bar or in social circles, always with the inherent courtesy, modesty and frankness of his race, have rendered him one of the most honored of citizens, successful of lawyers and the truest of friends.

W. N. CRONKRITE.

William N. Cronkrite entered the legal profession splendidly equipped for life's battles and gave promise of a future success which he is now rapidly attaining. Although young in years his experience has



W. N. CRONKRITE.

been wide and varied and his judgments and counsels have displayed such wisdom and excellent reasoning that they have been sought by members of the bar who are many years his senior.

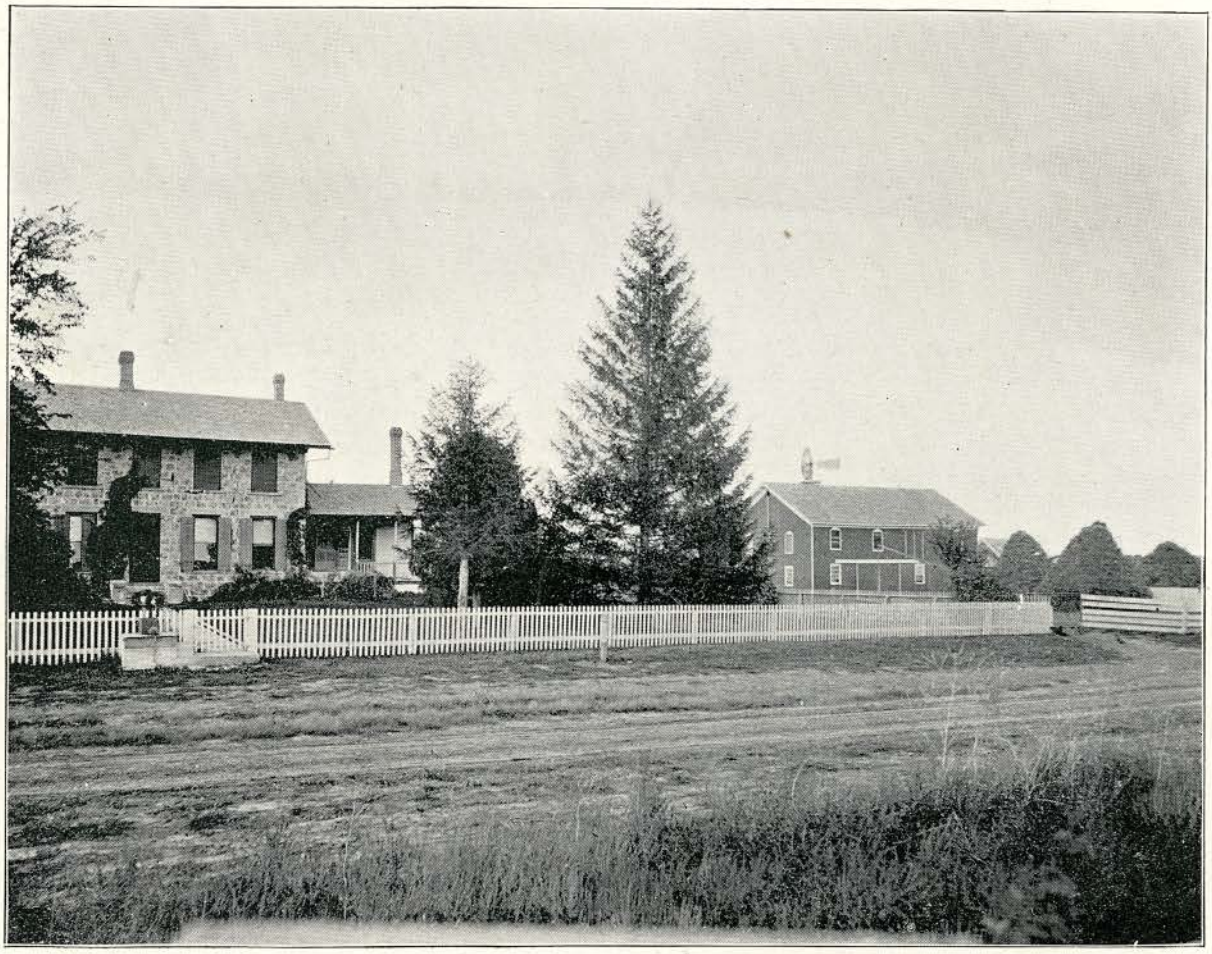
Mr. Cronkrite's life has been spent in his native city, Freeport, where he was born July 8, 1863. The education acquired in our public schools was supplemented by a full course in Knox College, from which he graduated with distinction, among the first in his class. When a young boy he determined to devote his life to legal pursuits, and with such tireless energy and zeal did he labor, that before he was twenty-one years of age he had read law and was ready to begin practice. His preceptor, J. S. Cochran, for several years State Senator, was recounted among Freeport's most able lawyers.

As he could not be admitted to the bar until he had reached the age of maturity, Mr. Cronkrite spent the next three years in reading law, attending court, and acquiring a more thorough and practical working knowledge of his chosen profession. In August, 1884, he took the examinations for admission to the bar and attained a most gratifying degree of success. He did not at once open an office and begin practice, owing to the fact that in the following year he was appointed Bill Clerk in the House of Representatives by Congressman E. S. Haines. He remained throughout the session, discharging the duties devolving upon him in a highly creditable manner. In 1886 he was appointed Deputy County Clerk and continued in office eight years. On the first of December, 1894, he opened a law office for general legal business, although while Deputy County Clerk he had found some time to devote to practice, and has in the short time that has since intervened, enjoyed an enviable degree of patronage and popularity. His reading has been extensive and his knowledge of precedents and authorities in common law unusual.

In 1895 he was appointed Corporation Counsel and continues in that capacity at the present time. He has never sought office, preferring the actual practice of pure law, and it was only at the earnest solicitation of his friends that he allowed his name to be placed upon the ticket as candidate for the office of State's Attorney in 1892. Mr. Cronkrite's ability as an expounder of law in its clearest interpretation has been generally recognized among our citizens and led to his appointment as teacher of commercial law in the Commercial College of this city, with which he has been associated since its organization.

Aside from his legal duties, Mr. Cronkrite has found time to devote to the Masonic fraternity, and has affiliated himself with Evergreen Lodge, No. 170, and all of the local Masonic bodies. Of these he is an active and influential member and an instigator of many of the measures that have redounded to their welfare and future prosperity.

In both social and business circles Mr. Cronkrite is esteemed by all who know him. Before the bar,



RESIDENCE OF SENATOR H. F. ASPINWALL.

his clear reasoning, lucid arguments and logical deductions, enforced by an accurate knowledge of statutes and authorities, have elicited most favorable comment and secured him the confidence of the general public.

OSCAR E. HEARD.

The brilliant and youthful looking State's Attorney of Stephenson County has been for years one of the shining lights of the Stephenson County bar, and his fame as a prosecuting attorney is by no means confined to this county. Mr. Heard is a native of Stephenson County and was born in Harlem township in 1856. His early education was received



OSCAR E. HEARD.

in the district schools of that township and he afterwards attended the Freeport high school, from which he graduated in 1874. After leaving the Freeport school he completed his education at the Northwestern University at Evanston. He decided to adopt the law as his profession, and with this end in view he entered the law office of Senator James S. Cochran, at that time State's Attorney for this county. Mr. Heard applied himself diligently to the study of his chosen profession. He was naturally bright and studious and made rapid progress and when he applied for admission to the bar in 1878 he passed a very creditable examination and stood well up at the head in a large class of students.

After his admission to the bar Mr. Heard opened a law office in this city for the practice of his profession and was successful from the start. Soon after his admission he was elected Justice of the Peace in this city and gave uniform satisfaction in that trying position. Twelve years ago he was nominated for State's Attorney by the Republicans of Stephenson County and he was elected by a handsome majority. He was a very young man to place in such a responsible position, but he had had good training for the duties of the office under Mr. Cochran and he gave such good satisfaction as prosecuting attorney that his party renominated him and he was re-elected by an increased majority. Four years ago he was again renominated and was the only candidate on the Republican county ticket who escaped the great landslide of that year. Mr. Heard's third term as State's Attorney will close in December of this year. During the time he has served in that capacity he has tried many important cases, and we do not think that during his twelve years as prosecuting attorney he ever let a guilty man escape. He has fought many hard legal battles and has had pitted against some of the most noted criminal lawyers in this and adjoining states. During his present term he has tried two murder cases within a year and in both cases secured a conviction, and in each case (Beverly and Harris) the jury pronounced for the infliction of the death penalty, but Governor Altgeld commuted the sentences to imprisonment for life.

The masterly manner in which Mr. Heard handled these cases gave him fame as a prosecutor and his service to the county is fully appreciated by our law abiding citizens. He has made the reading of human nature a study and seldom makes a mistake in selecting a jury. He is an expert in examining witnesses and never overlooks a point. If a witness is not telling the truth, Mr. Heard is liable to trip him up before the witness leaves the stand. While Mr. Heard makes no pretense at oratory, he has a convincing way of addressing a jury which is very effective and he gains the good will of a jury from the start.

Mr. Heard also takes a deep interest in educational matters and is a member of the Board of Education and is also a member of the Public Library board, and although there is no salary attached to either of these offices, he devotes a good deal of his time to both.

Mr. Heard is a prominent member of the First Presbyterian Church, and while a man of strong religious convictions, yet he is broad and liberal in his views. He is a member of the Freeport Club and a great lover of athletic sports, and for recreation he likes to play base ball or take a spin on his bicycle. He has been for years prominently identified with the Odd Fellows and the Masonic fraternity and has held most all of the offices in the various bodies to which he belongs and has frequently represented his lodges at the sessions of the grand lodge.

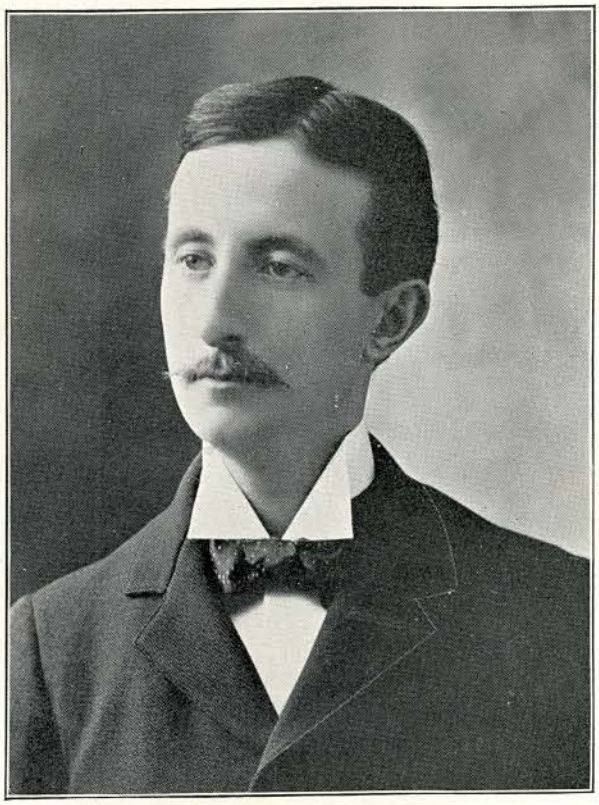
Mr. Heard is married and has a charming wife and two interesting children. He lives on upper Stephenson Street in a cozy home which he built several years ago. It is one of the most hospitable homes in the city and visitors are always sure of a hearty welcome there.

DOUGLAS PATTISON.

Douglas Pattison is a young lawyer whose name may some day be held prominently before the people of this State, if not before the citizens of the nation at large. This much can at least be prophesied, for the possibilities in store for a young man of unusual talent, trained and broadened by a liberal education, are unlimited, and no sphere of usefulness that can be gained by merit and ability is beyond his attainment.

Douglas was born in Freeport December 11th, 1870. His father, Jeremiah Pattison, was one of the most prominent business men of the city, and was for many years actively associated with its manufacturing interests. His mother, Eliza Manny, was a daughter of Pells Manny, a pioneer farmer and manufacturer of this State, and the inventor of the celebrated "Manny Reaper." Douglas was given all the advantages procurable in the public schools in this city, and was graduated from the high school in 1889. He early evinced a love for the legal profession, and to that end spent a year in the office of M. and L. Stoskopf, after which he entered the University of Michigan, from which he graduated with honor from both the literary and law departments. While at the university his genial, pleasant affability, in connection with his merry humor and ready wit, gave him an enviable social position and rendered his friendship much sought for by both instructor and student. He became a member of the Delta Chi Legal fraternity and was active in promoting the weal of that organization.

After receiving his diploma, Douglas returned to Freeport, and, forming a partnership with W. B. Mitchell and W. M. Snyder, entered upon the practice of his profession. In December, 1892, as a reward for services on the stump in the preceding campaign, he was appointed Deputy Circuit Clerk, and served in that distinction for two years. In politics he is a Democrat, following in the footsteps of his worthy cousin, Ex-Governor Pattison of Pennsylvania, and he has taken a lively interest as well



DOUGLAS PATTISON.

as an active part in campaigns and elections for the past eight years. During the presidential campaign of 1892 he was one of the leaders of the Democratic movement in Freeport, and was frequently called upon to make political speeches. As a speaker he is clear, concise and logical, and his arguments carry the convictions of the speaker with them. He is thoroughly in earnest in what appears to him as the truth, and is tireless in his efforts to render that truth apparent to his fellowmen.

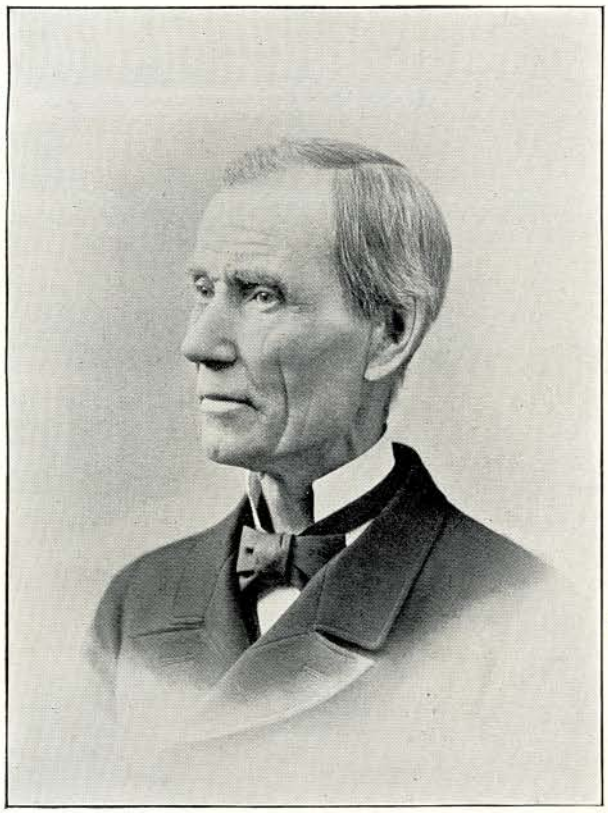
Douglas is unmarried and lives with his widowed mother in their pleasant family residence on Adams street. Socially he is a member of the Freeport Club, the Freeport Jefferson Club, the Excelsior Lodge of Masons, the Improved Order of Red Men, the Order of Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of the Globe.

In business circles he is industrious and persevering, and in every relation with his fellowmen he

maintains the strictest integrity and honor. He is one of the rising young men of whom Freeport is most proud, and into whose hands she will relinquish her future security and welfare with every feeling of trust and confidence.

EARLY RECOLLECTIONS.

The writer relating the incidents and occurrences hereinbelow given first saw the light on the 4th day of April, 1810, having been born on that day in the town of Hartwick, Otsego County, New York. At the age of five years his parents moved over into Chenango County and settled in the village of New Berlin, which is located on the west side of the



JOSEPH B. SMITH.

Unadilla River, the same being the dividing line between the two counties. My residence in New Berlin was almost continuous up to the time I came to Illinois.

I have written this much by way of preface to what I may remember and relate about occurrences and things generally since coming to Freeport, being regarded by some of the present residents as one of the oldest, if not the oldest, male resident who came here as early as 1846. Such, however, is not the case; a number of men still survive who came here before 1846, but are not as old as I am. Nevertheless I have been solicited to write up something from memory of men and of occurrences in and about Freeport and Stephenson County from 1846 up to about 1860.

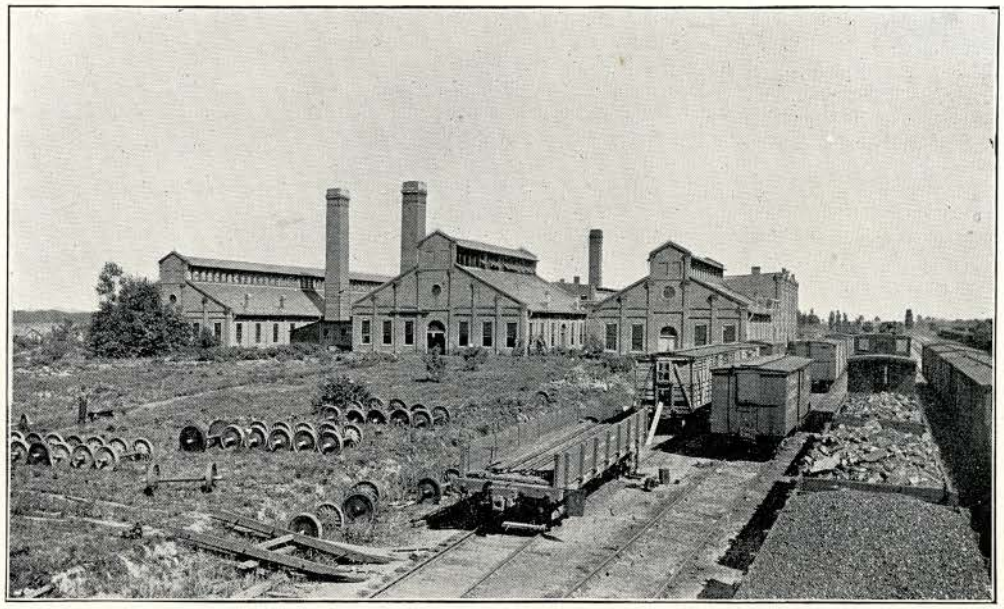
I disposed of my home in New Berlin in the spring of 1846, and in June of that year, with my family, started to find a new home in the west. We came by way of Buffalo to Erie, thence by canal to Beaver on the Ohio River, down it by boat to Cairo and up the Mississippi River, and landed at Savanna, Ill., on the 20th day of July; thence by stage line to Freeport, arriving here in the night, where I spent the remainder of it at a hotel situated on part of the ground now occupied by Kuehner's block; it was kept by Major Howe, the father-in-law of the late Luther W. Guiteau. I. C. Stoneman kept a hotel on the corner of Galena street and what is now known as South Galena avenue. The building, which still stands, was erected by Mr. Stoneman and John A. McDowell four or five years previous to my coming here. These were the only hotels then in Freeport. There were seven general stores. The proprietors were: Dexter A. Knowlton, Orestes H. Wright, S. Liebshiets, Fred. Strockey, E. H. Hyde, Charles Waterman and Oscar Taylor.

In 1847 or 1848 Samuel Knight established a store on Stephenson street, which he in connection with Henry Strohm conducted successfully for several years, after which Knight moved to Boston, Mass. In 1846 the dam in the river here was being constructed by E. S. Hanchett under contract, and a saw mill was erected the next year by Charles Powell. The village was yet small and but little substantial improvements had been made, and its growth up to 1851 had been slow. In that year the Galena and Chicago railroad had been completed from Chicago to Elgin. Soon after that event Freeport took on new life, and its growth increased by the incoming of new inhabitants and the making of improvements in the streets and the construction of a better class of buildings, which has continued steadily up to the present time. In 1846 the Baptists, Presbyterians and Methodists had organized societies here. The ministers were Rev. James Schofield, of the Baptist; Rev. C. Waterbury, of the Presbyterian, and an itinerant of the Methodist. Rev. Cavanaugh was the priest of the Catholics. There was no church edifice at that time.

The good fellowship that existed among the inhabitants of this small village fifty years ago was remarkable in that of its social and friendly inter-

course and the confidence maintained by the integrity of each other. No breaches of the peace or crimes of any magnitude were perpetrated. The doors of the dwellings were seldom locked; indeed, many of them contained no locks at all. The merchants, whose stocks were limited to the necessities of the settlers, were fair dealers, as were also the few mechanics then here, and all were striving through honest effort to better their condition.

In the year 1848 the writer was elected to the office of county school commissioner, and re-elected in 1850, resigning it in 1852. With other duties required of the commissioner was the selling (on petition of the trustees) of the unsold school lands in the townships. In the discharge of these duties the writer was brought in contact with the school officers and teachers, and also many of the early settlers of the county. Only a small number of those whose acquaintance I gained are now living.



ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD SHOPS.

Of the circuit court of this county in 1846 Thomas Brown, of Galena, was the presiding judge; O. W. Brewster sheriff, and John A. Clark, clerk; I cannot recall the name of the state's attorney. Benjamin R. Sheldon became the successor of Judge Brown in about the year 1850. William Brown, of Rockford, was the successor of Judge Sheldon. At the general election for national, state and county officers in 1852, the writer hereof was elected to the office of clerk of the circuit court of this county to succeed John A. Clark, who had held the office for twelve or fourteen years, and from the first organization of the courts of the county. Mr. Clark was then a young man and a lawyer, coming here from Galena. He was well qualified to begin the work of organizing the office, of opening new books for entering the proceedings of the court and of the recording department of the office. Mr. Clark soon became well and favorably known to the early settlers throughout the county. In politics he was a Whig. The county up to 1854 had generally been Democratic, but Mr. Clark was popular and so well liked by everybody that he was always successful when a candidate. In his case it can be truly said that the office sought the man.

The writer hereof entered upon the duties of the office in December, 1852. The next term of court was held in April, 1853, Judge Sheldon presiding; George Reitzell, sheriff; William Brown, state's attorney. The members of the bar who usually attended the several terms of this court during my term of office, from December, 1852, to December, 1856, and whose names were entered upon the court's docket, were: Martin P. Sweet, Thomas J. Turner, George Purinton, Seth B. Farwell, Thomas F. Goodhue, F. W. S. Brawley, Charles Betts, John Coates, John C. Kean, U. D. Meacham, Hiram Bright, J. Bright Smith, John A. Jamison, Homer N. Hibbard, Oscar Taylor, Freeport; Andrew Hinds, of

Oneco; M. Y. Johnson, of Galena; Jason Marsh, Ansel Miller, Attorney Lathrop, William Brown, of Rockford; James Loup and Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Boone County. Only five or six of the above named lawyers survive.

The position I occupied brought me in close contact with these lawyers, for they had much to do with the clerk, especially in term time. Perhaps it will not be out of place or unseemly for me to add to this narrative a few brief remarks about at least two of the lawyers at the head of the list. Martin P. Sweet was a lawyer of repute, not only in Stephenson County but throughout northern Illinois. He was physically and mentally a strong man, had a large head and an active brain, was of nervous temperament and endowed with great powers of oratory. He entered into political discussion as he did of every other subject, with great force and vigor. He was an ardent admirer of John C. Fremont, and made many speeches in his behalf when a candidate for the presidency. Capable as he was to fill any position in the state or nation with credit, he never attained office. He was once a candidate in this district for Congress, but was defeated by a small plurality vote. At one time during Lincoln's or Johnson's administration he was offered the governorship of the territory of Washington, but declined it. In considering the matter of the acceptance of the office he said to me that the capital of the territory was located at Steilecom, or "Steal-a-coon," as he facetiously called it. He said it was too far away for him to accept the office. Mr. Sweet was in the full vigor of his manhood when stricken down by the disease which terminated in his death.

Thomas J. Turner was truly a self-made man, and it may be said of him that he was a self- made lawyer. He came to this county from Indiana when quite a young man, and soon set about learning the mysteries and vagaries of the law, and was early admitted to the bar, soon gaining a good standing and a good practice. Like many other ambitious young lawyers, he became interested in matters political, and in 1846 was elected a Member of Congress as a Democrat. He failed of a nomination for the next Congress, but later on he held many offices of trust; was a member of the convention to revise the Constitution of Illinois, and was also a member of the Legislature. He served as colonel of a regiment in the Civil War, but his health broke down previous to the close of the war, and he never recovered it. A few years after the close of the war he departed this life at the end of much suffering.

Two others of the list of lawyers above given, namely, Jason Marsh and Stephen A. Hurlbut, served with distinction as officers in the War of the Rebellion.

Others of the list became judges of the County Court, viz: Seth Farwell, George Purinton and John Coates.

JOSEPH B. SMITH.

August, 1896.



The Medical Profession of Freeport.

L. A. MEASE.

No physician ever began practice in Stephenson County with deeper erudition or more scholarly attainments than Dr. L. A. Mease. He was a native of Union County, Penn., where he was born Sept. 26th, 1820. In 1845 he removed to Stephenson County, and in 1851 attended lectures at Rush Medical College, Chicago. He then attended Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, where he received his degree in 1856. For a period of more than thirty-five years thereafter he practiced medicine in Freeport and the surrounding country, and attained a wide-spread reputation for skill and learning. He was a great student, and devoted much of his time to writing for medical publications. He was a lover of old and rare books and manuscripts, and his library contained some of the most valuable works to be found in this country. When the Stephenson County Society of Physicians and Surgeons was organized he became a member, and was elected its first president. He held that position at the time of his death, which occurred Sept. 6th, 1881.

FRANCIS W. HANCE.

Dr. F. W. Hance was, at the time of his death, the oldest practicing physician in Freeport. His father, John Hance, was a native of Maryland, and was a farmer by occupation. He engaged in farming near Barnesville, Ohio, and it was there that his son, Francis W., was born July 23, 1825. After the usual preliminary training received at the district schools, Dr. Hance entered an academy, and at the close of the academic year entered Franklin College, Ohio, where he took a full literary and scientific course. Upon leaving college he entered the office of Dr. W. J. Bates, of Wheeling, Va., and subsequently began a course at the University of Pennsylvania, where he received his degree in 1849.

He began the practice of medicine at Bridgeport, Ohio, where he remained until his removal to Freeport in May, 1853. Here he at once met with public favor, and became well known throughout the county.

In 1861 he was elected mayor of Freeport, which position he filled with much credit to himself and entire satisfaction to his constituents. In 1849 he was married to Miss Mary B. Chamberlain, a native of New York, who died September 24, 1873.

Dr. Hance enjoyed the esteem and respect of the entire community in which he lived, and was held in the highest regard by the local members of his profession. His death occurred Sept. 16, 1896.

NATHAN FAY PRENTICE.

Dr. Nathan F. Prentice (deceased) was a native of Cayuga Co., N. Y., where he was born October 11, 1825. His early education was received at Owaska



DR. N. F. PRENTICE.

and Moravia, in that State, after which, in 1846, he attended the Medical Academy at Castleton, Vt. In 1847, after attending lectures in New York, he located in Rochester and began the practice of his profession. In 1848 he came west and settled in Rockton, Winnebago Co. In November, 1851, Dr. Prentice married Miss Miranda Hyatt, a native of Canada, and in the following year removed to Freeport and engaged in the practice of medicine.

He soon became prominently identified with the Masonic fraternity and attained the 33°. He was Commander of Freeport Commandery, No. 7, for five years, and held the office of Prelate in said Commandery for four years. He was also Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of the State of Illinois in 1866.

Dr. Prentice was successful in the practice of his profession in Freeport, and was esteemed and beloved by all. His death occurred April 19, 1873.

OWEN E. STEARNS.

When Dr. Stearns passed away, his death was felt as a personal loss in almost every home in the city. During his long residence in Freeport he had won his way into the hearts of his fellowmen by his generous self-sacrifice, patient perseverance in doing good, and his loving care and solicitation for the little ones of the city, and his untimely death, in the midst of the greatest usefulness, left a vacancy which has since remained unfilled.

Dr. Stearns was born in the town of Phelps, Ontario Co., N. Y., Aug. 20, 1827. He early developed a desire to enter the medical profession, and immediately after leaving the high school of his native town, entered the Homeopathic Medical College of Cleveland, Ohio, from which institution he graduated in 1850, having made a splendid record during the course. In the spring of the following year he removed to Freeport, where he at once began the practice of his profession. His ability soon commanded extended recognition, and secured him a wide patronage. He was subsequently elected vice president of the first Homeopathic Medical Society of Northern Illinois, and was ever afterwards active in promoting the interests of that body. He was also at all times deeply interested in movements for promoting the welfare of the existing systems of education, and served as a member of the board of education for six years, being president of the board a part of the time. To his efforts in a great measure is due the present standard of the schools.

Both professionally and socially Dr. Stearns was held in the highest esteem, and during his residence in this city was regarded as one of our leading citizens. He was one of the senior practitioners of Freeport, and the success of his labors did much to make popular the system of homeopathy.

In 1886-7 he was made a member of the Stephenson County Pension Board, and was subsequently appointed its treasurer. He was also prominently identified with the Masonic fraternity, being a member of the Evergreen Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and a member of Freeport Consistory, S. P. R. S.

His death occurred December 19, 1893.

JOHN H. BEAUMONT.

Dr. J. H. Beaumont (deceased) was for many years one of Freeport's leading physicians and citizens. He was born in New York State in 1818, and came west in the year 1849. He then settled in northern Indiana, but soon removed to Freeport and began the study of medicine under the allopathic system. Convinced, however, that the principles of Hahnemann possessed superior merits, he decided to pursue a course of study at the Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, from which institution he graduated in 1863. He then returned to Freeport where he continued to practice until his death, which occurred Feb. 24, 1883.

As a physician he was unusually successful, and as a generous and public-spirited citizen he won hosts of friends, to whom his death was an irreparable loss.

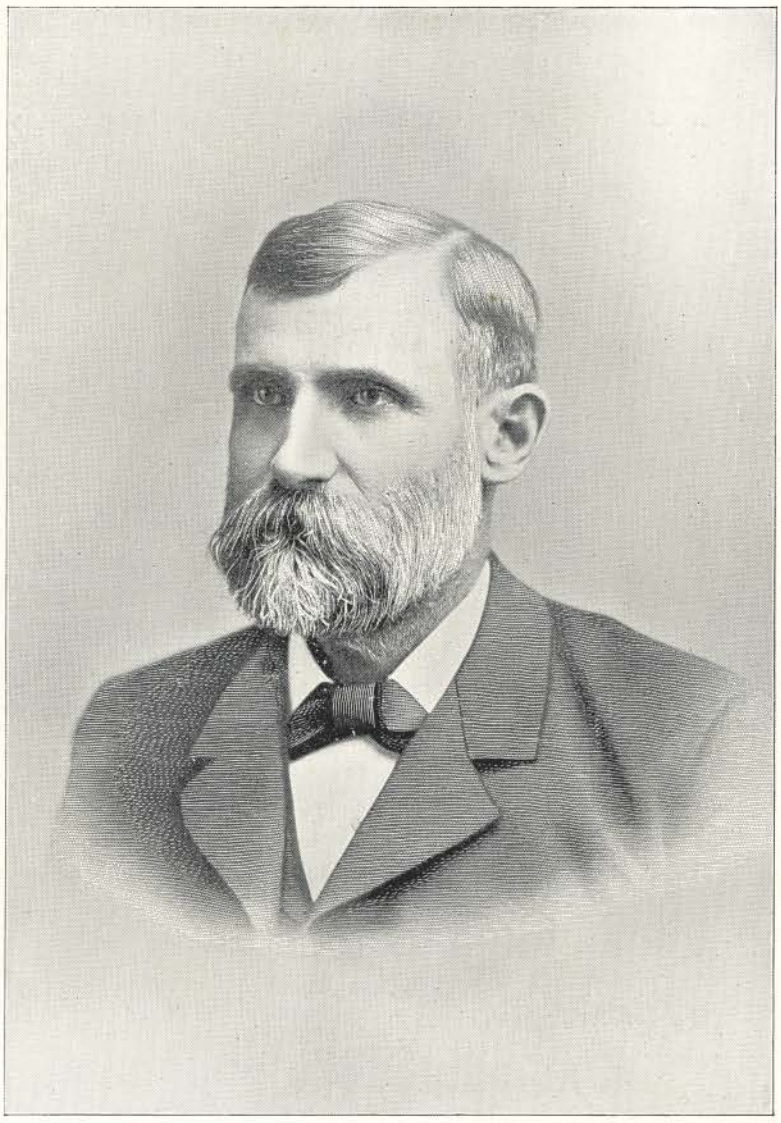
LOUIS STOSKOPF.

Dr. Louis Stoskopf (deceased) will long be held in loving remembrance throughout our city and adjoining country. For a period of twenty-seven years he lived and labored in our midst, and then, after a life of service for his fellowmen, entered the eternal rest.

He was a native of this county, being born in Freeport, Nov. 14, 1842. His early education was received in our public schools, and supplemented by a course in the classical department of the University of Michigan. After remaining there two years he entered Yale University and graduated in the class of '65. After completing his college course he studied medicine and attended lectures at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and graduated from the medical department of Columbia College in 1869. He then returned to his native city and engaged in the practice of his profession. Success immediately attended his efforts, and he soon built up a large practice. He was elected secretary of the Stephen-

son County Society of Physicians and Surgeons, and was vice-president of the society for several years.

In October, 1873, Dr. Stoskopf was united in marriage to Miss Caroline H. Brewster, daughter of D. S. Brewster, one of the early settlers of this county. His death occurred July 13, 1895, at his home in Freeport.



DR. LOUIS STOSKOPF.

ELIAS C. DEPUY.

Few men in Freeport were more widely or more favorably known than Dr. DePuy. He settled in this city in June, 1855, and resided here continuously, except while in the army, until the time of his death, which occurred July 11, 1879.

Dr. DePuy was born near Syracuse, N. Y., September 18th, 1824. He commenced his medical studies with his father, and was graduated from the Medical College of Rochester, N. Y. He also spent considerable time in surgical studies in Bellevue Hospital, New York, and in Cincinnati.

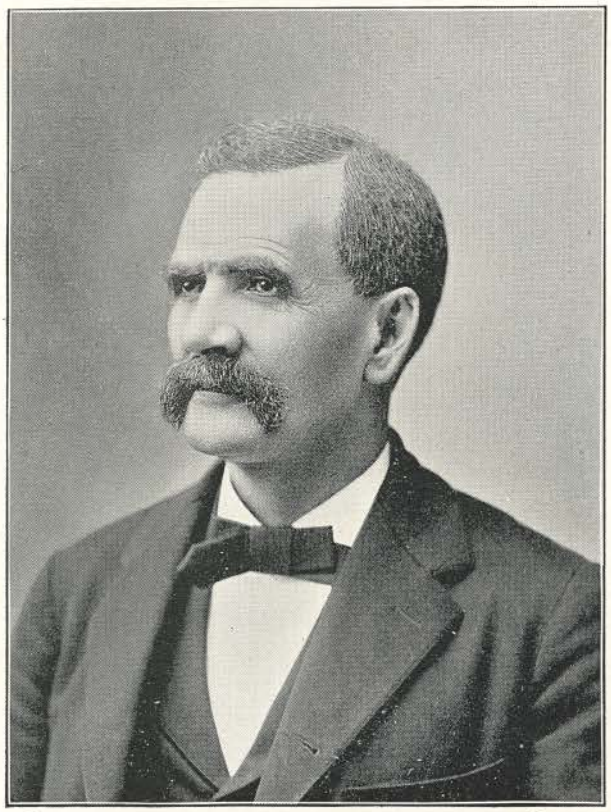
Upon his return from the army he was elected Treasurer of Stephenson County, and held the position for a number of years.

At the close of his service as Treasurer he practically retired from public life, and traveled quite extensively, in the hope that he might permanently arrest the progress of the disease with which he was afflicted.

On October 14th, 1856, Dr. DePuy was married to Miss Rhoda A. Butler, of Rockford, Ill., who survives him.

W. S. CALDWELL,

the subject of this sketch, is one of the best known members of the medical profession in the Northwest; in fact, he has an extensive acquaintance with members of the profession throughout this country and in foreign lands, for he has been a great traveler, and is a graduate of several of the leading medical colleges. The story of his life is very interesting. He was born August 8th, 1832. His father was also a physician and surgeon and belonged to the well known Caldwells, of North Carolina, a family that



DR. W. S. CALDWELL.

was famous in that section of the south in the days before the war. The eldest brother of the doctor's father was a judge of the Superior Court of that State, and another brother was for many years a leading member of congress. The great nullifier, John C. Calhoun, was an own cousin of this line of the Caldwell family, and the doctor's father and all his family were old line Whigs. The elder Caldwell was bitterly opposed to the Mexican war, and was not a bit backward about expressing his views on that subject. The doctor remembers hearing his father say that the annexation of Texas and California was as unwarranted a piece of despoliation as the dismemberment of Poland.

Dr. Caldwell's early life was spent upon the plains of the far west, and he never saw the inside of a school house until he was nearly fifteen years old, although from early childhood he had a thirst for knowledge and was determined that sooner or later he would acquire an education. It is not strange, then, that when he did get an opportunity to attend school that he appreciated from the first the object he had in view, and he applied himself most diligently to his studies. After completing the course in a seminary he entered the University of Michigan, and after leaving that well known school of learning he took a course in medicine at the Eclectic Medical Institute in Cincinnati, and was graduated from that school in March, 1856. He then entered the famous Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and was graduated from that institution in 1863. He then attended the Chicago Medical College, and was given his degree there in 1866. He was also graduated from Bellveue Hospital in 1871, and from the University of New York in 1873. In 1866 Dr. Caldwell made his first trip across the ocean, and since then has crossed the Atlantic ten times and has visited almost every country on the face of the globe. He made these trips to Europe mostly for the purpose of gaining additional knowledge in the science of medicine, and has studied at most of the leading medical colleges of Europe, and has also seen service in many of the famous hospitals of the old world. The doctor first practiced his profession in the town of his birth in the State of Michigan, but he only remained there a few months, when he came to Illinois and settled in Jo Daviess County, where he taught school for a time, and then took up the practice of medicine at Elizabeth, in that county. Later he removed to Warren, where he remained until the spring of 1877, when he went to Europe, spending two years there in the best medical colleges and hospitals. After returning from Europe he decided to locate in Freeport, and opened an office in the Opera House block in the spring of 1879, and there he has remained and built up a large and lucrative practice in Stephenson and adjoining counties.

Dr. Caldwell, aside from his standing as a physician, is prominently identified with the business interests of this city and is extremely popular with all classes of people. His frank, open manner makes him easy to approach, and his well known opposition to cant and hypocrisy in every form has won for him many friends among the masses. Honest labor he respects, and in his eyes all men are equal so long as they are honest. The doctor is a great

student, and despite the fact that his professional duties are numerous and imperative, he finds time to read the latest and best books, and this is about the only form of recreation he indulges in. He is also at home on the lecture platform, and has delivered many interesting and entertaining lectures in this and adjoining cities on his foreign travels. He has taken a prominent part in State and National meetings of medical men, and his papers are regarded as high authority by members of the profession.

J. H. STEALY.

Dr. Jeremiah H. Stealy, junior member of the firm of Caldwell & Stealy, has attained a most enviable degree of success since locating in Freeport, and has greatly augmented the prestige of the firm which bears his name. He is a man of exceptional experience and erudition, and his skill as a physician and surgeon is acknowledged on all hands.



DR. J. H. STEALY.

He was born in April, 1859, in Ashland, Ohio, of which city his father, Israel Stealy, was a well known and respected citizen for many years. His rudimentary education was received in the public schools of his native city, and at the age of fifteen he entered the Normal School of Wisconsin, from which he graduated with an excellent record. He then entered the University of Michigan, and pursued the study of medicine during the years 1879–80. In 1882 he took a course of study at the Jefferson Medical College, and in 1888 at the Polyclinic School of Medicine at New York. Subsequently he went abroad and continued the study of medicine in the Medical and Surgical Hospital of Berlin.

Thus prepared, Dr. Stealy entered upon the practice of his profession at Browntown, Wis., in 1882. In 1889 he came to Freeport, and at once entered into partnership with his preceptor, Dr. W. S. Caldwell, and in a remarkably short time built up a large practice. He was soon appointed consulting surgeon for St. Francis' Hospital, and later received the appointment as local surgeon for the C., M. & St. P. R. R. He also served several years in the capacity of city health officer. He has taken a lively interest in educational matters, and has been a member of the local school board. While a member of that body he was highly influential in advancing the welfare of our schools.

Among the medical societies of which he is a member are: The National Medical Association, the Illinois State Medical Association and the Southern Wisconsin Medical Association. Socially Dr. Stealy is one of the pleasantest of men, and he has a wide circle of friends, by whom he is held in the highest esteem. Professionally none stand higher in Freeport than he, and he possesses the confidence and patronage of the public in a way that testifies most emphatically of his exceptional ability.

JOHN F. FAIR.

During the sixteen years that Dr. Fair has been actively engaged in practice in Freeport, he has, by ambition, integrity and ability, maintained a place in the foremost ranks of his profession, and among those who comprise our most capable business men and esteemed citizens.

His early home was in Waddams township, where he was born Sept. 16, 1855. His father was Samuel Fair, a native of Pennsylvania, whence he emigrated to the west and located in Stephenson County in 1850. Dr. Fair's early district school training was supplemented by a course in the high school of Lena, and later by a collegiate course at Carthage, Ill., where he attended the Carthage College, from which institution he received his degree of A. B. in 1878. Continuing his studies still farther at that college, he subsequently received the degree of A. M. Concluding to enter the profession of medicine, Dr. Fair became a student in the office of Dr.

F. W. Byers, of Monroe, Wis., and later went to Chicago, where he entered Rush Medical College and attended lectures during the winter and spring. In the ensuing summer he came to Freeport and entered the office of Dr. W. S. Caldwell, with whom he remained until the fall of 1880, when he went to New York, where he entered the University of that city and took the medical course. In 1881 he graduated and received his degree of M. D.

Immediately after graduation Dr. Fair returned to this city and again associated himself with Dr. Caldwell, remaining with that gentleman until the summer of 1884. In October, 1884, having returned



DR. J. F. FAIR.

from an extended trip throughout the west, he was married to Miss Clara H. Miller, daughter of Capt. F. O. Miller, and in the following fall went to Philadelphia and attended lectures at the Jefferson Medical College, where, in March, 1885, he received his second degree of M. D. Returning to Freeport in May of that year, he at once opened an office and resumed the practice of the profession for which he had so eminently fitted himself.

Here success at once attended him, for not only did his professional ability at once become recognized, but the heartiness with which he entered into every movement calculated to enhance the interests of our city, or the moral welfare of its citizens, rendering him generally popular and causing him to be sought as a helpmate and counsellor by all classes. He soon became affiliated with many of our social and benevolent orders, in which he invariably attained a high standing. He is a member of Winnesheik Lodge, I. O. O. F., Past Master of Excelsior Lodge, No. 97, A. F. & A. M., Past Eminent Commander of Freeport Commandery, No. 7, and a 32° Mason, being presiding officer in one of the bodies of Freeport. He is also a member of the Knights of the Globe Mutual Benefit Association, and is medical examiner for that organization.

Throughout his business and social life in Freeport, Dr. Fair has been the recipient of the highest honors accorded a citizen—the confidence, esteem and love of the entire public. His kindness to all alike, unprejudiced by social rank, wealth or public favor, has opened the way to him into the hearts of all who meet him, and secured their consideration and patronage. In educational matters he has always taken a deep interest and is at present a member of the Board of Education. He has been of marked service in securing better facilities in our public schools.

Although never an office-seeker, he did, at the solicitation of friends, accept the nomination as alderman in 1891, and was elected by a large majority. A more conscientious public officer, or one more deeply sensible of the trust imposed upon him, never sat in that body. He was subsequently repeatedly urged to accept higher offices, but refused, feeling that his practice demanded his entire attention.

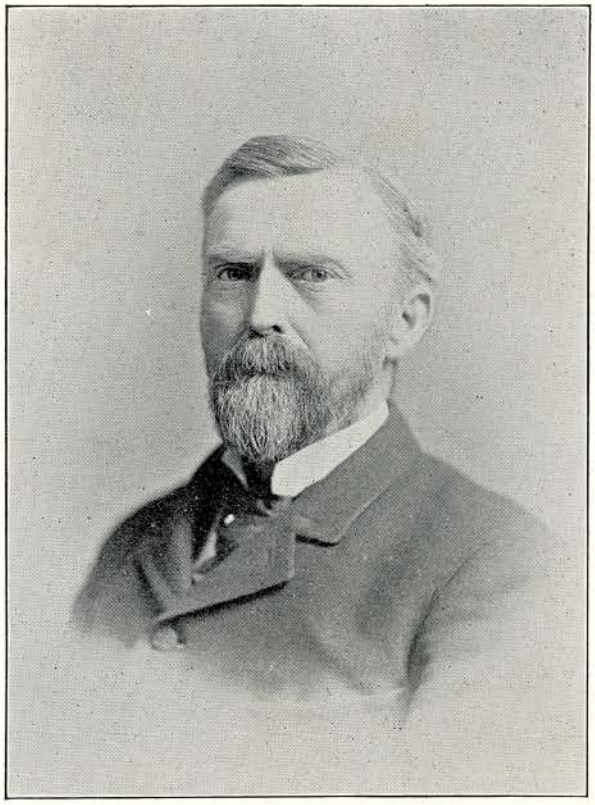
Dr. Fair owes his success to himself alone. His own persistent efforts and indefeasible ambition have placed him in the position which he now occupies, and rendered him one of the most beloved of physicians and the most honored of citizens.

JAMES C. BURBANK.

Dr. J. C. Burbank located in Freeport in 1873. His early home was in Warren, Penn., where he was born Oct. 12, 1834. His father was at that time engaged in farming, and the boyhood and early youth of our subject was spent on the farm. During the winter months he was allowed to attend the district school, but his summer days were spent in the hardest kind of manual labor. From the age of 14 to 18 he attended an academy at Towanda, and then, gladly embracing an opportunity to enter the medical profession, began study with Dr. D. S. Pratt, one of the leading physicians of his county. A year

later he entered upon a course of lectures in the Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia, from which institution he graduated in 1856. He also took work at the Pennsylvania Hospital, attending clinics and engaging in actual surgical practice until the spring of 1856, when he was graduated with distinction.

In the spring of '56 he came west and located in Polo, Ill., where he practiced successfully until 1869, and then removed to Janesville, Wis. From there in 1873 he came to Freeport. During his residence in Polo he was married, in January, 1860, to Miss



DR. J. C. BURBANK.

Martha M. Belding, a native of Bradford County, Penn., whence she removed with her parents in 1854.

Dr. Burbank soon became well known throughout the business and social circles of Freeport, and rapidly attained popularity and success. He became affiliated with the Amercian Homeopathic Institute, the Illinois Medical Society, the Western Academy of Homeopathy, and was for a time vice president of the State Medical Society. While residing at Polo he was a member of the town council, and after removing to Freeport identified himself with Moses R. Thompson Lodge and Freeport Commandery.

In February, 1890, taking advantage of the business opportunities then offered to members of his profession in Clinton, Iowa, Dr. Burbank removed to that city and remained five years, meeting with gratifying success. But, although the recipient of great confidence and wide patronage in Clinton, Dr. Burbank always felt that the ties that bound him to Freeport were much stronger than any which he might form in his new home, and in February, 1895, he decided to return to the city of his adoption.

He at once met with a cordial reception from his old friends and patrons, in whose hearts no other physician could find a permanent place, and to-day is considered one of the leaders in his profession in Freeport. He has held various town and school offices during his residence in Polo and in this city, but always at the earnest solicitation of friends. He never sought office, preferring to devote his entire time and energy to his profession. He was instrumental in organizing the Northwestern Medical Society in September, 1895, and was elected its first president, an office he still holds. Wherever he has made his home he has bent every energy to the advancement, socially and morally, of his townsmen, and has taken a lively interest in every enterprise having as its result the greater weal of his city. He is valued no less as a desirable member of society than as a physician, and is an active promoter of all movements calculated to benefit society and enhance the good of the greatest number. As an honored and representative member of the profession none stand higher in the estimation of our citizens than he.

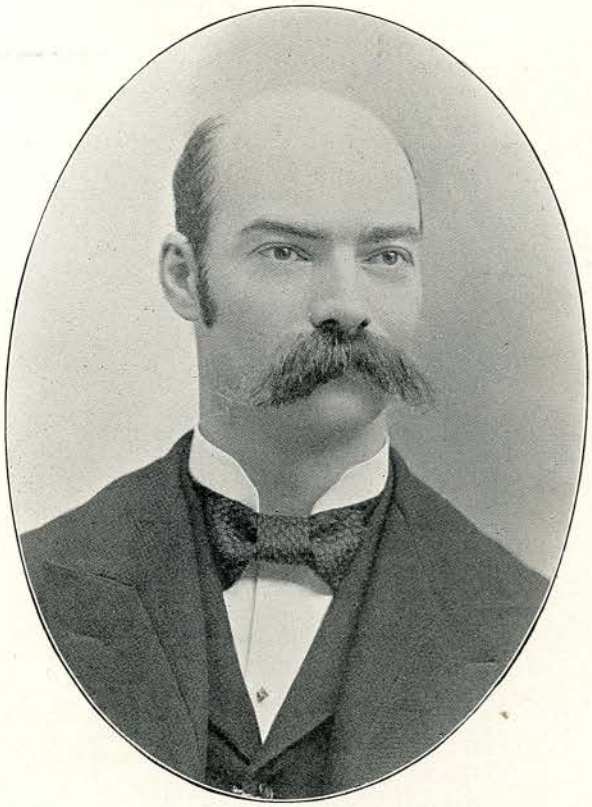
D. C. L. MEASE.

Dr. D. C. L. Mease was born in this city in the year 1861. His father, Dr. L. A. Mease, had for years occupied a prominent place among our physicians, and was considered a man of rare skill and ability. In early boyhood the subject of this sketch had determined to enter the medical profession, and to that end had directed his preliminary and subsequent education. After completing the courses offered by the schools of his native city, he entered the University of Wisconsin and took the classical course offered by that institution. This completed, he entered Rush Medical College of Chicago, and graduated with distinction in the class of '84. That class was notable as containing two hundred members, and Dr. Mease was among those at the head.

Prior to graduation Dr. Mease had attended lectures at the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary during 1883–4, and in 1894, after several years of practice, returned to Chicago for a post graduate course at

the Polyclinic Institute, devoting especial attention to the surgery of the eye and ear.

While a close student and a busy practitioner, Dr. Mease has found time to cultivate the social and fraternal side of life, and is an active member of many of the social organizations of the city. He is prominently identified with the Society of Physicians and Surgeons of Stephenson County, and is a member of the Excelsior Lodge and Freeport Consistory, having attained the 32nd degree in the latter body. His name also appears on the rolls of membership of



DR. D. C. L. MEASE.

various fraternal insurance orders represented in the city, and is always associated with those of the highest rank. He is chief medical examiner of the Knights of the Globe Mutual Benefit Association and local surgeon for the Illinois Central Railroad. He also held the office of county physician for two years.

Dr. Mease was married Oct. 29, 1890, to Miss Esther Briggs, a well known resident of Freeport, and a women of rare accomplishments. During his residence in this city Dr. Mease has met with merited success, and to-day enjoys public consideration and confidence in a way that attests the high esteem in which he is held.

E. J. TOREY.

Dr. Edgar James Torey is a Canadian by birth, his parents, Alexander and Sarah Torey, having resided in Toronto for many years. In that city Dr. Torey was born Oct. 19, 1858. In due time he was placed in the public schools, from which in 1874 he graduated, and at once entered the County Academy at Guysboro, Nova Scotia, where he prepared himself for Dalhousie College, Halifax, N. S. In 1882 he received the degree of B. A. from that institution, and immediately accepted a position as head master of Hanto County Academy, N. S., where he remained four years. He then began the study of medicine under Charles J. Gossip, M. D., and subsequently entered the University of the City of New York, from which he graduated in 1890 in the honor division in a class of 240. In 1889, while a medical student, he was appointed assistant in surgical clinics in the university, a position which he held until he graduated. On the 18th of September, 1884, he married Miss Annie Grant Shaw, with whom he moved to Windsor, Nova Scotia, two years later. After a three years' residence in that city Dr. Torey came west and finally decided to locate in Freeport, where he still resides.



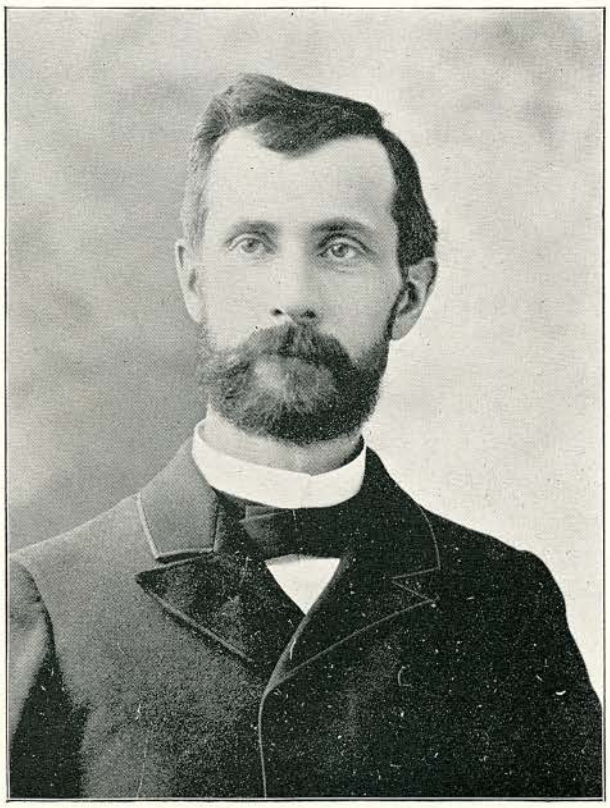
DR. E. J. TOREY.

During his residence in this city Dr. Torey has built up a large and increasing practice, and has secured a reputation to which his skill in the medical profession justly entitles him. He is a man of extensive experience, well read and thoroughly

versed in the vocation to which he has devoted his life. During his brief practice in Freeport he has won hosts of friends who gladly bear witness to his fidelity as a citizen and his excellence as a physician.

ALDEN E. SMITH.

Dr. A. E. Smith is one of the younger members of the medical fraternity of Freeport. He is a native of Michigan, being born at Cedar Springs, Kent Co., December 1, 1861. His father, Obediah Smith, was a native of Yates County, N. Y., whence he removed to Michigan after his marriage and took up a tract



DR. A. E. SMITH.

of unbroken land in the woods of Kent County. After engaging in farming for a brief period he turned his attention to the study of medicine, and subsequently received the degree of M. D. from the Chicago Medical College. He then removed to Paris, Texas, where he practiced successfully for many years.

A. E. Smith is the next to the youngest of five children. After completing the courses offered by the schools of his native town, he entered the employ of Dr. Fox, of the same place, and acted in the capacity of drug clerk until he entered upon the study of his chosen profession. He early determined to adopt the profession so successfully practiced by his father, and to that end took up the study of medicine and surgery at the Homeopathic Medical College of Chicago, where he received his degree in March, 1884.

Shortly after graduation, Dr. Smith came to Freeport and became associated with Dr. J. C. Burbank, with whom he remained for several months, and then located in Davis, Ill. On the 25th of December, 1886, he was united in marriage to Miss Idelle M. Bellman, a former teacher in the public schools of Rock City and Davis.

After locating in Davis, Dr. Smith opened a drug store and carried on that business in conjunction with the practice of medicine until February, 1890, when he returned to Freeport to make it his permanent home.

During his professional career in this city, Dr. Smith has attained an enviable degree of popularity and public confidence. He is a man of exceptional ability, and his ardent ambition, in conjunction with his professional skill, has led him to spare neither wealth nor time to reach those heights where there is always room. His large practice and the esteem in which he is held by all who know him may be regarded as prescient of the bright future that awaits him.

L. M. CURRIER.

Dr. L. M. Currier, son of William B. and Sarah Currier, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., January 14, 1847. His early education was received in the district schools of that county, where he lived until he reached the age of seventeen. In October, 1864, he came west and located in Freeport, where his parents joined him a year later. In 1865 he entered the public schools, and pursued the entire course up to within a month of graduation, when, having been offered a lucrative position, he left school and entered upon his business career. He accepted a position with the American Insurance Company and remained with them for several years. In 1869 he married Miss Rose A. Beaumont, daughter of Dr. J. H. Beaumont, at that time one of the leading physicians of the city, and during the following year entered the office of his wife's father, under whose preceptorship he began the study of medicine.

After a few months spent in the office of his preceptor, Dr. Currier entered the Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, and after a four years' course

in that institution received the degree of M. D. in March, 1873.

Directly after leaving college Dr. Currier located in Sycamore, Ill, in August, 1873, where the general recognition of his ability enabled him to build up a large practice. But Sycamore was not progressive enough to suit the ambitious young physician, and he soon turned his eyes towards Freeport as a field for greater usefulness and experience. In



DR. L. M. CURRIER.

October, 1882, he removed to this city, which has since continued to be his home.

Dr. Currier early became identified with the Masonic fraternity, and is a member of Excelsior Lodge, No. 97, A. F. & A. M., having served that body in the capacity of Worshipful Master. He is also a member of Freeport Commandery, K. T., and has served as Eminent Commander of that organization.

He was elected Coroner of Stephenson County at the election held Nov. 3, 1896.

He is acknowledged to be one of Freeport's most skillful and intelligent physicians, and is a thorough scholar, a wide reader and a master of his profession. For many years he has been an active member of the State Homeopathic Medical Society, and his extensive knowledge and wide experience have been influential in augmenting the prestige which that society maintains. During his fourteen years of practice in Freeport he has enjoyed a most gratifying patronage, and has secured an ever widening circle of friends, who gladly acknowledge his warm personal friendship and his skill as a physician.

ELMER HOWARD BEST.

Dr. E. H. Best is one of the few physicians who has spent his entire life in our midst. He is a native of Stephenson county, and was born in the township of Florence July 17, 1864, his parents being Hiram C. and Sarah J. Best. He received his early education in our district schools, and subsequently attended the Normal School at Aurora, where he pursued a course in classic and English literature. Having thus spent four years in completing his English education, he spent a few months in the office of his preceptor, Dr. S. J. Best, a prominent physi-



DR. E. H. BEST.

cian of Freeport, and then went to Chicago and entered Rush Medical College, where he began the study of his chosen profession. Three years later, on February 27, 1888, he was graduated with enviable honors and received the degree of M. D.

Dr. Best then returned to Freeport, but remained but a few months, leaving in May, 1888, for the

west, where he located in Bristow, Iowa. There he at once became eminently successful and was soon in the enjoyment of a large practice. While a resident of Bristow, Dr. Best became a member of the Franklin County Medical Association of Iowa.

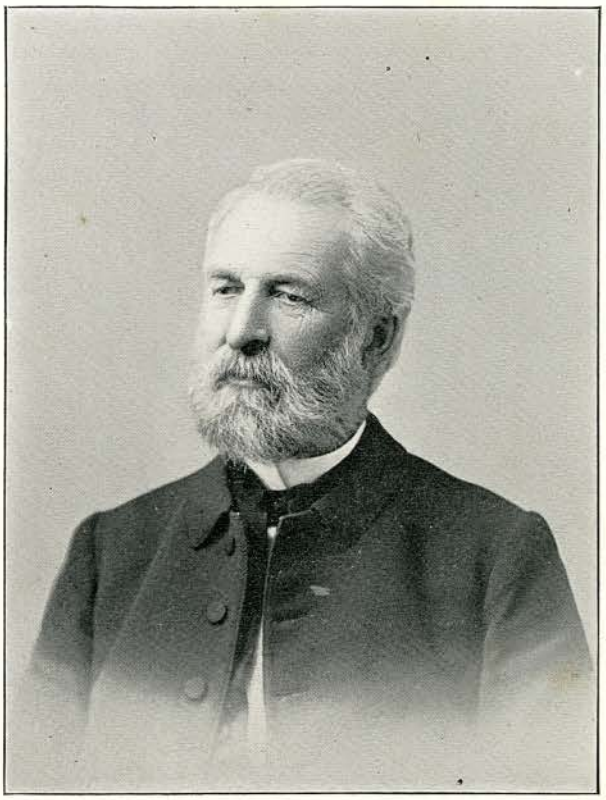
The city of Bristow, however, did not offer sufficient inducement for one of Dr. Best's ability and ambition to locate there permanently, and in 1891 he decided to return to Freeport. In deciding to locate here, Dr. Best was influenced by the broad sphere of usefulness which our city presented, as well as drawn by the ties of kindred and friendship which bound him to our fair city. Since locating in Freeport he has entered upon the duties of his vocation with every assurance of the success to which he is, by virtue of his marked ability, justly entitled. His fellow citizens have been prompt to recognize his worth, and his counsel and friendship have been sought in a way that attests the high standing which he has attained in business and social circles. He is a member of the State Sanitary Association and is accorded an honorable place in that body. He has also served his city in the capacity of health officer, being appointed to that position in 1894. His knowledge of hygiene and sanitary laws made him one of the most valued health officers that ever served the city.

Dr. Best is a man of liberal attainments and broad education. Although young in years, he has had wide and varied experience in his profession, and has exhibited qualifications which justly entitle him to command the entire confidence of our citizens.

B. T. BUCKLEY.

The subject of this sketch is the oldest practicing physician in Freeport at the present time, and is a man who has a high standing as a physician and surgeon and also as a citizen and public officer. All classes of citizens hold him in high regard and he is looked upon as one of our foremost citizens. He is one of a family of seven brothers, all of whom have become more or less famous as jurists, statesmen and physicians.

Dr. Buckley was born in Unadilla, Otsego County, New York, Sept 18, 1825. His father was a well-to-do farmer, and the doctor's boyhood days were spent upon the farm, and he received his early education in the district school and afterwards took a course in Delaware Literary Institute. In 1846 his parents decided to emigrate to the west, and they came to Stephenson County, settling on a farm in Harlem Township. Soon after their arrival in this county the subject of this sketch began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Ransom, at that time a practicing physician in Freeport. He later entered Rush Medical College, from which school he was graduated in 1852 and received a diploma which entitled him to practice medicine. After graduating Dr. Buckley opened an office in Freeport, and after a year's practice here he went to California, where he practiced for four years. He returned to Freeport in the summer of 1857, and the following year he again opened an office on North Galena Avenue, where he is now located. He has built up a lucrative practice and has been very successful in his chosen calling. He ranks as one of the best physicians in Northern Illinois, and his fame as a physician is not confined to this county. He is frequently called in consultation by physicians in the adjoining counties and also in neighboring states. He has probably had more experience in surgery than most any other doctor in Northern Illinois. He has been local surgeon here for the Illinois Central Railroad Company for the past twenty years, and is also the local surgeon for the Northwestern road. This means that he has had to perform a great many surgical operations requiring



DR. B. T. BUCKLEY.

the amputation of legs, arms, etc. All his operations have been very successful, and many a poor railroad man owes his life to Dr. Buckley's surgical skill.

Dr. Buckley takes a pardonable pride in his profession, and he is the ideal "family physician," in whom his patients have implicit confidence. He assisted in the organization of the Stephenson County Society of Physicians and Surgeons, and has served many terms as president of that society. He is also a member of the Sanitary Council of the Mississippi Valley, and was sent by the authorities to New Orleans, Memphis and Springfield. He is a member of the National Association of Railway Surgeons, and has attended meetings of this and other medical societies in many states of the Union. He has also contributed articles to various medical journals that have been most favorably commented upon by the profession.

In 1862 Dr. Buckley was appointed United States Examining Surgeon for pensions, and held that position until 1882, when a pension board was formed, and he was chosen a member of this board and was president of the board until Cleveland was chosen president the first time. The doctor has always been a very active Republican, and he was removed from the pension board to make room for a Democrat. When Harrison was elected president Dr. Buckley was again appointed a member of the pension board for this county, and served until Cleveland's second election, when he was again replaced by a Democrat.

For many years Dr. Buckley has been regarded as one of the Republican "war-horses" of this congressional district, and has frequently been a delegate to county, congressional and state conventions, and was for a number of years a member of the congressional committee for this district. He served as alderman from the first ward for a dozen years or more and made one of the best aldermen the city has ever had. No man in the city is better posted on municipal affairs than Dr. Buckley. He served on all the leading committees, and his voice and vote in the city council were always on the side of the tax-payers. No money was ever squandered while he was in the city council if he had the power to prevent it. He has always taken a deep interest in educational matters and worked hard to secure our present free public library, and was a member of the first library board.

Dr. Buckley is not what is called a "jiner." The Masonic fraternity is about the only organization he ever belonged to, and he is now the oldest living member of Excelsior Lodge of this city and was the second candidate initiated in that lodge. He served as Worshipful Master of two of the local lodges and has also filled all the minor offices. He used to be well posted on Masonry, but of late years he has not been a very active member. During the time he resided in California he filled the position of Deputy Grand Lecturer for the northern half of the state.

Dr. Buckley was married to Miss Lila A. Sabin in this county, in 1857. Mrs. Buckley is regarded as one of the brightest women in Freeport. She graduated from the Rockford Female Seminary at the head of her class and has devoted a good deal of her time to literary pursuits. Three boys were born to Dr. and Mrs. Buckley, but only one of them, Charles, survives. He is a prosperous farmer residing at Holestine, Iowa.

While Dr. Buckley has always enjoyed a lucrative practice, he is only in comfortable circumstances. He is too generous and open-hearted to accumulate wealth and has been too careless about collecting his bills. He was never known to refuse to respond to a call for his services, and thousands of dollars remain on his books that he has never tried to collect. He has ever been the friend of the poor and they have never called upon him in vain. He is one of the old school of physicians who are rapidly passing away, but his heart is as young as it was in his boyhood days and he bids fair to remain in the harness for many years to come. He but recently completed a handsome new home on Exchange Street, where he expects to spend many years of solid comfort when he feels that he is too old to administer to the sick.

SAMUEL H. AURAND.

Dr. S. H. Aurand is a native of Stephenson County, and was born in the village of Loran, where his parents, Joel Aurand and Susannah (Getgen) Aurand, resided, on October 26, 1854. When very young he was placed in the common schools of Stephenson and Carroll counties, where he remained until he had reached his nineteenth year. In the spring of 1874 he entered the Wesleyan University, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, where he remained one term. In the summer of 1875 he began to teach school, and followed that occupation for ten successive terms. He worked his way along and managed to teach two terms and attend school two terms in each year until 1882, when he graduated from the academic department of Mt. Morris College. He then resumed

his former occupation of teaching school, and remained thus engaged for a year, when, in September, 1881, he entered the Hahnemann College at Chicago, where in 1884 he received his degree.

He at once returned to Loran and began the practice of medicine in July of that year. His



DR. S. H. AURAND.

efforts to attain popularity soon met with gratifying success, and in due time he was in the enjoyment of a large practice.

On the 11th of May, 1887, Dr. Aurand was married, in Jefferson Township, to Miss Margaret Tollmeier, daughter of Simon Tollmeier, a prosperous and esteemed farmer in that township.

Dr. Aurand was elected justice of the peace, but, owing to the interference which that office caused with his duties as a physician, he resigned after a short term of service. Since then he has refused to accept public office.

In May, '95, Dr. Aurand moved to Freeport, where he has since made his home, and where today he is meeting with public favor and success.

FRANK L. MEYERS.

Among the younger men of the medical fraternity of Freeport Dr. Frank L. Meyers occupies a conspicuous place. He was born in the village of Loran, Stephenson County, Ill., June 10th, 1864, and received his rudimentary education in the district schools there. Subsequently he entered the Normal School at Dixon and qualified himself for teaching in the higher English branches and completed his classical studies. After serving successfully as a teacher in the schools of this county he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago and began his medical studies. There he acquired a thorough knowledge of medicine and surgery, and in February, 1888, graduated among those at the head of his class, his preceptor being his brother, Dr. W. H. Meyers, a distinguished physician of Loran. Dr. Meyers began the practice of his profession at Sheldon in March, 1888, immediately after



DR. F. L. MEYERS.

leaving college. Desiring, however, to extend the sphere of his usefulness, he subsequently went to New York and entered the Manhattan Eye and Ear Infirmary, where he pursued a course of study and graduated with honors. Besides attending to a large and increasing general practice Dr. Meyers is a skillful specialist in diseases of the eye and ear.

He is also an active member of many of the leading fraternal societies, being a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen and local medical examiner for the home forum.



DR. B. A. ARNOLD.



DR. W. D. ARNOLD.

DRS. ARNOLD.

Doctors B. A. and W. D. Arnold, physicians and surgeons, received their preparatory education at Mt. Morris Academy, and upon the completion of their academic course entered the State University at Champaign, Ill., from which in due time they graduated. They then began the study of medicine at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and received their degrees.

After graduation they began practice in Chicago, and remained in that city until 1895, when they removed to Freeport. They at once became popular in this city and rapidly acquired an extended practice. They are gentlemen who are thoroughly educated in the medical profession, both by study and by wide practical experience, and are rapidly commanding universal confidence and esteem.

The Little Red School House.

William Baker, the first settler in Freeport, completed his cabin of logs on the banks of the Pecatonica river in December, 1835. Within two years so many families, with children of school age, had located in Freeport that it became easy to gather a sufficient number to form a school. Accordingly, upon the approach of the winter of 1837–8, a school was opened by Nelson Martin, a brother of Dr. Chancellor Martin, with about twenty scholars attending, in a small building near the foot of Galena Street. It is reported that this little substitute for a school house measured only ten by fourteen feet and seven feet to the eaves, and contained but one window, and that in it a Mr. Everett taught the following winter. He was succeeded the next year by Frederick D. Bulkley, after the building had been hauled by a breaking team of several yoke of oxen to the present site of the Wilcoxon opera house.

The records, as far as accessible to the writer, do not disclose who immediately succeeded Bulkley, but several persons are mentioned in the County History said to have taught in Freeport prior to 1850. Among them are named the Hon. William M. Buckley, (later known as County Judge), who taught in a school house erected by Mr. D. A. Knowlton, Sr., near his store in Knowltontown, and Hon. David H. Sunderland, (afterward County Clerk, Mayor of Freeport and State Senator), who was employed in 1845 to teach the district school at the munificent sum of $20 a month, "boarding around."

There was also during this period a number of lady teachers. Miss Wright, a sister of O. H. Wright, and who afterwards married O. L. Crocker, taught in 1840 in a frame house at the corner of Chicago and Galena streets, where Miss Rothilla Buck and the Misses Lucinda and Morrilla Williams taught at a later date. From two advertisements, printed in a May number, 1849, of the Prairie Democrat, it appears that there were in that year two "select" private schools of high grade in Freeport. Mr. George Scoville, a son-in-law of L. W. Guiteau, announced, under the caption "Freeport High School," that the third term would commence May 28th and continue twelve weeks. Tuition—Common English studies, $2.50; Higher, $3.00; Languages, $3.50; number of scholars limited to 35. The other advertisement, headed "Freeport Seminary for Young Ladies, Rev. James Bentley, Principal," stated that this institution would be opened May 7th, in the building on Adams street erected for a seminary by O. H. Wright; that the Principal would be assisted by teachers of ability and experience, and that board could be had in respectable families for $1.50 per week.

In April, 1843, a site for a school house on the north end of the lot on Van Buren street, next north of the present postoffice, was purchased of, and deeded by, Philip Fowler to the Township Trustees of schools. Upon this ground was erected the same year

THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE,

a picture of which, as it appeared in 1850, and of the teacher in charge and fifty-five of the scholars attending, appears on the following page. It was reproduced from a daguerreotype Mr. John A. Clark, then clerk of the Circuit Court, paid $5.00 to have taken, and which he presented to the teacher, Miss Louisa Burchard. This was the only school house owned by the Freeport school district until the erection upon the site of the present High School building of a large two-story brick school house called the Union school building. Having purchased this new site and levied taxes to build the Union school house, the directors of the district proceeded to organize the Freeport schools upon the graded system. They rented the basements of two of the churches and created three departments—a Higher, Intermediate and Primary. Mr. A. B. Campbell, who had previously taught a private school in Freeport, was

employed as Principal and given the general supervision of all the departments. The schools were opened April 12, 1850. His assistants in the higher departments with him at first were Miss Emily Jackson, who married John K. Brewster, and later Miss Mary Burchard, sister of the Hon. H. C. Burchard; in the Intermediate, a Mr. Lutz and Miss Delia Hyde; in the Primary, Miss Louisa Burchard, now Mrs. H. D. Converse, who lives at Maryville, Mo.



THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE.

The Primary department was located in "the little red school house."

It must be difficult to distinguish, and, after a lapse of forty-five years, name each pupil in the group, but Mrs. Converse recognizes nearly all, and among them points out several, now men and women grown, who are well known to our citizens. In front of the window, the second boy from the farther end of the row on her right, stands Dexter A. Knowlton, Esq., barefooted, shoes and stockings in his hands. The middle boy of the three sitting in the front row is Steuben Stoneman. On his left, third boy from the end, is John Black, in the rear of whom is Urias Mayer, now deceased. In the same second row, next to Mayer, and on his left, a dark-haired boy with broad forehead, is the Hon. Michael Stoskopf, and on the right stands Charles Green, who became a member of the Freeport bar, and died two years ago. In the rear, between Green and Mayer, is Fred Norton, afterwards a lieutenant in the United States navy. In the same row, to the left of Stoskopf, the boy with the white shirt front and turn down collar is Peter Lerch, now living in Chicago, and the large boy standing on the steps between him and the teacher is John Rice, a nephew of Asahel W. Rice, then living in Freeport, now in Iowa. The boy standing in the front row, with the belt about his waist, was George Carter, a brother of Mrs. E. L. Cronkrite. Of the four small boys sitting on the steps, the first next to him is Charles Smith; the second, Chancellor Martin, who became a West Point graduate, a lieutenant in the U. S. Army and now lives in New York City; the third is the Rev. David Burrell, the eloquent pastor of one of the leading churches of the metropolis; the fourth is Charles Sweet, a brother of Mrs. J. A. Crain; not long afterwards he was drowned in the Pecatonica River.

Among the girls, on the extreme left is Julia Sweet. The third from her, dressed in white, is Ellen

Clark, a daughter of John A. Clark. On her right, just behind her and standing between the window and the corner of the school house, is Ellen Carter, the mother of Corporation Counsel William N. Cronkrite. The girl on her right, her face near and below the corner of the window, was Charles H. Rosenstiel's oldest daughter Matilda, who married Dr. Carey, of Beloit, Wis., and died there several years ago. The two taller girls on her right, next to and in front of the window, are Ellen and Josephine Krinbill, now living in Freeport. The girl holding in front of her the large bouquet was Amanda Black, now Mrs. Wm. McHenry, of this city. On her left, next to her, stood W. W. Smith's daughter Mary, who died at her father's home in Freeport a few years later. A glimpse of the face of Mrs. C. H. Chapman (Anna Stibgen) is seen, partly hidden by the boy with folded arms, on the left of the door. The girl standing next to the left, her dark hair covering a portion of her forehead, was Eva Tarbox, who afterwards became the wife of the Hon. J. S. Cochran, and who died at Freeport in 1877.

Among the pupils were others who grew up and continued to reside in Freeport, and can be pointed out by Mrs. Converse.

Upon the resignation of Mr. Campbell the directors engaged Mr. Johnston, and in May, 1852, the Freeport schools were located in the new Union school building. Mr. Johnston taught there only one year and afterwards became the pastor of a Presbyterian church at Lena. A Mr. Markle was then engaged, and he remained in charge one year. About this time Messrs. Coon and Dickey opened a private school, which many of the older young men and women attended.

In the spring of 1854 the directors of the Freeport school district—Marcus Carter, Frederick Baker and Wm. D. Oyler—engaged Mr. H. C. Burchard to take charge of the schools. He was a graduate of Hamilton College, New York, had taught, during one winter, the Beloit district school, with one assistant, and for a year and a half an Academy, started with him as Principal, with two assistants, at Monroe, Wis. His contract with the directors gave him the control and management of the schools of the district, the right to select his assistants, for whose services he and not they was to be responsible. For compensation for his and their teaching he was to charge $1.25 per quarter of eleven weeks for each pupil attending, and was himself to collect the amount from the pupils or their parents, unless too poor to pay. Besides this amount he was to receive and retain the portion of the interest on the township school funds assigned to the district. This portion in October, 1854, amounted to only $103.57 and was paid by the treasurer, Mr. A. T. Green, to Mr. Burchard. Probably the same amount was paid the succeeding year. The directors, never personally visiting the schools, threw the whole responsibility for their management and discipline, the payment of the teachers' wages, and collection of tuition fees and the arrangement of the courses of study, upon Mr. Burchard, and during the period he was in charge of the 500 different pupils who attended the schools his duties combined nearly all those at present exercised by the Board of Education, Superintendent, Principal, Clerk and Treasurer of the Freeport school district. Three school exhibitions were held, charging 10 cents admission, with the proceeds from which and from other sources a school library of about 200 volumes was procured. Pupils were permitted to draw books every Friday.

The senior class prepared weekly, under the supervision of Miss Frances B. Burchard, a paper called the "Winnesheik Floral," which was read in the High school every Friday afternoon. From the printed copy of a May number of that paper are taken the following statistics of the Freeport Union schools from April 10, 1854, to May 1, 1855. The pupils in attendance numbered in the—

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Higher Department....	119	87	206
Primary Department....	183	138	321
Total.....	302	225	527

The teachers during the time were: Principal, H. C. Burchard; assistants, the Misses F. B. Burchard, S. E. Brown, M. Brind, S. Cooper, E. Churchill, E. J. Guiteau, S. E. Betts and M. J. Wurts.

The number pursuing studies in the higher department were:

LANGUAGES—Latin 3, German 6, French 3, English grammar 64, word analysis 8.

MATHEMATICS—Geometry 1, algebra 9, higher arithmetic 8, practical arithmetic 140, mental 196.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE—Philosophy 23, astronomy 5, anatomy 8, botany 4, geography 75.

PRACTICAL BUSINESS AND MISCELLANEOUS—Bookkeeping 10, history 16, declamation 124, composition 143.

Mr. Burchard's connection with the Freeport schools as teacher ceased at the close of the summer term in 1855. In the fall of that year he commenced the practice of law in Freeport, where he has since continued to reside. In the same year the Free

School Law of Illinois was passed by the legislature, and the district schools of the state have since been conducted under its provisions. A new board of directors was elected for the Freeport district, and Mr. Henry Freeman was placed in charge of the Union schools, as has elsewhere been stated.

Teachers and the pupils now attending school can hardly realize the advances that have been made in some of the educational facilities in Freeport and Stephenson County within the last forty-two years. It is not in methods of instruction and in text books, nor in the culture or superior ability of the teachers, nor is it wholly in the more numerous and commodious school buildings and more complete graded system. The Free School Law of 1855 made the property, instead of the pupils, pay the expenses of maintaining the schools. Tuition was made free of charge, and no parent need now dread that a "rate bill" will be presented if his children are sent to the public schools.



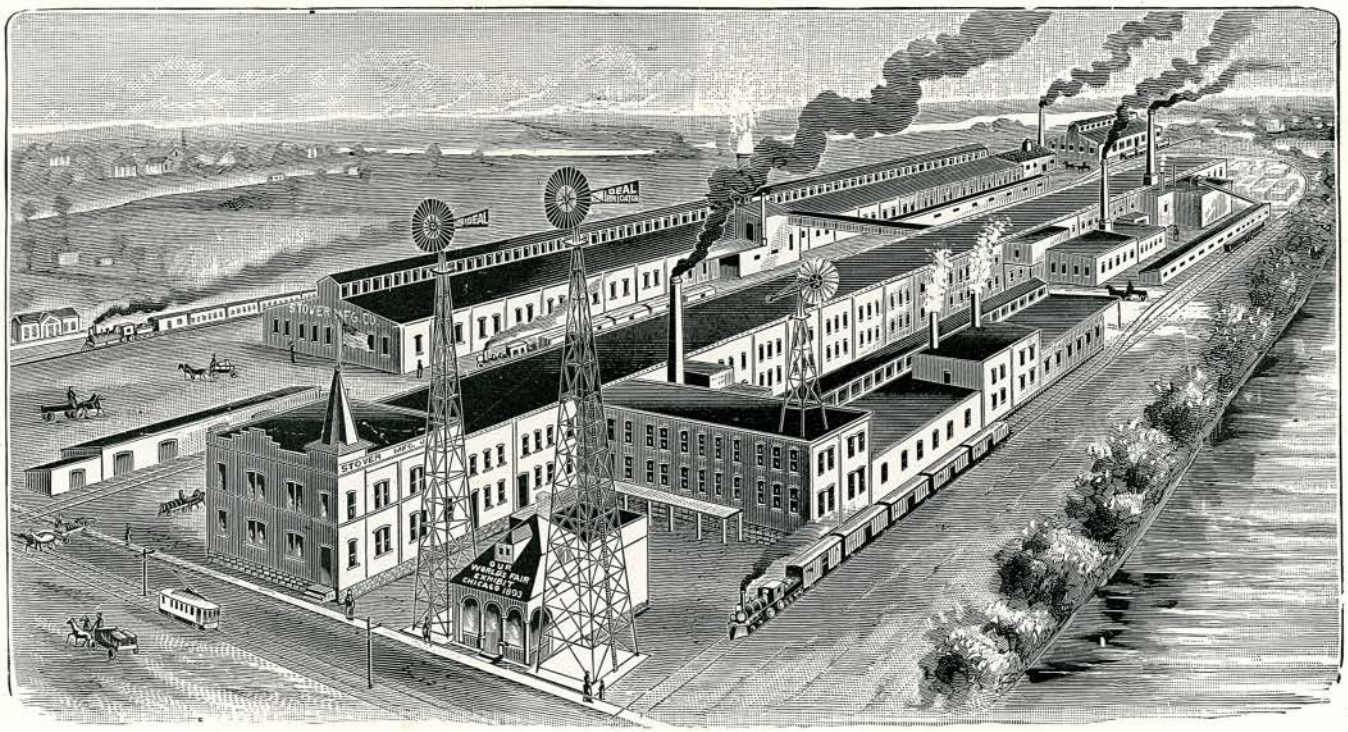
THE NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDING.

The above is an illustration of the new School Building to be erected soon by the Board of Education. The building was planned by and will be erected under the supervision of Julien Barnes, architect, 935-936 Marquette Building, Chicago. The building will occupy 80 x 90 feet ground space and consists of two stories and basement.

Our Manufacturing Interests.

The Stover Manufacturing Co.

No one element enters more largely into the welfare and well-being of a community than its manufacturing interests. It is truly said that "the great high-road of human welfare lies along the old highway of steadfast well-doing; and they who are the most persistent, and work in the truest spirit, will invariably be the most successful, for success treads on the heels of every right effort." If this be true, and no one can successfully contradict it, then certainly the company whose name heads this article has for many years been making the "right effort," for success has tread closely on the heels of every effort and business venture they have made, from the inception of the company down to the present time.

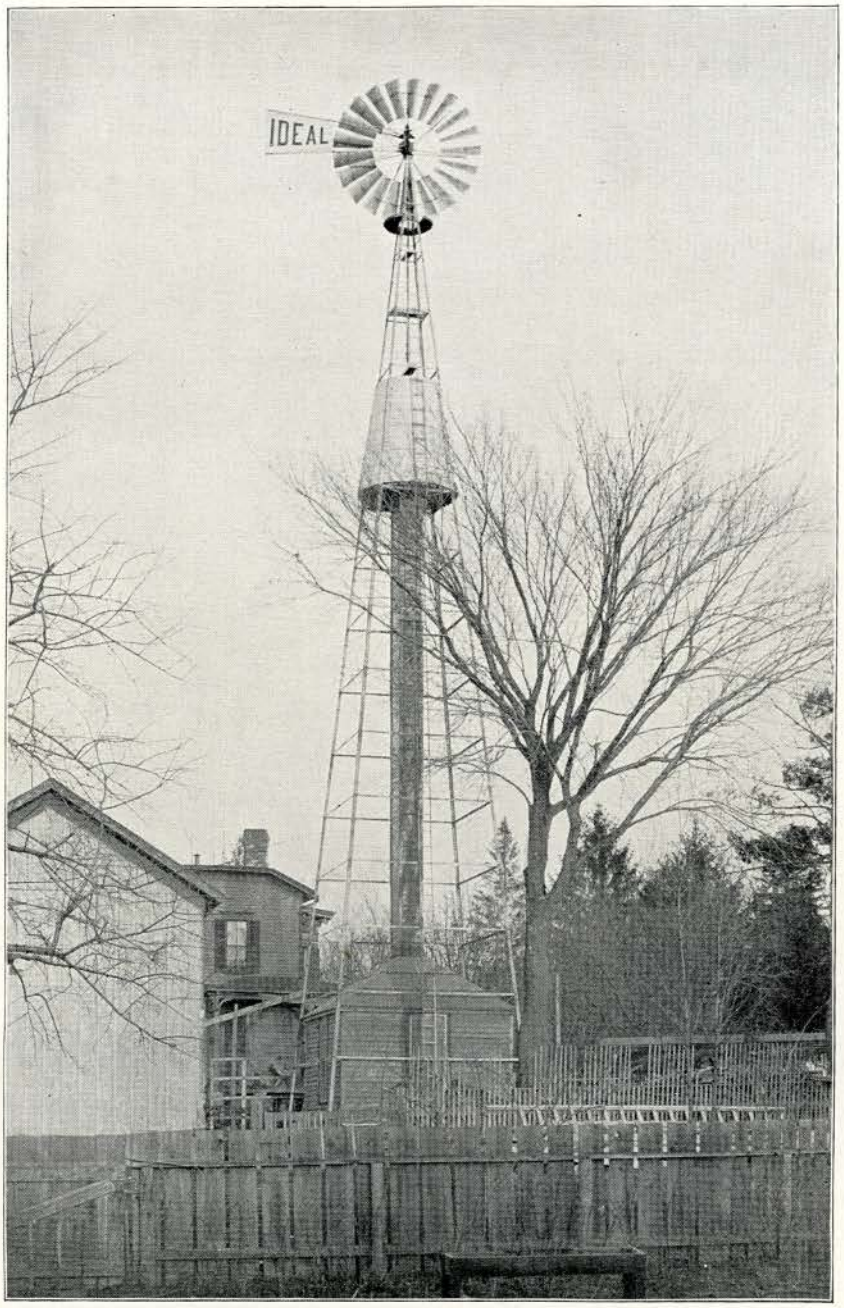


THE STOVER MFG. CO.'S PLANT.

The history of the Stover Manufacturing Company is one long, well-filled chapter, abundantly punctuated with the word "success," and the vast amounts of money it has brought to our city, and generously distributed among our people, was the beginning of the prosperity and distinction that we now enjoy as a manufacturing centre.

The company was organized in the year 1881, in a small building at the corner of Spring and Mechanic Streets, the capital stock being $20,000.00. Here the company commenced the manufacture of barb wire machinery, then in great demand, and also triple geared feed grinders. A year or so later they placed the Ideal solid wheel wind mill on the market, and then followed other articles in the line of farm machinery and hardware specialties in such great numbers that their original quarters became

far too small and they were obliged to look elsewhere for better accommodations. With shrewd business foresight the officers of the company realized that East Freeport was the ideal location for manufacturing, on account of its superior shipping facilities and ample room, and accordingly the present site was purchased and the erection of the new plant was commenced, which was completed and occupied in the year 1887. It is without doubt the largest wind mill plant in the world. The main building is 458 feet long and two stories high. This building has an L 108 feet long. The main foundry is 250 x 60, with a smaller foundry 138 x 50, besides the brass foundry, engine and boiler house, tool room and fire-proof pattern vault, store house, galvanizing plant, and a number of smaller buildings, and even now the company is cramped for room and additional buildings will soon have to be erected.



THE IDEAL MILL AT WORK.

There is apparently no limit to the variety of goods this busy plant now turns out. It takes a 226 page catalogue to describe the thirty different varieties of wind mills the company builds; a 64 page catalogue tells about their feed mills; a 48 page catalogue tells about their Ideal irrigator wind mills,

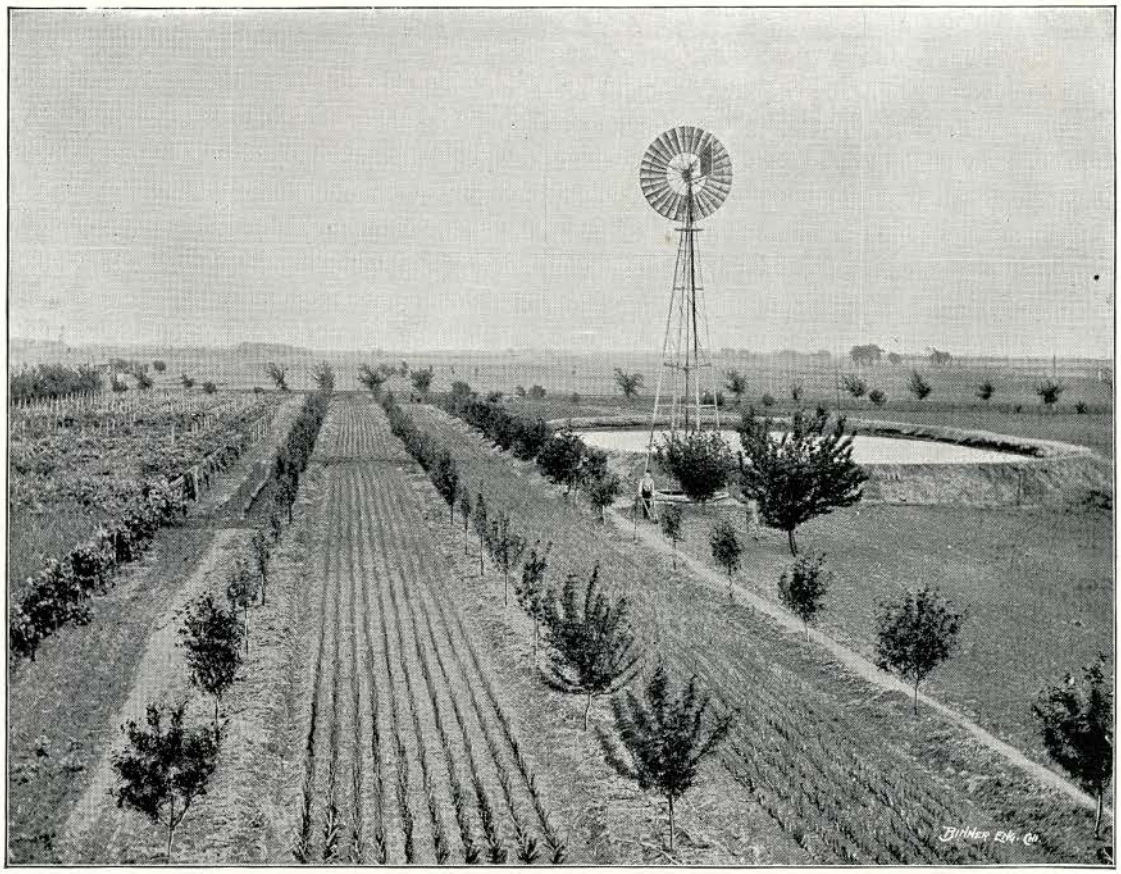
and a 64 page catalogue describes the many hardware specialties they offer to the trade. These hardware specialties are in great demand, and the company sells as high as forty car loads of spring hinges in a year.

Since the company began the manufacture of wind mills it has made vast improvements and now offers to the trade thirty different varieties. The mill they manufacture for irrigating purposes is greatly in demand in the west and other parts of the country affected by droughts. Irrigation is the only salvation of many farmers in the west and they have come to appreciate the merits of the Ideal wind mill made especially for this purpose. The company could fill many pages with testimonials from men who have tested these mills and know their merits.

In the way of farm machinery the Stover company has a large trade on feed mills, corn and cob mills, belt power mills, one and two hole corn shellers, wood saws, wood and steel pumping wind mills, feed cutters, &c. They manufacture fifteen different styles and sizes of grinding mills.

In the way of hardware specialties the company manufactures window sash locks, door pulls, drawer pulls, door buttons, shutter knobs, sash lifts, screw pulleys, stove pipe registers and ventilators, store door handles, barn door latches, sash pulleys of various designs, stove dampers, five styles of spring hinges in addition to a double acting spring hinge, double acting blank hinge, sad iron stands, coffee pot stands, shelf brackets, foot scrapers, bolster plates, cast washers, non-heating stove cover lifters, curry combs, dictionary holders, etc.

Every department of this mammoth establishment is well kept and well managed, and every article the company places on the market is manufactured here from the raw material, by the most skilled and competent mechanics, and is fully warranted to be as good as the best, if not a trifle better.



THE IDEAL IRRIGATOR.

The gentlemen on whose shoulders rest the management and responsibility of this veritable hive of industry are Hon. D. C. Stover, president; W. A. Merrifield, secretary and treasurer; A. S. Held, vice president, and O. J. Ziegler, superintendent.

That the Stover Manufacturing Company may live and prosper for many years to come is the wish of not only every workingman in Freeport, for whom it has done so much, but also every other citizen who is interested in our growth and prosperity.

Stover Bicycle Manufacturing Co.

East Freeport has three growing manufacturing industries bearing the name of "Stover," a name which has become familiar during the past dozen years all over the civilized world, and it is becoming to be a well established fact that anything which bears the name "Stover" is as good a thing in its line as can be found on the market, whether it be a wind mill, a bicycle, a steam heater, or a thousand and one other articles of general use which are stamped with the word "Stover." The man whose fertile brain and untiring energy has started all of these hives of industry is our fellow townsman, Hon. D. C. Stover, a man of the people, who owes his success in life to his pluck, energy and enterprise. He is a born genius, but unlike most men who have the gift, he possesses a level head and wonderful business ability.



HON. D. C. STOVER.

But his success in life has not turned his head, as he is to-day the same approachable citizen that he was in 1881, when he first organized a small plant which in so short a time has grown into one of the largest manufacturing industries in the United States. But Mr. Stover, as we stated before, is a modest man and does not take unto himself all the credit for the success of his various industries. He has made it a practice to associate with him in business bright, energetic young men, who have a thorough knowledge of the business and are practical in all things pertaining to that business. Among those associated with Mr. Stover in the management of the Stover Bicycle Manufacturing Company are Mr. John F. Smith, the efficient and indefatigable secretary, and Mr. William A. Hance, superintendent and general manager of the practical departments. Both men are admirably adapted to the positions they occupy, and both are tireless in their efforts to build up and add to their already fine business.

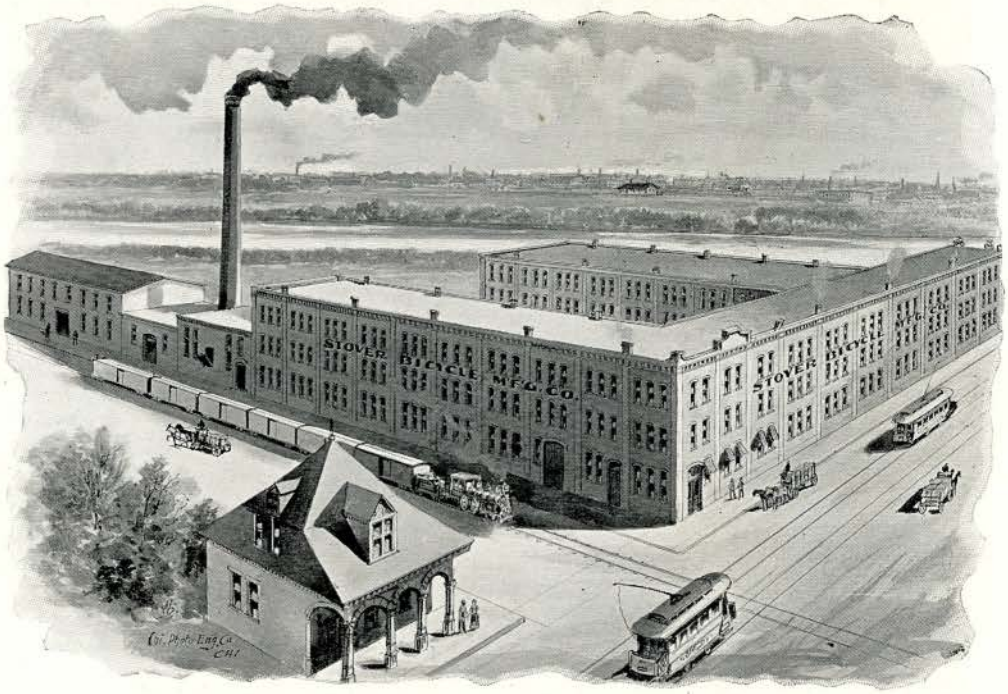
The growth of the bicycle industry in the United States during the past ten years has been marvelous and millions of dollars have been invested in bicycle plants. The Stover plant of this city is recognized as one of the best in the United States, and their wheel, the "Phoenix," has a world-wide reputation. It has been on the market for the past seven years, and for light running, durability and looks, it has no superior in this or any other country. It is one of the pioneers of the "safety" wheels and was popular with wheelmen from the start and has gained in popularity each year. It has kept abreast of the times and the improvements made year by year have found favor with bicyclists. The "Phoenix" for 1897 will be a very handsome wheel and will show a number of improvements over the pattern of '96.

The change in the "Phoenix" model of '97 will

be chiefly in detail and in beautifying the wheel. The chief features will be a choice between a double and forged fork; the wheel base will be increased an inch; a larger sprocket wheel and longer cranks, continuous crank and shaft, with a new device for removing crank hanger and bearings; Fairbanks' laminated wood rims; Record pedals; Sager saddles; a choice between wood and steel adjustable handle bars, and Morgan & Wright tires. It will have a finer finish than any previous wheel put out, the center to be of black with gold and aluminum stripes, and the weight of the roadster will be the same as last year, twenty-four pounds. The average gear of all wheels will be higher than last year, about 72, though all gears from 56 to 98 will be made.

The facilities for making wheels have recently been greatly increased, and if the plant were operated at the full capacity for the whole year, 20,000 of them could be turned out. A new 200-horse power Corliss engine has been put in; a machine for the manufacture of gas to be used in brazing; machinery for making forgings and automatic bearing machines with a number of new lathes and drills.

The Stover Bicycle Company was organized in 1889 and the manufacture of bicycles was begun on a small scale. The company's object was not to flood the market with an inferior grade of wheels, but to go slow and build up a reputation for their wheels that would be a lasting benefit to them. The first year they put upon the market only 320 wheels, and they were good ones, too, but nothing like the magnificent wheel they will place on the market the coming season. They have made wonderful improvements and can now boast of as high a grade of wheels as any factory in the world. W. A. Hance, who superintends the plant, is one of the best machinists in the country, and the wheels are put up under his personal supervision, and every bit of work must be first-class. Thousands of dollars were recently expended for the latest and most improved machinery, including a number of automatic machines for making all bearing parts. The plant now has a capacity for turning out 120 complete machines a day. The coming season the company will turn out a large number of ladies' wheels and tandems.



THE STOVER BICYCLE CO.'S PLANT.

The plant of the Stover Bicycle Company is located on the east bank of the Pecatonica River and covers a good deal of territory. It consists of a three story brick building 40 x 200, another three story brick 40 x 160 and two wings, one 40 x 90 and the other 30 x 90. The capital stock of the company is $100,000, and the present officers are: D. C. Stover, president and treasurer; Frank Winger, vice president; J. F. Smith, Secretary; W. A. Hance, superintendent.



THE '97 PHOENIX.

Arcade Manufacturing Co.

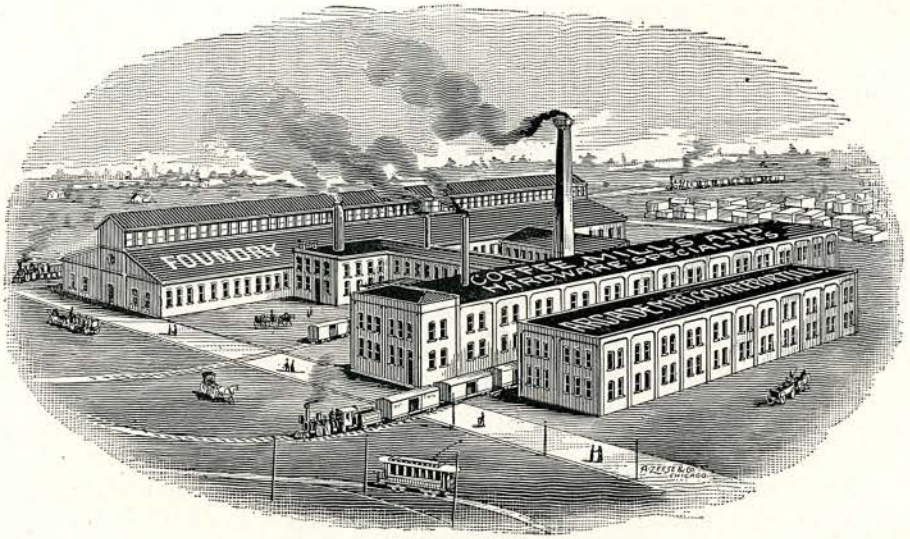
That Freeport can maintain in a condition of vigorous activity such an establishment as the Arcade Manufacturing Co., is a fact that testifies in the most emphatic terms of her own excellent business facilities and her superiority as a manufacturing point.

The Arcade Manufacturing Company is a corporation founded by men of inventive genius and splendid business capacity, and is supported by intelligence and wealth. It was originally incorporated in 1885, with an authorized capital of $125,000, and began business in a one story brick building on Chicago street, where it soon achieved a reputation for the superiority of its product and where it laid broad and deep the foundations of what has since become such a prominent mercantile enterprise.

The members of the company were then E. H. and Chas. Morgan and A. Baumgarten. Increasing trade demanded larger quarters and the plant was moved to a two story brick building erected especially for it, but now occupied by the Stover Novelty Works. From there the company moved, in September, 1891, to the building formerly occupied by the Emory & Williams Canning Company. New machinery was purchased and over forty hands were employed. Just as the plant was prepared to fill its numerous orders it was fired by an unknown incendiary, on the 24th of July, 1892, and burned to the ground, entailing a loss of $20,000 and destroying over 40,000 coffee mills which were in process of manufacture. It was a severe blow to the members of the company, but with indefatigable zeal they immediately began plans for a new and larger factory. They purchased a portion of the Keller-Wittbecker farm in East Freeport, which they divided into 300 lots to be sold at $200 apiece. These lots were soon taken by our business men and the new Arcade factories were erected in February, 1893, and the company at once resumed business with the following officers: President, A. Baumgarten; vice-president and secretary, E. H. Morgan; treasurer and superintendent, Charles Morgan.

In Dec., 1893, L. L. Munn became interested in the Arcade company, and believing it to promise a splendid future, invested heavily in the enterprise and devoted all his time to the business. Under the impetus which Mr. Munn gave it the institution pushed forward and entered upon an era of great prosperity. The company then organized is the same to-day. Its officers are: President, L. L. Munn; vice-president, A. Baumgarten; treasurer and general manager, E. H. Morgan; secretary, L. L. Munn, Jr.; superintendent, Charles Morgan. The plant occupies several large and thoroughly equipped buildings. The main building is a two story brick, 200 x 40, and the foundry is 150 x 70. In addition to these the company has many smaller buildings, including foundries, machine shops, drying houses, ware houses, general offices, etc. The plant is supplied with a 75-horse power engine, and the build-

ings are heated with steam. About 150 hands are constantly employed and 600 dozen coffee mills and 1500 spring hinges are turned out daily. The transportation facilities are unexcelled, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway entering the company's premises. The equipment is most elaborate in every respect and the plant is a model in every sense of the term. Many traveling salesmen are kept on the road and their territory extends throughout the entire United States. Besides manufacturing the best makes of high grade coffee mills and screen door hinges, the plant also turns out stove pipe dampers, lid lifters, cork extractors and other patented specialties of this company, which have a steady and constantly increasing sale all over the country. They also manufacture a cork extractor, the "Daisy," with a perfect bottle holding attachment, which works to perfection and which is rapidly monopolizing the entire market for such articles. The coffee mills manufactured by this company are placed on the market in fifty different designs, and are vastly superior, in respect to durability and rapid work, to all others. All of the product is carefully made from the best material obtainable and by skilled workmen. The Arcade Mfg. Co.'s goods are the best sellers that the house furnishing trade handles, and goods of their manufacture are the standard of excellence everywhere.



THE ARCADE PLANT.





THE "DAISY" CORK EXTRACTOR.

The company has built up a reputation which is national and its great success has been acquired and maintained on the basis of the merit of its product and the equity and integrity of the company's policy.



The fame of the Henney Buggy Company is world-wide, and its products are found in every clime. Probably no concern has borne the fame of Freeport abroad more extensively or with greater honor than has this great industry, and certainly the city is justly proud to claim it as her own.

The business was originally established by John W. Henney in 1868, in Cedarville, Ill., and carried on there in a small way until 1879, when, finding that his growing industry needed more and better facilities, Mr. Henney removed the plant to Freeport. In 1878 Mr. O. P. Wright became associated with Mr. Henney, and the partnership thus formed was continued under the style of J. W. Henney & Co.

On coming to this city Mr. Henney established the plant in the old Huber & Herold shops at the corner of Exchange and Mechanic streets. These quarters soon became inadquate for the growing business, and a building, at that time considered large, was erected on the corner of Chicago and Jackson streets. The business of John W. Henney & Co. was then transferred to the Henney Buggy Company, the stockholders being John W. Henney, D. C. Stover and O. P. Wright. By the year 1883 the business had grown far beyond the capital of the company, and greater space and more hands were constantly required to meet the enormous demand. Accordingly in that year the stock was increased, and M. Hettinger, Fred Gund, C. O. Collmann and D. B. Schulte were taken in as shareholders. The buildings were enlarged and the capacity of the plant greatly extended.

The business, under the management of these capable financiers, rapidly developed year by year, until in 1888 the present company was incorporated and the plant enlarged to the capacity which it now has.

The buildings have a frontage of 255 feet on Chicago street; are built of brick, three and five stories in height, and extend back on Spring street 120 feet and on Jackson street 180 feet. With the extensive yards they occupy nearly the entire block. The five story office and ware room building is the most imposing front in the city, and was erected in 1889 to meet the growing demands of the business.

The present company has about $120,000 invested and comprises the following men: D. C. Stover, president; J. W. Henney, treasurer and general manager; M. Hettinger, Jr., vice president; O. P. Wright, secretary and superintendent. The company employs about three hundred hands and does a business of $400,000 per

annum. The capacity of the plant is 8000 vehicles annually, and two and one-half acres of floor room are required. Branches and agencies have been established in various cities of the country, especially throughout the west and south, where the company's business is most extensive.

The entire plant is a model one in every respect and is furnished throughout with every appurtenance peculiar to the manufacture of high grade vehicles. The machinery is operated by 150-horse power engines and boilers, and the various departments and shops are all equipped with the latest machinery and conveniences. The transportation facilities are unsurpassed, railroad tracks and switches being located on their premises, enabling them to load directly upon the cars.

The repository and office rooms are both elegant and convenient. The warerooms display specimens of fine carriages in every form from the heavy landau down through the grades of rockaway, cabriolet, surrey, road wagons, to the Brewster and skeleton buggies, all lines bearing the name which is the standard of excellence in looks, finish and durability and which guarantees them to stand the tests of time or usage.

The Henney Buggy Co. is the most extensive manufacturing institution of its kind in the northwest. Its shipments go into every state in the Union, and even into the lands beyond the seas. From the hour they turned out their first work the aim of the company has been to combine in their product all the excellencies that can enter into carriage manufacture, and the fact that their vehicles are *par excellence* the world over is proof positive that they have succeeded in this aim. The company originates all its own designs and is obliged to borrow from no other institution. Thus it is that their special lines, having been manufactured so many years, have attained a standard of perfection and are able to give perfect satisfaction in every respect.

Their trade, besides covering the United States, is extended to the East and West Indies, South America, and the British Isles, and to almost every country in Europe where the use of a carriage is possible.

Freeport takes great pride in her enormous centres of industry and enterprise such as the Henney Buggy Company, and well she may, for it is such as they that raise her above the level of a town to that of a metropolitan city.

The Bentley Plant.

The H. D. Bentley Piano and Organ Stool Factory, located in the Arcade Addition, is usually a very busy place and gives employment to thirty or forty men. This plant is one of the most important of the kind in the United States, and no man connected with the musical industry is better known than the genial proprietor. He has been identified with this line of business for many years, and is well known all over the country as a genial gentleman and an honorable and successful business man. He has worked hard to achieve success, and his name

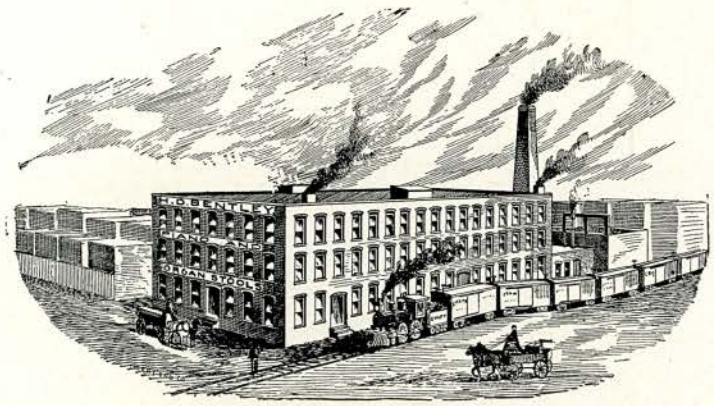


on an article in the musical line is a guarantee that it is first-class in every respect. He is very jealous of his name and reputation in the business world, and was never known to misrepresent goods. While still a comparatively young man, Mr. Bentley is reconized as a veteran in the musical trade.

He was born in London, England, forty-seven years ago and came to this country with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Bentley, in 1851. They settled in Freeport, and here the most of the years of Mr.

Bentley's life have been spent, and here his aged parents still reside. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the public schools of Freeport, and after leaving school he accepted a clerkship in Wm. Walton's dry goods store, and he gives Mr. Walton credit for his early business training, which has since been worth so much to him.

In 1879 Mr. Bentley started in business for himself. He opened a retail music store here and also engaged in the sale of piano and organ stools. The business grew so rapidly that he finally disposed of his retail business and devoted all his time to the manufacture of piano and organ stools. For several years he had his goods made by contract, but in 1891 he started a factory of his own on Manufacturers' Island in this city. His business grew so rapidly that in a few years this plant was too small to turn out the goods as fast as the orders came in.



THE BENTLEY FACTORY.

In 1893 he erected his present large and commodious plant in the Arcade Addition, and it is one of the largest and most complete plants of the kind in existence. It has a capacity for turning out 1000 complete stools a week, and a hundred different styles are placed upon the market by Mr. Bentley. These stools are sold in every state in the Union. His strongest competitors are in the east, but Mr. Bentley's largest orders come from that territory. He supplies the eastern trade from his Chicago office in the Old Colony building, and this office is in charge of O. D. Weaver, a young man who used to be with Mr. Bentley when he conducted a retail store in Freeport. Mr. Weaver looks after the eastern trade, which is constantly increasing. Mr. Bentley seems to have a fondness for young men, as all of his chief assistants are young men. Isaac M. Willie, a thorough mechanic, has been the superintendent of the plant since it was established, and there is nothing connected with the manufacture of piano and organ stools that he is not familiar with. But very little of Mr. Bentley's time is taken up with the details of the factory. He has perfect confidence in Mr. Willie, who sees to it that nothing but first-class work is allowed to leave the factory. Robert F. DeForest, also a young man, is Mr. Bentley's chief book-keeper, and is entrusted with most of the extensive correspondence. Mr. DeForest has held his present position for several years, and his valued services are fully appreciated by Mr. Bentley. The assistant book-keeper and shipping clerk is Wm. L. Griffin, a young man of few words, but he is a worker and was seldom known to make a mistake. Mr. Bentley's chief salesman on the road is Warren C. Hea, who may also be classed as a young man. He is one of the jolliest fellows on the road, and is a hustler, too. He covers a great amount of territory, traveling all over the west and south. When he is on the road it keeps the office force busy to fill the orders.

The manufacture of piano and organ stools is by no means the extent of Mr. Bentley's business. He is the manufacturer of the Bentley organ, which has a large sale. Hundreds of them are to be found in homes in this county and all over the state and nation. It is a very handsome and sweet-toned instrument and finds a ready sale on the market. Mr. Bentley is also the publisher of the Bentley Methods of Instruction for both pianos and organs, a work which has the approval of the best music teachers in the land. This work has been on the market for many years and the demand for it is constantly increasing. So it will be seen from the above, that aside from conducting one of the largest piano and organ stool factories in the country, Mr. Bentley has other important industries to attend to and is a very busy man. He is thoroughly posted on everything pertaining to the music trade. He has had experience in almost every branch of the business and was for five years the buyer for Pelton & Pomeroy, who were in their day the largest piano and organ dealers in Chicago.

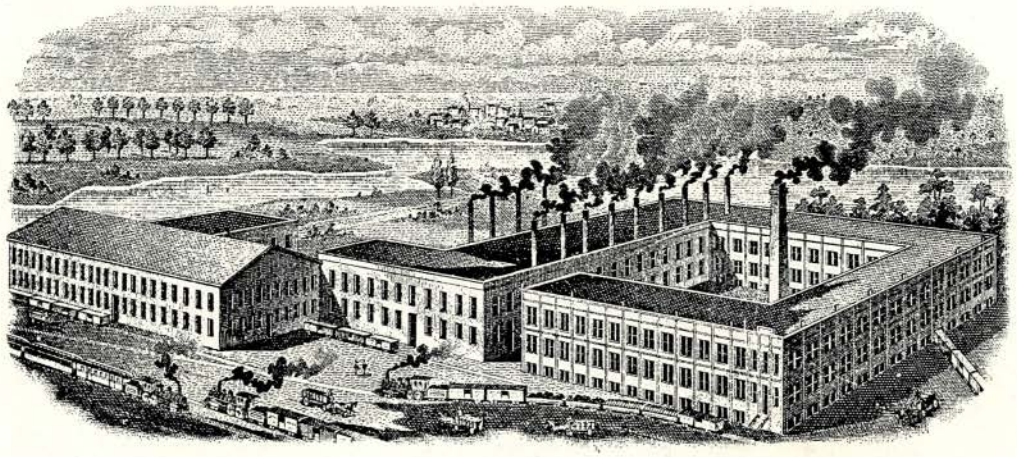
Notwithstanding his many business cares, Mr. Bentley is always genial and good-natured and is quite fond of the society of his friends, who are legion. He was married in 1875 to Miss Elida J. Pattison and they have two bright boys. Charles J., the oldest, is now attending Beloit college and is one of the most promising young men in Freeport. Harry, the other son, is attending the public schools of this city. Mr. Bentley owns a handsome home on Lincoln avenue and it has been the scene of many pleasant social gatherings. Mr. Bentley is a mem-

ber of the Freeport Club and is held in very high esteem by the members of that club. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity—Excelsior Lodge, the Chapter, Commandery and Consistory. He is extremely popular with all classes of citizens and has been frequently urged to run for mayor by both Democrats and Republicans, but he has always refused, on the grounds that his business needs all of his attention. That he would make a model mayor is conceded by all classes of citizens.

Robinson Manufacturing Company.

One of the most carefully managed and therefore most successful manufacturing institutions in this city is the Robinson Manufacturing Co. There is very little "spread eagle" about the concern, but the ward—a large and profitable business, which has shown a substantial and satisfactory increase each succeeding year. The plant is now located on Manufacturers' Island, one of the most convenient and desirable locations in the city, and is well equipped in every department with the most modern machinery known to the trade. About 65,000 feet of floor room is utilized, while large yards are used for the storage of lumber. Between one and two hundred men are employed in the various departments, and the capacity of the plant is 4,000 vehicles per annum.

Mr. Peter Bixler has personal supervision of the manufacturing department, and is one of the most careful, conscientious and competent managers to be found in the city. He employs none but skilled workmen, and to his untiring vigilance is largely



THE ROBINSON PLANT.

officers are all the while quietly "sawing wood," and the result each year shows an increase over the previous twelve months, both in volume of business and increase in profits, which is gratifying to the management and eminently satisfactory to the stockholders.

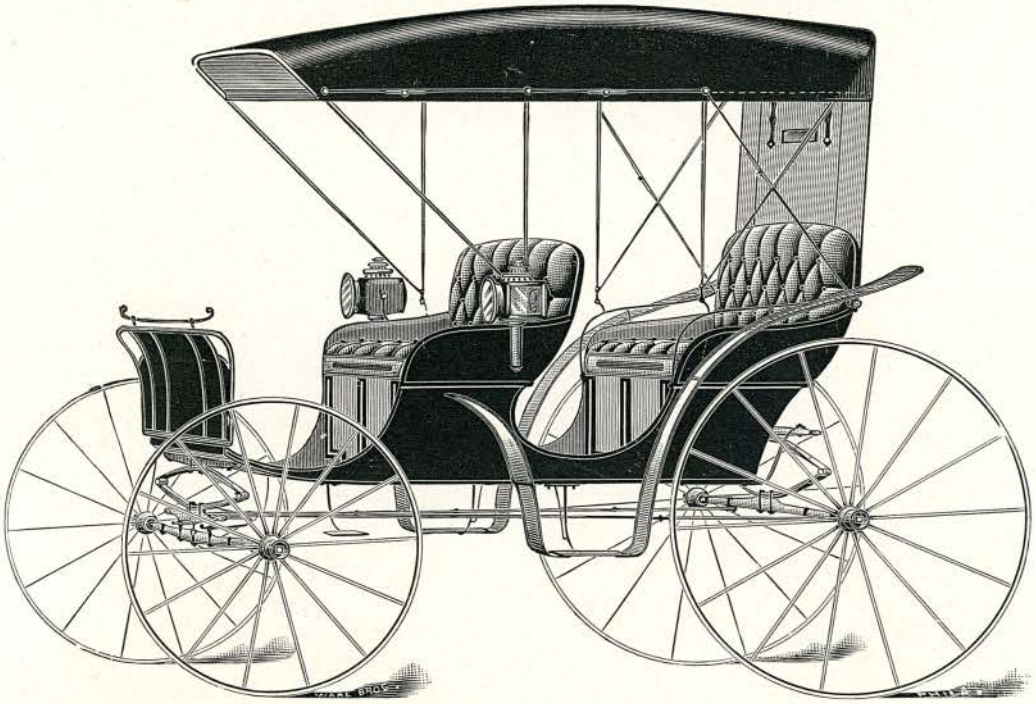
The company was incorporated in 1890, although the inception of the business dates back to twenty years ago, when Mr. J. L. Robinson commenced the manufacture of vehicles in a limited way in a brick building on Exchange street. Mr. Robinson's policy at the commencement of his business career was to manufacture as few styles of vehicles as possible, and to make his product the most substantial, the best finished and the most salable that could be found on the market, and to demonstrate to his customers that a "Robinson" vehicle had few equals and no superiors. This policy brought its sure reward due the popularity of the vehicles manufactured by this company.

Branch houses are maintained by the company at both Minneapolis, Minn., and Sioux City, Iowa, from which points the adjacent country is supplied, while large numbers of vehicles are shipped both east and west to supply the demands of general and special agents.

As before remarked, the vehicles turned out by this company are of superior merit, embodying all the latest and best improvements that have been effected in this line. Great care is exercised in the selection of materials, and every department is closely and carefully supervised and none but the best work is placed upon the market. For this reason the Robinson buggy is recognized throughout the United States as a vehicle of sterling worth—one that successfully withstands the test of both time and usage,

thereby enabling the dealer to give it the highest possible recommend to his customer.

The present officers are: J. L. Robinson, president; P. Bixler, vice president; Wm. Koenig, secretary and treasurer.



NO. 34 SURREY—MADE BY ROBINSON MFG. CO.

Burrell Vinegar Works.

The Burrell Brothers' vinegar factory stands midway between the water works building and the wheel factory, near the Illinois Central's double track. It is a handsome brick structure, 118 x 40, and three stories high, and is fitted throughout with modern and expensive machinery, making it, as a government inspector recently said, the most complete and best equipped plant but one that he ever saw. The proprietors, D. W. and Henry Burrell, are natives of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. In 1850 they removed to Stephenson county with their parents and subsequently located in Freeport. Henry Burrell learned the tinner's trade and later engaged in the hardware business for eight years. At the opening of the civil war he enlisted in Co. G, 15th Regiment, I. V. I., and served two years. He was commissioned lieutenant and afterwards promoted captain of Co. F, 142d I. V. I. After the close of the



BURRELL VINEGAR WORKS.

war he returned to Freeport and engaged in the grocery business with his brothers, L. F. and D. W. Burrell. L. F. Burrell retired from the firm in 1870 and the business was carried on by his brothers until 1890, when D. W. and Henry Burrell, owing to ill health, disposed of their interest in the business and decided to go west. But finding it hard to leave the city in which they had lived so many years, they finally concluded to remain here and engage in the manufacture of vinegar.

The plant was completed in the winter of '91-'92 and is perfect in every detail. It is provided with a Rice thirty horse power engine and several smaller engines used in transmitting the liquids to and from the different vats. The vats, of which there are forty, hold from 60 to 100 barrels each. The third floor of the building, which is reached by a mammoth Reedy elevator, is used as a store and milling room and is supplied with the most improved machinery for grinding the corn and rye. The plant has a capacity of 150 barrels of vinegar per day and turns out the finest quality of both cider and white wine vinegar now on the market. The whole process of manufacture is under the direct supervision of Messrs. Burrell Brothers, who carefully attend to every detail of the business. They keep several men constantly on the road and are enjoying most gratifying success. Messrs. Burrell are two of Freeport's most successful business men and are held in high esteem throughout the community in which they live, as well as throughout the large extent of territory in which their business interests have made them well known.

Tuckett's Tobacco Plant.

The superior advantages which Freeport offers both as a manufacturing point and a shipping center have been highly influential in securing the great industries to which she now points with feelings of mingled pride and dependence, and upon the permanence of which she bases, in a large measure, her present stability and her future growth and prosperity. Mr. John E. Tuckett made no mistake when he chose Freeport as the future home of his factory, mainly by virtue of its being an important railroad center, for the cheery hum of the busy factory wheels and the happy faces of those there employed testify in unmistakable language of the thrifty and flourishing condition which the great plant is enjoying to-day.



TUCKETT'S TOBACCO PLANT.

Mr. Tuckett is a native of Canada, where for many years he was connected with the well known tobacco firm of George E. Tuckett & Son, located at Hamilton. A few years ago while in the south he

secured the exclusive right to manufacture the celebrated "Myrtle" and "T & B" smoking and plug tobaccos in the United States and located at Danville, Virginia, for that purpose. But the large trade which Mr. Tuckett soon built up began to center almost exclusively in the region north and west of Chicago, and the meagre shipping facilities which Danville possessed, goods requiring a journey of three weeks' duration before reaching Chicago, rendered that city wholly unfit for profitable manufacturing, and Mr. Tuckett, realizing that he must soon move his plant, came north to seek a more favorable location. While in Chicago he was directed to Freeport as a site that would meet his every requirement, and a trip to this city convinced him of that fact. He at once endeavored to purchase the Pattison plant, but was unable to do so until it passed into the hands of the German Insurance Company, when for the low sum of $11,000, less than one-third of its value, Mr. Tuckett gained control of that once famous plant, which he immediately began to remodel and supply with the most modern machinery prior to moving his great industry here. The Pattison plant was one of the largest in this city. It was erected by a stock company during the early history of the city for the purpose of manufacturing farm machinery, and later passed into the hands of Pells Manny, who manufactured the well known Manny reaper.

Several years afterwards Jeremiah Pattison secured control of the plant and engaged in the manufacture of farm machinery for a long time. After Mr. Pattison retired from business the buildings lay idle for many years, being occupied only occasionally for a few months at a time for light manufacturing, until Mr. Tuckett purchased them on May 20, 1892. The main building is a rectangular three-story brick edifice, with a projecting wing which includes the boiler and engine rooms. South of the large building is a stone warehouse, which is used as a shipping room.

While in Danville the plant gave employment to seventy-five men and the pay roll amounted to over $1,000 per week. Since coming to Freeport 150 additional have been added and the capacity of the plant has been enlarged so as to include the manufacture of smoking tobacco. In addition to the buildings here Mr. Tuckett has an extensive warehouse in Danville, Va., where the leaf tobacco is stored and shipped north as needed.

Mr. Tuckett, senior member of the firm of John E. Tuckett & Son, has been in the tobacco business for the past twenty years and is an extensive manufacturer of both plug and smoking tobacco. His celebrated "Myrtle" and "T & B" enjoy a most enviable popularity and have an extensive sale throughout the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. Tuckett both enjoy a large circle of friends and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. They own a handsome home on Stephenson street and have an interesting family of children.

The Freeport Light and Fuel Company.

Corporations are not always considered public benefactors; in fact, it is usually considered the proper thing to refer to them as "soulless" and "grasping," but in the Freeport Light and Fuel Company we have a corporation which is satisfied with a reasonable profit, and of its own motion it has reduced the price of gas to the consumer. A few years ago it was only the very wealthy who could afford the luxury of gas for lighting purposes, but the price has been reduced to such a figure that it is now quite extensively used in the homes of wage-earners, not only for lighting but also for cooking purposes; the rate is so low that it makes about as cheap fuel as any and is much more convenient. Hundreds of gas stoves are in daily use in Freeport, and the number is constantly increasing.

Prior to 1856 candles and kerosene were the only materials used in Freeport for illuminating purposes. In 1855 the late Col. Thomas J. Turner and other public-spirited men of that day organized a company for the purpose of putting in a gas plant. Freeport was then little more than a village, but the men at the head of this enterprise had confidence in Freeport's growth, and they predicted that in a few years stock in a gas plant would be valuable property. So they organized a company and secured the necessary charter from the State, and the following year the plant was constructed on the corner of Liberty and Jackson streets, where it has been maintained ever since. The capacity of the first generating plant was 30,000 feet per day, and the holder 20,000 feet. The company which put in the plant operated it for several years and then it was bought by Edward Ashcraft, who sold it to Scofield & Hill in 1867. In 1871 Mr. Hill sold his interest to L. L. Munn, and the plant was conducted by Scofield & Munn until 1877, when Mr. Scofield sold his interest to L. Z. Farwell, and the firm was known as Farwell & Munn until 1890, when Mr. Munn disposed of his interest to Mr. Farwell, who conducted

the plant alone until 1895, when he sold out to a stock company, which now controls the plant. This stock company is made up of some of the leading citizens of Freeport. It was organized with a capital stock of $100,000, and was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois as The Freeport Light and Fuel Company. The directors of the company are Messrs. Chas. D. Knowlton, Jacob Krohn, Wm. O. Wright, O. B. Bidwell, J. L. Robinson, T. K. Best and L. L. Munn. The present officers are: President, Chas. D. Knowlton; vice president, Jacob Krohn; treasurer, Wm. O. Wright; secretary and manager, Z. T. F. Runner.



INTERIOR VIEW GAS COMPANY'S OFFICE.

While the plant had been frequently improved and enlarged during the years of its existence, it was far from being the perfect plant that a city of this size demanded, and as soon as the present company came into possession of the property they voted to expend thousands of dollars in improvements. They at once put in a new and late improved purifying plant with a capacity of 250,000 feet a day, and a new up-to-date generating plant of the same capacity has just been completed. The company soon found that much of the old pipe was too small, so they laid several miles of new 12, 10 and 8 inch pipe. The old 20,000 foot holder was replaced by a 30,000 foot holder when the plant was operated by Farwell & Munn. The present company has added to that a 38,000 foot holder. The plant is now as perfect as it can be made by the use of the latest improved machinery, as they have added all the latest methods of generating and purifying gas. They are now furnishing a gas 12 per cent. higher candle power than was furnished by the old plant, and have at the same time greatly reduced the price to the consumers. When the plant was first established and as late as 1870 the price of gas was $5.00 per thousand. From time to time the price was lowered until the present company put the price down to the low figure of $1.35 per thousand, which is a lower price than is offered by any other company in the State, considering the population of the city. The "Incandescent gas burners," that are being constantly invented, are a great boon to gas consumers, as they give three times the light and consume less than half the gas of the old style burners.

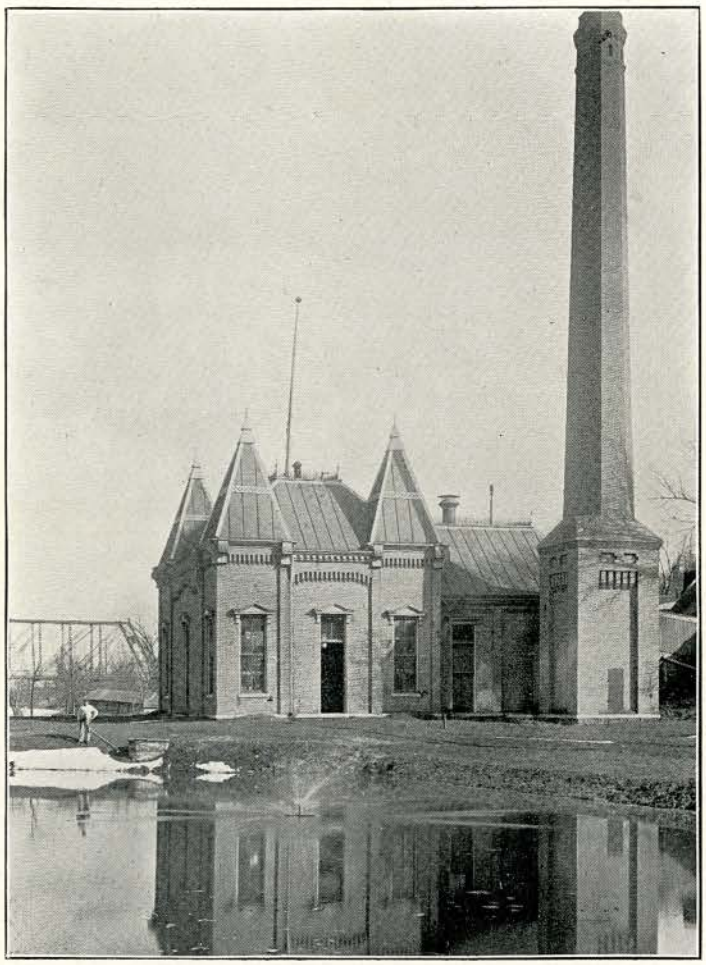
Under the present management the business has largely increased. During the past year the company sold twenty-five per cent. more gas than the largest yearly output of the plant prior to this. The

company has a neat office and salesroom at No. 156 Stephenson street, where they keep constantly on hand a line of gas fixtures and globes, incandescent gas burners, gas cooking and heating stoves and all the latest appliance for the use of gas.

Mr. Runner, the manager of the plant, is a veteran in the business. He has been associated with the plant since 1868, with the exception of a few years he spent on the road as traveling salesman, owing to failing health. He has made the manufacture of gas a thorough study, and is considered one of the most thorough gas men in the business. He is a member of the Western Gas Association, and always attends the annual meetings of this association, where all matters pertaining to the manufacture of gas are discussed. He keeps abreast of the times and is always ready to adopt new methods which will add to the efficiency of the plant. He gives the plant his undivided attention, and it is very seldom that the patrons of the company have any cause for complaint.

Freeport Water Company.

In the month of June, 1882, an ordinance was passed by the city of Freeport, granting a franchise to Mr. Nathan Shelton, then a resident of Omaha, Neb., and the city entered into a contract with him and his assigns to construct and operate a water works in the city. This ordinance fixed the hydrant rentals, to be paid by the city, and the maximum price to be charged private consumers. Mr. Shelton began the construction of the works soon after the ordinance was passed.



WATER COMPANY'S PUMPING STATION.

There were eight and one-half miles of cast iron mains put down, varying from 4 inches to 16 inches in diameter, and a standpide fifteen feet in diameter and 88 feet above the foundation was erected on the highest point of land in the city, the top of it being 200 feet above the pumps at the pumping station. The pumping station is situated on the west bank of the Pecatonica River, beside the track of the Illinois Central Railroad, on grounds well adapted for

its purpose, where a handsome and substantial brick building was erected. The pumping station was built with a view of increasing the capacity of the works whenever the growth of the city demanded it.

It was supplied with two Knowles steam pumps, with an aggregate capacity of 3,000,000 gallons in twenty-four hours. The works were finished in 1882, and were considered very complete and satisfactory by the city officers, as well as the citizens generally.

In August, 1882, the Freeport Water Company was organized under the laws of the State of Illinois, and Mr. Shelton assigned to it his franchise and contract with the city, as well as the property pertaining to the water works, and the Freeport Water Company thus became the owner of the water works, and still owns them.

The capital stock of the company is $150,000.00, and two-thirds of it is now held by residents of the city of Freeport.

For nearly four years after the works were completed the water furnished was taken from the Pecatonica River, the chartered source of supply, and filtered before being pumped to the city.

In August, 1886, the company commenced to drill artesian wells at the pumping station. These wells were found to furnish good, pure water. There are now twenty-one artesian wells in actual use, seventeen of them having been drilled in 1886, three of them in 1893 and one in the latter part of 1895.

The supply of water from these wells is abundant and of excellent quality; it is clear and sparkling and analyzes almost perfectly pure chemically. The city of Freeport has had a number of chemical analyses made of the water and it has always been pronounced pure. An analysis was made a few months ago by the chemist at the Illinois University, which resulted, as all previous analyses, in a report showing the water to be almost perfectly pure chemically. In addition to the first eight and one-half miles of mains there have been put down about eleven miles, making at the present time a total of nineteen and one-half miles of mains.

The city may well feel proud of her water works and the efficient service which the water company has always given. There never has been a time when there has not been an abundant supply of pure water for all purposes.

The present officers of the company are: M. Stoskopf, president; J. H. Snyder, vice president; O. B. Bidwell, treasurer; Henry C. Hyde, attorney; Owen T. Smith, superintendent, and H. B. Zartman, secretary.

The Freeport General Electric Co.

For a period of twenty-seven years after it had begun to enjoy municipal dignities, Freeport at night lay shrouded in darkness, broken only by the glimmer of a few scattering gas lamps, and the periodical appearance of mother Luna. Previous to 1855 the town was wholly without gas facilities, and their absence provoked universal complaint. The fact that the residents were still dependent upon the pristine methods of illumination employed when the town had not even attained the rank of a village, was a subject of critical comment, and continued to be such until the organization of a gas company, in the fall of 1855, gave promise of a much needed advance towards enlightened civilization.

According to their contract with the city the new gas company erected a few street lamps, which were operated for a few years and then discontinued.

During the summer of 1882 the Van De Poele Company, of Chicago, gave several exhibitions with the light in this city, and succeeded in interesting Freeport capitalists in the project of organizing a company. Their efforts were successful, and in the fall of that year the Freeport Van De Poele Electric Light and Power Company was organized with a capital stock of $25,000, and a contract secured to light the city for a period of twenty-five years. On Dec. 26, 1882, the plant began to operate.

For the first few weeks the company maintained nine lights in the city, but by the following February the number had increased to twenty-four, and the close of the year saw forty in operation.

On the 7th of July, 1884, the books of subscription to the capital stock of the company were thrown open, and within an hour the entire stock, $25,000, was taken, the most of it by D. C. Stover, Charles Nieman, Fred Gund and R. H. Wiles. Thus far light had been supplied only to merchants and hotels, but a movement in favor of public lighting had already been inaugurated and was meeting with popular favor.

In the following July the matter was brought before the city council, and that body at once favored the plan of granting the company a five years' contract, the city to pay $4500 annually for the light. But difficulties soon arose which threatened to prevent the acceptance of the contract, but it finally prevailed. A year later Messrs. Farwell & Munn, proprietors of the gas works, forestalled any further difficulty by purchasing the electric light plant and

reducing rates sufficiently to insure general acceptance of the light by the city.

Hitherto the plant had been located in its two story brick building on lower Galena street. In 1886 a new power station was erected contiguous to the gas works and supplied with two Thompson–Houston 60-light generators. In 1889 a large Westinghouse incandescent dynamo was added and the capacity of the entire plant correspondingly enlarged.



GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY'S PLANT.

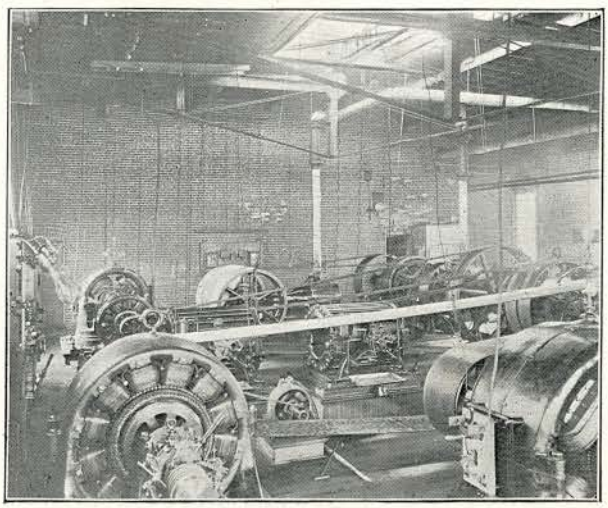
Scarcely had the plant, after being enlarged, begun operations when, on the 22d of February, 1890, the whole thing went up in smoke, entailing a loss of $25,000 upon its proprietor and again plunging our unfortunate city into Egyptian gloom. A few weeks before the conflagration L. L. Munn had sold his interest in the Electric Light and Gas Company to his partner, L. Z. Farwell, and the latter gentleman was left to bear the loss alone.

Mr. Farwell immediately rebuilt the power station and refitted it throughout. In August, 1893, he removed the plant to Liberty street, where he erected a brick building, 50 x 150, and established a system of power and lighting, representing an outlay of $75,000, and furnishing the city and private consumers with ninety arc lamps. A system of incandescent lighting was also added, and the capacity of the entire plant enlarged to supply a city of 25,000 inhabitants.

Mr. Farwell remained sole owner until the summer of 1894, when the plant was purchased by the Freeport General Electric Company.

THE FREEPORT STREET RAILWAY.

In the summer of 1886 Messrs. F. C. Platt and G. D. Clinger, of Waterloo, Ia., introduced the subject of a street railway system to the citizens of Freeport, and succeeded in interesting several capitalists in the project. On the 21st of August of that year Messrs. Platt and Clinger secured the necessary franchise, and work was begun at once. On Oct. 16 the Freeport Street Railway Company was formed,



DYNAMO ROOM.

with a capital stock of $45,000, and incorporated by F. C. Platt, G. D. Clinger, Jacob Krohn, J. B. Taylor and W. G. Barnes. Large stables were erected on Taylor avenue, and four miles of track were laid. On Nov. 4 the company elected the following officers: President, Jacob Krohn; vice president, F. C. Platt; secretary, J. B. Taylor; treasurer, W. G. Barnes; general manager, G. D. Clinger. The cars, each having a seating capacity of twenty, were first set in motion on Thanksgiving day, Nov. 25, 1886.

In January, 1887, G. D. Clinger sold his entire interest in the enterprise to J. B. Taylor, and F. C. Platt sold all but $4,000 worth of his stock to the same gentleman. Hiram Warner, of Morris, Ill., succeeded to the position of general manager.

For the next few years the line was operated with varied success. The subject of an electric street railway had, in the meantime, elicited much discussion, and the feasibility of changing the car line into a trolley system was generally admitted. During the winter of 1892–93 Congressman Mutchler, of Pennsylvania, visited Freeport, and later, in company with other capitalists, purchased the car line and proceeded at once to convert it into an electric railway. The work of putting down new rails was begun Aug. 11, 1894, the trolley cars arrived in the following November, and the new system began to operate about the first of December. The Freeport Electric Light and Power plant was purchased, and the light and power systems consolidated into one under the title of the Freeport General Electric Company.

This company is now in control of one of the finest systems of street railways in the State. Its officers are: Hon. Joseph C. Sibley, president; Charles Miller, vice president; Joseph T. Schlacks, general manager. The power house and barn, 120 x 50, and 180 x 35, respectively, are located on the corner of Liberty and Spring streets, and are supplied with the most modern machinery and equipments. The power house contains two 150-kilowatt Westinghouse generators, two 50-light Thompson–Houston arc machines, one 60-kilowatt alternator, and one 150-kilowatt Tesla two-phase alternator for light and power. These generators are driven by three single Ball engines, supplied with power from two batteries of three water-tube boilers each. Seventy-five arc lights are supplied to the city, and twenty-five to private customers. The incandescent system maintains 3,600 lamps on its circuit.



CAR BARNS.

The street transit of the company is perfect in every detail. The rolling stock includes four open motor cars, six closed motor cars, six trailers, and for wintry weather, an electrically operated snow plow. At present the company has six miles of track in constant use, and plans for extending the line are receiving favorable consideration. The cars run on the fifteen minute service plan and are liberally patronized by the public.

The company employs fifty hands and estimates its investment at $200,000.

L. M. De Vore & Co.

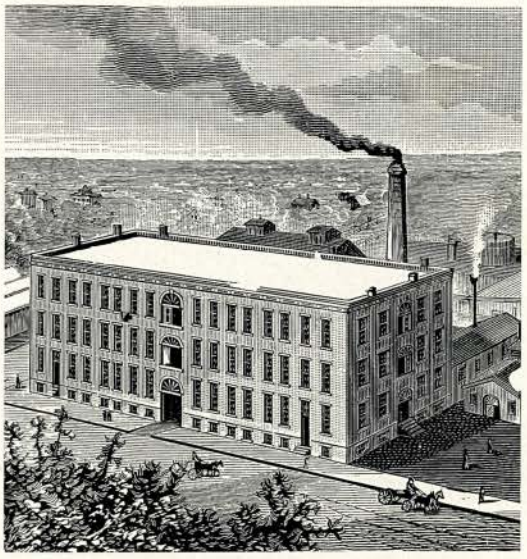
The manufacture of hardware specialties is an important industry in Freeport, and has been for many years. One of the pioneers in this line is the Hon. L. M. De Vore, one of Freeport's most distinguished citizens. Mr. De Vore, who is now at the head of the L. M. De Vore & Co. plant, is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in 1845. He came to



HON. L. M. DEVORE.

this county with his parents in 1854, and they settled on a farm in Loran township, where Mr. De Vore spent his boyhood days. Shortly before the war broke out Mr. De Vore attended an Ohio college to complete his education, but he did not remain long in college after Lincoln called for troops. He enlisted in an Ohio regiment, and after the war returned home and took up the occupation of a farmer. He was of an inventive turn of mind, and when not busy in the fields he was experimenting with some invention, and has never gotten over that habit. While still on the farm he invented a barb wire and sold the patent to an eastern firm for $2,000. This was his first patent and his success encouraged him to go on. In 1870 he removed to Freeport and engaged in the agricultural implement business, and after conducting that business for several years he secured the agency in four states for the Stover wind mills and sold these mills. In the meantime he patented a door spring and opened a small shop and began the manufacture and sale of these springs. He soon invented other articles and his business grew so rapidly that he had to have a larger factory, and to-day he manufactures over fifty hardware and bicycle specialties, and has probably taken out as many patents as any other man in this section of the country. M. H. Wilcoxon is now associated with Mr. De Vore in business, and they have a very complete plant on the corner of Liberty and Spring streets.

Among the articles of every day use which they manufacture in large quantities may be mentioned De Vore's anti-friction spring hinges, stove lid lifters, stove poker, stove pipe dampers, stove pipe shelves, screw-drivers, scratch awls, envelope openers, cork extractors, key rings, safety message and memorandum hooks, curry combs in several different styles and designs, bicycle saddles, bicycle stands, trousers guards, foot power hammers, advertising puzzles, bicycle lamp brackets, tire puncture repair outfits,



THE DE VORE PLANT.

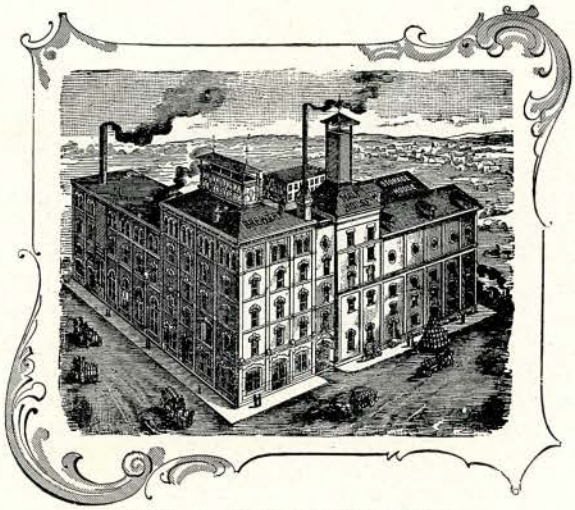
lanterns, garment hooks, and many other articles of general use. Mr. De Vore is well known to the hardware jobbers throughout the country and his goods find a ready sale. He is now at work on several new inventions which, when he has them perfected, will add materially to the output of the plant.

Mr. De Vore has always taken a deep interest in Freeport and is regarded as one of our most enterprising citizens, and is always willing to help along any enterprise which will be of benefit to the city. He served for many years in the city council and was regarded as one of the best aldermen the city has ever had. He is a ready and able debater and

advocated many improvements which were beneficial to the city. He served on all of the important committees and fought every measure that was not in the interest of the tax payers. Mr. De Vore owns several substantial business blocks on Stephenson street and a handsome home on Lincoln avenue, and his family consists of his wife and three talented daughters.

Baier & Ohlendorf.

The Freeport Brewery was established in 1869 by Baier & Seyfarth. It is the oldest brewing firm in the city, as well as one of the oldest and best known establishments of its kind in the west. The site upon which the plant stands, at the corner of Adams and Jackson streets, has been occupied for the purpose of a brewery since 1849. In 1869 Messrs. Baier & Seyfarth bought what was then known as the Beck brewery. Up to that time very few improvements had been made and the output was comparatively small. It was, however, but a short time after its purchase that it was found necessary to enlarge its capacity, and foundations were



BAIER & OHLENDORF'S PLANT.

soon laid for a plant equal to any in the land. Improvements were not made for temporary use, but each addition was made with a foresight of what was sure to come in the near future.

The brewery now stands in the front ranks of the brewing business of America. It is an institution which benefits both the city and surrounding country. The whole plant is a model of neatness and cleanliness—a fact that bears weight with customers. Only the best malt and hops are used and these are handled in such a careful, scientific manner that the result is the production of lager that is *par excellence* in quality, purity, flavor and general superiority.

The plant is one of the most complete in the state outside of Chicago. It has all modern improvements, such as ice machines for cold storage, large malthouses and bottling works that are surpossed by none in the country, being fitted with the most modern of bottling machinery.

The main brand of beer manufactured at the Freeport Brewery is "Pilsener," which is put up both in kegs and bottles. It is a very popular beer sold by local dealers.

In 1891 Mr. Ohlendorf succeeded Mr. Seyfarth, deceased, and the business has since been conducted under the firm name of Baier & Ohlendorf. They take great pride in the quality of their product and spare no effort to make it perfect. The capacity, which is now 25,000 barrels annually, will soon be enlarged to accommodate the increasing trade.

Freeport is proud of such industries, for they not only give steady and lucrative employment to many people the year around, but expend large sums of money in Freeport and vicinity to conduct their business.

Schmich Brewing Company.

Freeport will soon rival Milwaukee as "the city of breweries." It is certain that the brewing industry is reaching large proportions in this city, and Freeport beer is becoming famous all over the northwest. Another large and imposing brewery has just been completed in this city. It is the plant of the Schmich Brewing Company, and is one of the most complete brewing plants to be found in the west. It was erected by the enterprising Schmich Brothers, who have long been connected with the brewery industry of Freeport. In 1880 Matt Schmich purchased an interest in the old Western brewery, which has stood for many years on the edge of the city out on the old Galena road. This plant was conducted several years by M. Huber and Matt Schmich, and in 1887 Matt's brother George purchased Mr. Huber's interest in the plant and from that day to this the firm of Schmich Bros. conducted the old Western brewery. They are both young and enterprising business men who were not satisfied with being second in the trade. They improved the method of brewing and soon enjoyed a largely increased business. They made a thorough study of their business and placed on the market a quality of goods that found ready favor with the public. They had strong competition at home, and the large brewers of Milwaukee and Chicago were strong competitors for the trade in Freeport and vicinity, but the

boys more than held their own. Year by year they gained new customers. Many of the local dealers were their friends and they wanted to see the boys prosper, but they could not do much. The beer had to sell on its merits and unless there was a demand for it from the trade it did not pay the dealer to handle the goods. But the demand soon came and it has increased so largely that Schmich Bros. soon realized that if they wanted to handle all the business that was coming to them they would have to have a larger plant. They also felt satisfied that while their goods were giving general satisfaction they could improve on the quality under more favorable circumstances. So a year or so ago they decided to put up a new and enlarged plant. With this end in view they purchased a piece of land in East Freeport, on the bank of the Pecatonica River, with good railroad accommodations, and early in the summer the work of constructing the new brewery was begun. It is now almost completed, and by the first of January it will be in operation. The building is a large and handsome structure, four and five stories high, and has a capacity of 20,000 barrels of beer a year. In putting up this plant Schmich Bros. have spared no expense. The plant complete cost them $75,000, and every dollar of that amount has been expended to good advantage. The boys have had years of experience in the business, and before putting up the plant they made a thorough inspection of the leading breweries of the country and have profited by the experience of others. While they do not claim that their plant is the largest in the country, they do claim that none are more complete. It is fitted up with the most improved machinery and appliances for brewing beer, and they are confident that they can now place on the market a quality of beer that will gain them many new customers and will more than double their trade within a year. They have put in two splendid engines, one 80-horse power and the other 30, and in connection with the brewery the Vilter Company, of Milwaukee, have put in one of their latest improved ice plants, so the company will manufacture their own ice, and it will be strictly pure.



SCHMICH BREWING COMPANY'S PLANT.

The company will make a specialty of their celebrated Rochester and Export bottled beer, and will take in a much larger scope of territory than they are now covering. They have incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, and the company has a capital stock of $100,000. The officers are as follows: President, Matt Schmich; secretary, W. N. Cronkrite; treasurer, George Schmich. Matt and George Schmich, the practical men of the company, will give the business their undivided attention, and under such good management the company cannot help but prosper.

Our Mercantile Interests.

William Walton

can justly be called one of the pioneer merchants of this city, and his dry goods store is regarded as one of the landmarks of Freeport.

He is a native of England and was born in the County Dunn, but was raised in Birmingham. After leaving school he took up the dry goods business and was a clerk for many years. In 1855 he set out for the United States, and after a brief stay in New York he came west and located in Chicago, where he secured employment in the dry goods house of J. B. Shay. He saved his salary and after accumulating a few hundred dollars went to Amboy, this state, where he embarked in the dry goods business. He soon became satisfied that Amboy was not large enough to support the kind of a store he was ambitious to be at the head of, and, with the idea of branching out, came to Freeport in 1858, and soon thereafter the name of Wm. Walton became a household word throughout Stephenson County. He prospered from the first and built up a large trade. He soon gained the confidence of the public, which he has retained ever since. He never knowingly misrepresented goods, and his reputation for honesty and fair dealing will live for many years after he has been called to his fathers. He has built up a reputation which will be a lasting monument to his memory, and no man in Stephenson County is held



WILLIAM WALTON.

in higher esteem than Wm. Walton. He is a man of few words, but possesses a kind heart and subscribes liberally to every worthy object. He has given away a good sized fortune and has contributed towards the erection of almost every church in Freeport.

Mr. Walton's success in the dry goods trade has been phenomenal. He had but a small store in the start and a very limited amount of capital, but he possessed plenty of pluck, and by strict attention to business has prospered. Year by year he added to his stock, until to-day he owns one of the largest and most complete dry goods and clothing stores in the state, and draws trade from towns 100 miles or more from Freeport. His goods are always just exactly as represented, and no customer ever goes away dissatisfied. He would rather make a customer a present of the goods than have them go away feeling that they were not getting their money's worth.

Mr. Walton is one of Freeport's most loyal citizens, and is always ready to do all in his power to help along any enterprise that would add to the welfare of the city. He has spent the most of his surplus wealth in Freeport real estate, which he deems a good investment. He has erected handsome and comfortable dwelling houses in all parts of the city, and seldom are any of them empty, for he is a model landlord and keeps his houses in good repair.

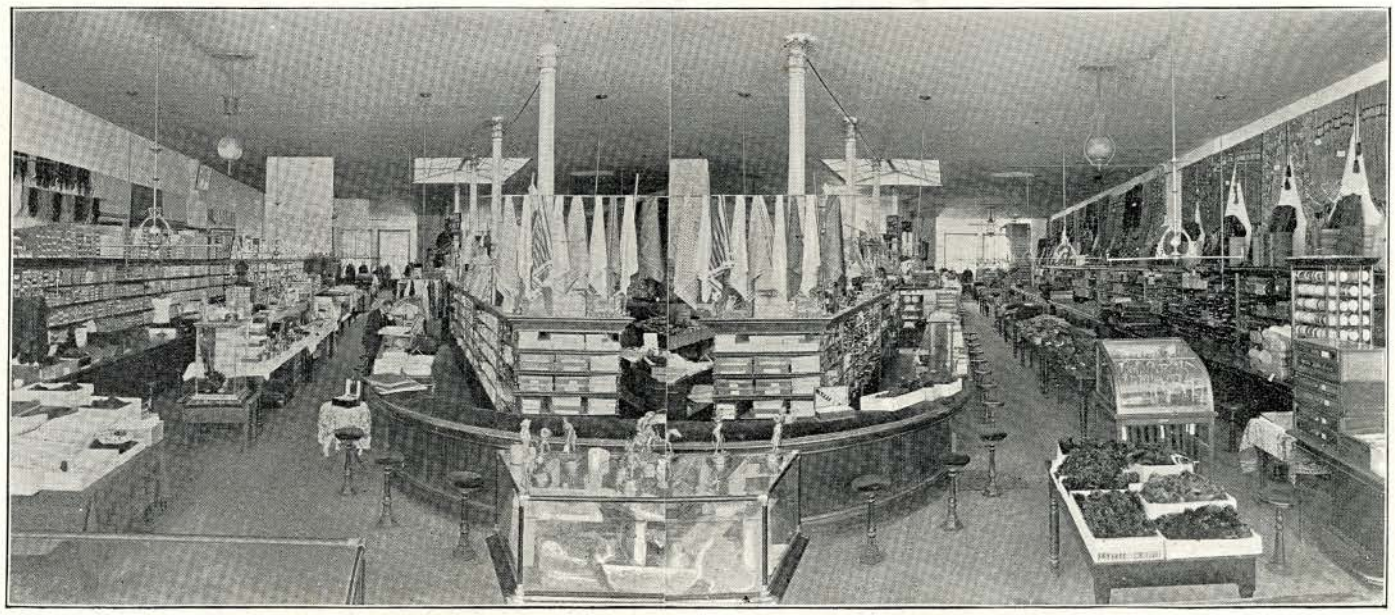


WALTON'S STORES—104 & 106 STEPHENSON ST.

Mr. Walton has a fondness for animals and generally keeps a number of good horses and blooded dogs. Like every true Englishman, he is a keen sportsman, and enjoys a day's hunt above all forms of sport. He is a good shot, and when he goes out with a party after game he generally bags his share.

Hunting and driving are about his only forms of recreation. He cares very little for society, yet he is socially inclined and is one of the most entertaining story-tellers in the city. He likes nothing better than to have a few genial friends call at his room of an evening for a quiet chat. Then between puffs of smoke from a fragrant cigar he tells stories and anecdotes without number. He is a man who reads a great deal and is a very entertaining talker when a subject is brought up which interests him. Those who have not seen the sunny side of Mr. Walton's nature do not know what a genial, whole-souled gentleman he is. But he is widely known as an honorable and successful business man and as such is respected by all classes of people.

new firm was destined to come to the front, enlisted in their favor, and C. H. Rosenstiel erected a handsome building on Stephenson street almost opposite their present location. But these quarters afforded only temporary relief. The trade prospered and grew until it began to bulge out from the doors of the store. It was evident that it was not to be confined within the limits of the building they then occupied, and the firm began to cast about for a new location. Their efforts were successful, and a new building was erected for them by Henry Weishar, on the opposite side of the street, where they were soon located and at home. A large increase in business followed, and the firm began to consider the question of handling a more extended class of goods.



INTERIOR VIEW OF SEELEY & READ'S STORE.

Seeley & Read.

The business house of Seeley & Read is a permanent example of what pluck and energy can do when tempered with brains, integrity and business capacity. This house was established in Freeport in the spring of 1877 by Mr. Seeley, who opened a small store on upper Stephenson street, and thus formed the nucleus about which their present business has formed. In the fall of 1877 Mr. F. A. Read, Jr., became associated with Mr. Seeley, and the new firm opened for business in the Opera House block. The members of the firm, both young and enterprising men, soon became widely popular and began to acquire a trade that increased beyond all expectations with each ensuing month. Soon more commodious quarters were found necessary if patronage was to be sustained. Capital, quick to see that the

To that end a millinery department was added and opened to the public with the finest line of goods to be found in Northern Illinois west of Chicago. This experiment proved to be a great success, and in due time a carpet department was added to the establishment.

In the winter of 1893 the firm met its first check, in the way of a disastrous conflagration, which consumed the entire stock and left merely the walls of the building standing. But Messrs. Seeley & Read were not discouraged at this misfortune. It merely augmented their zeal to excel, and gave their indomitable wills an occasion to exhibit their strength. Mr. Weishar immediately rebuilt the block, and in the following fall the firm entered its new home with renewed determination and vigor. Since then its career has been one of continued success.

The present building occupied by Seeley & Read is 50 x 155 feet, being Nos. 112, 114 and 116 Stephenson street, running back to Exchange street, three stories and a basement. The first floor is replete with dry goods, notions and cloaks, and all other commodities found in large stores of its kind. The second floor is devoted to the millinery and carpet departments, and here is also contained their large stock of curtains and fixtures. The line of carpets carried by the firm is large and complete, and includes all the fine and expensive varieties, as well as those of the more ordinary kind.

The business of the firm is divided into twenty-two departments, each presided over by a chief clerk, and all receiving the personal surveillance of the proprietors.

The millinery department is especially complete and presents an attractive and inviting appearance. The rooms are nicely carpeted, hung with costly curtains and furnished with easy chairs and tempting divans. The department is an especial source of pride to the firm, who devote much of their time and personal supervision to it.

Both Mr. Seeley and Mr. Read are business men of ability and are recognized as merchants of high rank—men who have by their own unaided efforts built up a magnificent and lucrative business. Mr. C. H. Seeley is a native of Watertown, N. Y., and gained his first ideas of business in a dry goods house of Lockport. Mr. F. A. Read was born in Rockford and has been a resident of Freeport twenty-five years. Both men have devoted much thought and labor to the moral and social advancement of our city, and both command to the utmost the good wishes and esteem of all circles.



WM. KOENIG'S FURNITURE STORE.

Wm. Koenig.

William Koenig, dealer in and manufacturer of furniture, is the eldest of the seven children of Joseph and Regina Koenig, and was born in Erie, Pa., May 12, 1853. Soon after his birth his parents removed to Ogle county and after a residence of two years there came to Freeport, where they located in 1856.

Joseph Koenig was a shoemaker, and he continued to ply his trade until his retirement from active business life in 1880. William was educated in the Freeport public schools, and at the age of sixteen entered upon his apprenticeship at the cabinet trade in the factory of Darius Kuehner, of Freeport,

with whom he remained three years and four months. He next entered the employ of J. B. Snyder, now deceased, with whom he remained five years, and then engaged in business for himself. He commenced in a small way with limited means, and subsequently formed a partnership with Mr. David Hent. They operated together until 1880, when Mr. Koenig purchased the interest of his partner. At this time Mr. Koenig occupied a building on lower Stephenson street 20 x 116 feet in area and four stories high, with basement. He likewise occupied two upper floors of the adjoining building. In 1895 he purchased the Barnes property, on the corner of Stephenson and Mechanic streets, where he erected a large four-story building, 140 x 155, in which he has since conducted his business. Mr. Koenig also became interested in the manufacture of buggy and spring wagon bodies in company with Peter Bixler, under the firm name of Koenig & Bixler, and built up a prosperous trade throughout the northwest. Later he became secretary and treasurer of the Robinson Mfg. Co., a position which he still holds.

Mr. Koenig was married in Lena April 6, 1882, to Miss Carrie Metz, a native of Wisconsin, and two children have resulted from the union, a son, Robert Franklin, born April 16, 1884, and a daughter, Cora May, born July 26, 1887. They occupy a handsome house on Stephenson street and enjoy a well deserved popularity. Both Mr. Koenig and his wife are members of the First M. E. church. Mr. Koenig is also a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Odd Fellows.

In his business Mr. Koenig enjoys a liberal patronage, not only in this city, but throughout the county as well. He carries a large and well assorted stock of the highest grades of parlor and office goods in addition to the regular stock of household furniture of every description. He also conducts a large undertaking business and carries a splendid assortment of everything pertaining thereto. He is a man of proverbial business integrity, excellent financial ability and good judgment, and occupies an enviable position among Freeport's prominent business men.

M. V. B. Elson.

The name of this well known citizen occupies a high place in Freeport business circles. He has been identified with the jewelry trade in Freeport since 1872, and has one of the largest and most attractive jewelry stores west of Chicago and commands a large trade. Mr. Elson is a native of Illinois and was born at Peoria. There he was educated and grew to manhood. After leaving school he entered one of the leading jewelry stores of that city with a view of following that business through life. He early had impressed upon him the full force of the motto, "Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well," and when he entered the jewelry store he determined to master every branch of the business. He soon became an expert workman and also excelled as an engraver. He remained in his native



M. V. B. ELSON.

city until October, 1872, when he came to Freeport and opened a jewelry store and soon took the lead in that line of business. He first established himself in the room now occupied by the State bank, and for a period of eighteen years did business at that stand, and then he purchased the building on Stephenson street where he is now located and fitted up a model jewelry store. The walls are handsomely decorated and the furnishings are rich and attractive, making a store which Mr. Elson has every reason to feel proud of. He carries a stock of goods valued at $18,000, and it embraces a line of goods seldom found in a jewelry store in a city of this size. He enjoys a large trade, which has steadily increased every year since he came to Freeport. In the line of repair work he excels, and it is an old saying when Elson can't make a watch keep good time it is time

to throw it away. He is an expert workman himself and his assistants are also up to the standard.

Mr. Elson is also a director of the Second National bank and vice president of that institution. He is regarded as one of the best posted business men in Freeport and a man of excellent judgment. Mr. Elson is very fond of home life and owns one of the handsomest and most modern homes on upper Stephenson street, which he built in 1886. For many years he has been a member of the First Presbyterian church and is one of its most regular attendants. He also belongs to the Freeport Club, where he is always a welcome visitor. It is not generally known that Mr. Elson served for a time in the defense of his country. He enlisted in a Peoria regiment made up of the young business men and clerks of that city and saw some hard service.

Mr. Elson's family consists of his wife and a pretty little daughter, Maude, now nine years old. His wife is the daughter of one of the most prominent families in the state, and she has several brothers who have gained national reputations in the field of politics and in judicial positions. Mrs. Elson possesses considerable literary ability and is also very fond of music.

The Star Clothing House.

A decade of successful business has been sufficient to establish the Star Clothing House in the front rank among the mercantile houses of the city. This house opened in Freeport about eleven years ago, and began business in a small way on Stephenson street, near Chicago street. Its founders, Eli and Joshua Oettinger, continued in their original stand for three years, and then, business having increased sufficiently to warrant increasing their facilities, removed to the corner of Stephenson and Chicago streets, into the building occupied for twenty-five years previous by the Mitchell bank. In 1888 Joshua Oettinger removed to Sterling, Ill., and conducted a branch store there until his death, which occurred in 1890. The Oettinger brothers were very popular in Freeport and received liberal patronage.



STAR CLOTHING HOUSE.

Up to the time of the death of Mr. Joshua Oettinger, the brothers maintained stores at Freeport, Pontiac and Sterling, but when left alone, Mr. Eli Oettinger discontinued his connection with the other two stores and devoted all his time to the one located in this city. About two years ago he removed his stock into the spacious apartments arranged for him

on the corner of Stephenson and Mechanic streets, and is located there to-day, doing a large business and daily gaining public confidence and patronage. The store is attractive and neat in appearance, and the floor area is filled with a splendid stock of goods.

H. J. Moogk.

The wholesale and retail drug business now conducted by H. J. Moogk was established in December, 1879, by Herman J. Moogk and Philip Hoebel, and continued by them under the firm name of Hoebel & Moogk until November, 1887, when Mr. Moogk purchased his partner's interest. The premises occupied are on the corner of Chicago and Galena streets, the building being a two-story brick, with the spacious first floor devoted entirely to Mr. Moogk's business. Here is carried a comprehensive stock of drugs and druggists' supplies, chemicals, essential oils, pharmaceutical preparations, extracts, paints, varnishes, dye stuffs, etc., all of the highest standard of purity and excellence. Mr. Moogk has long been identified with this line of business and is thoroughly conversant with its every detail. His name in connection with the goods he sells has become a synonym for their purity and excellence.



INTERIOR VIEW OF H. J. MOOGK'S DRUG STORE.

Bergman & Dorman.

Freeport, as the county seat of Stephenson county, has by circumstance been a center of trade for agricultural implements for the past thirty-five years. Even before the day of railroads, farmers for many miles around came to this city to buy such implements and machinery as were then coming into use, and since Freeport has become a railroad center it has been a great distributing point for all manner of agricultural machinery.

One of the largest houses in that business is that of Bergman & Dorman, whose operations have reached into thousands since the business was first established. The firm of Bergman & Kirk was formed in 1867 and continued until 1874, when the style was changed to Bergman & Dorman, Frederick and Henry Dorman having bought an interest in the business. The trade grew steadily from the hour that the firm first sent out its card, and especially since the Dorman brothers came in. The buildings occupied by the firm nearly cover the block bounded by Exchange, Clay and Van Buren streets and North Galena avenue, and are mainly of brick and two stories in height. They stand as one of the

leading implement warehouses in the northwest, the firm handling traction engines, threshers, reapers, mowers, binders, cultivators, harrows, plows, wagons and all implements useful on the farm. Besides their retail trade they do a large jobbing business and supply many dealers in the vicinity. The members of the firm are all men of prominence, familiar with the business, and command the entire confidence of all those with whom they have business relations, as well as the community at large.

at that time formulating plans for the extension of their business, and had decided to open a branch office in Chicago. To gain the necessary capital for this new venture they took Mr. Sanford into partnership, and soon afterwards Mr. White removed to Chicago to take charge of their interests in that city. A few months later Mr. Sanford purchased Mr. White's interest in the Chicago branch and Mr. O. B. Bidwell was taken into the firm. Mr. Bidwell, however, remained a member of the company only



WILBUR LUMBER COMPANY'S YARDS.

Wilbur Lumber Co.

The Wilbur Lumber Company is a continuation of the Rowell & White lumber firm, organized about 1863. In that year W. D. Rowell removed from Oshkosh, Wis., where he had been conducting a dry goods store, to Freeport, and at once formed a partnership with Mr. White, a lumberman of some experience. Three years later Mr. O. B. Sanford, a brother-in-law of Mr. Rowell, came to this city and became interested in the company. Mr. Sanford was then owner of valuable timber land in Wisconsin and had been engaged in the lumber business for several years. The firm of Rowell & White was

a short time, his interest being purchased by his partners, who conducted the business under the firm name of Sanford & Rowell until Mr. Sanford's death in December, 1891.

The Sanford & Rowell Lumber Company soon came to be one of the most extensive lumber firms in the northwest. Besides operating their business in Freeport they established branch yards at Shannon, Lanark, Orangeville and other surrounding towns. They also dealt extensively in timber lands in Wisconsin and Minnesota, owning thousands of acres at a time, besides several mills. In October, 1887, Mr. Rowell died and Mr. Sanford continued the business under the same firm name for four

years longer. On the 5th of December, 1891, Mr. Sanford died, and on the first day of the following January the Sanford & Rowell Lumber Company passed into the hands of the Wilbur Lumber Company, of Burlington, Wisconsin. This company is one of the largest lumber firms in existence, and at the time it secured business interests in Freeport it controlled fifteen extensive yards throughout the northwest. In November, 1894, the local yards of the Wilbur Lumber Company were purchased by John B. Taylor, and the Taylor Lumber Company was organized with J. B. Taylor as president and Wallace Collins secretary and manager. Mr. Taylor, however, did not remain long in the business, for, after the death of Mr. Collins in March, 1895, being unwilling to assume the entire responsibility of the large business, he sold out to the Wilbur Lumber Company, which again assumed control of the Freeport yards and which has since continued to operate them. Mr. William M. Sanford, formerly book-keeper for Sanford & Rowell, was retained by the present company, and is now manager of the company's interests in this city. The Wilbur Lumber Company is probably one of the best known lumber firms in the west. Their interests extend throughout a vast extent of territory, where they maintain large yards and where they own vast tracts of valuable timber land. They are heavily interested in valuable cypress lands and control rich tracts of southern pine and oak, and are owners of large pineries in Wisconsin and Minnesota. They maintain an extensive retail trade and their local yards are replete with the products of their forests.

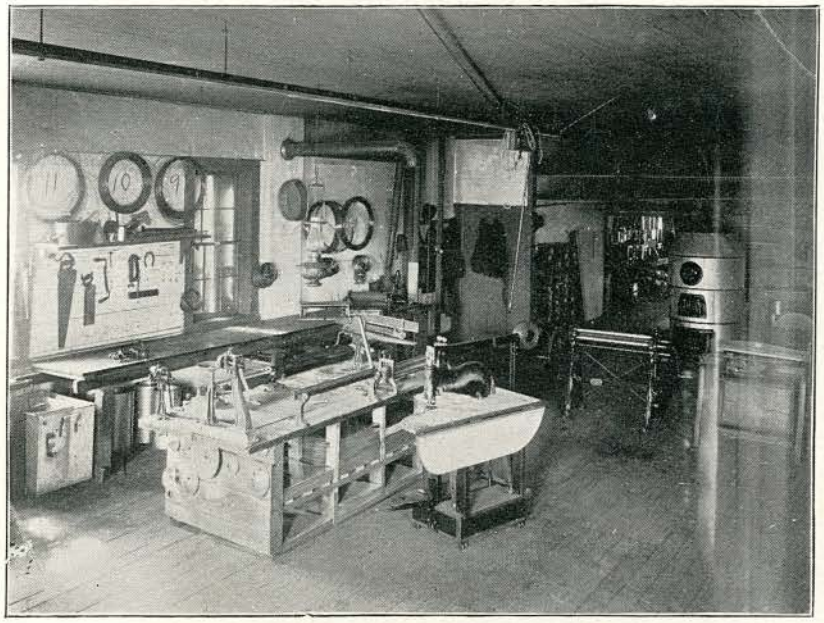
Hackett & Philhower.

This enterprising firm owns one of the most complete hardware stores to be found in Northern Illinois. They occupy the entire space in the handsome three story building known as No. 119 Stephenson street, and carry a large stock of goods. Their stock is well arranged and the goods are all new and of the best grades. Their tinner's department is operated by skilled mechanics, and in this line of work they do not fear competition. While the firm has been in business in Freeport but a short time, they have already built up a large trade which is increasing in volume every day. They handle only first-class goods and are satisfied with a reasonable profit. Their store always looks attractive and their clerks are polite and accommodating. Mr. Hackett, the senior member of the firm, was reared on a farm near Forreston, and for several years he represented



INTERIOR VIEW OF HACKETT & PHILHOWER'S STORE.

his town on the Ogle county board of supervisors and made a splendid record in that capacity. He was in business in Lanark for several years and came to Freeport three years ago and purchased a half interest in the hardware store then conducted by Mr. Coffey, and later Mr. Philhower, of Forreston, purchased Mr. Coffey's interest and the firm name was changed to Hackett & Philhower. The latter gentleman has been numbered among Forreston's most successful business men for many years and is thoroughly familiar with all branches of the hardware trade. He is noted for his enterprise and has aided materially in the upbuilding of Forreston. Both members of the firm are successful and honor-



HACKETT & PHILHOWER'S TIN SHOP.

able business men and they are in every way worthy of the esteem in which they are held by the people of Freeport, and we are glad to know that they are rapidly building up a large trade in Freeport and vicinity.

Edward Wagner & Bro.

These young men have established a reputation for enterprising business ability and honorable dealing. Both are natives of Freeport, having been born here and educated in the public schools. They are thoroughly familiar with the furniture and undertaking business, which they now conduct so successfully, for they were brought up in the trade. Their father, Mr. J. Wagner, established a large furniture and undertaking business in Waverly, Iowa, in 1864, and for eighteen years conducted it successfully and prosperously, becoming well known and respected, both as a merchant and citizen. In 1882 he sold out his business in Waverly and removed to Freeport, where he established the present business. He died in 1884, leaving the business temporarily in the hands of Mrs. J. Wagner, his widow, who still survives him. The young men, Edward Wagner and William Wagner, then purchased the stock

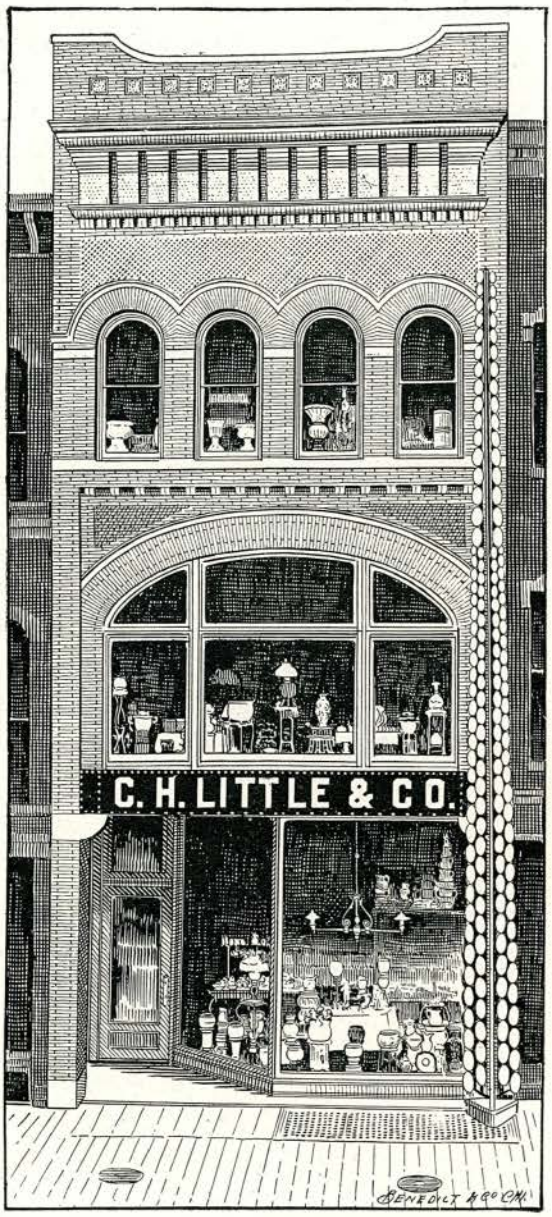


EDWARD WAGNER & BRO'S STORE.

from their mother and organized the firm of Edward Wagner & Bro. Under their skillful and conservative management the business has steadily grown and prospered. The building occupied by the firm is one of the most commodious and attractive on Galena street. It is 21 feet front by 110 deep, four stories high, and filled from cellar to roof with the finest and best grades of house furniture in every department. Messrs. Wagner are well known and highly respected in the social circles of Freeport.

C. H. Little & Co.

While Freeport does not claim to be the seat and centre of art, yet it is safe to say that no city of its size can be found whose homes are adorned in better taste and with more evidences of culture and refinement than the houses of this city. One thing



C. H. LITTLE & CO'S STORE.

that has rendered such a state of things possible is the fact that there has existed in this city for many years the well known firm whose name heads this article.

The business was established in 1859 by Mr. C. H. Little, at No. 71 Stephenson street, where it remained until 1867, when the store was removed to its present quarters, Nos. 74 and 76 Stephenson St. About this time Mr. C. H. Becker and Mr. F. J. Kunz were admitted as partners in the rapidly increasing business, and the firm has since been known as C. H. Little & Co. Mr. Becker has been since his fifteenth year associated with Mr. Little, and consequently is a thorough master of every detail of the business. Mr. Kunz is one of our most popular and progressive German-American citizens, and numbers many friends both in this and adjoining counties.

The firm are dealers in china, glass and queensware and rare art goods, and their large store rooms are filled from cellar to garret with a stock that would be a credit to any city. Their art department is especially noted for the choice and valuable stock it contains, and is a feature that our people refer to with commendable pride when showing strangers about the city.

They carry an extensive line of table ware, cutlery, rare cut glass in endless variety, children's toys, baby carriages, and are also the largest dealers in sewer pipe in the west, supplying a vast territory in this line from their Freeport house.

C. H. Little & Co. do not confine themselves alone to this city, but have a large wholesale store in Dubuque, Iowa, known as C. H. Little, Bruce & Co., which is under the personal management of Mr. C. H. Becker. This is one of the most extensive wholesale crockery houses in the west, and it enjoys a large and profitable trade.

Mr. Little, to whose tact and good business judgment is due in large measure the success and commercial standing of both the above firms, has been a resident of Freeport since 1856. By honorable business dealings with our people during all these years, he has won their entire confidence and esteem, and to-day he ranks as one of our most conservative and reliable business men.

John R. Rosebrugh,

proprietor of the Palace Livery Stables, enjoys a degree of popularity which only excellent business ability, administered with a genial and discriminating friendship, can produce. He is a native of Groveland, Livingston County, N. Y., being born in that beautiful portion of the Empire State January 5, 1829. When a young lad he was permitted the advantages of a district school education, when his services were not required at home, and later he induced his parents to allow him to take a course in the Temple Hill Academy at Geneseo, N. Y., where he fitted himself for future labor as a teacher. At the age of eighteen years he was engaged by Hon.

Charles H. Carroll, then United States Senator, to take charge of a school, which he taught for one winter. In 1848 he removed to Tecumseh, Mich., where he spent two years as instructor in the Brownville School, after which he taught for a year in a private school conducted by Prof. Joseph Estabrook. In 1852 he entered a store as clerk, and remained in that capacity until he removed to Freeport, four years later.

Immediately after arriving in this city he accepted a situation as cashier of this division of the I. C. R. R. and of the Galena & Chicago Union Railway Company, which position he filled with marked ability for a year, when he was made freight and passenger agent for the I. C. R. R., and remained as such until 1865. In 1860 he became a member of Excelsior Lodge of Masons. From 1865 until 1888 he resided alternately in Chicago, Ann Arbor, Mich., and Freeport, returning in that year to the latter city, where he purchased the Palace Livery Stables, which he still conducts.

The Palace Livery Stables occupy a large and handsome brick building, 60 x 120, on the corner of Galena and Chicago streets. A large number of draught and road horses, and carriages of every description, are constantly kept on hand, and Mr. Rosebrugh is able to supply every demand, from a single roadster to the most stylish coach and four.

Mr. Rosebrugh is a man whom it is a pleasure to meet. He is always pleasant and agreeable, and his ready wit and gentlemanly courtesy have made him the most social of companions, and his integrity and business ability have rendered him one of the most trustworthy and reliable of Freeport's citizens.



THE PALACE LIVERY.

Huenkemeier & Schwarze.

The grocery firm of Huenkemeier & Schwarze needs no introduction to the people of Freeport. For a period of nearly thirty years the business has been conducted on the same conservative and reliable plan as now. In 1867 the firm which established the business was composed of Steffen & Huenkemeier, who laid the foundation for the reputation which the house has since retained for upright dealing and close adherence to strict business principles. Subsequently Mr. Steffen retired from the firm, and Mr. Huenkemeier continued the business as sole proprietor. In 1880 Mr. A. C. Schwarze became associated in the business under the firm name of Huenkemeier & Schwarze. This firm conducted the business for over ten years, during which the trade very largely increased and the house continued to grow in popular favor. In 1891 Mr. H. A. Huenkemeier succeeded A. F. Huenkemeier, the firm name remaining as before and since. The premises occupied by the firm at No. 165 Stephenson street are large and spacious and well stocked with a choice assortment of every class of goods known to the trade. A competent staff of clerks is employed, who are ready at all times to give prompt

and polite attention to customers, whether poor or rich, and all are treated alike. The members of the firm are energetic and enterprising business men, who are always ready to accommodate their patrons in every way consistent with rigid business rules.

A. Vernon Hart.

The handsome jewelry establishment of A. Vernon Hart, located at 98 Stephenson street, was established three years ago. Mr. Hart has in that fixtures and interior fittings are of solid cherry wood, while the show and wall cases are of the finest French plate glass. Over fifty incandescent lights, artistically arranged, furnish the illumination at this establishment, which will compare favorably with any jewelry store in the largest eastern cities.

Mr. Hart is a practical watchmaker and jeweler of thirteen years' experience. He is a native of this city, his parents having been among the earliest settlers of Freeport. Mr. Hart, through his upright



INTERIOR VIEW OF A. VERNON HART'S JEWELRY STORE.

comparatively short period worked up to the very top and foremost ranks in his line of business. Mr. Hart's success in business dates from the very beginning. He is a pleasant, agreeable and accomplished gentleman, with liberal ideas and legitimate methods in conducting his establishment. Besides being a jeweler and watchmaker of ability, Mr. Hart is also a very successful optician, having graduated with distinction from the Cleveland Opthalmic college. His store, which is 20 x 75 feet in dimension, is very attractive and elegantly fitted up. All the and honorable business methods, has gained the thorough confidence of his customers.

M. L. Parker.

Among the sanitary engineers and steam fitters of Freeport none stands higher in the profession than M. L. Parker. His knowledge of practical plumbing, and his thorough understanding of the best methods of heating and ventilation, have won a well merited recognition throughout the entire city, and the calls for his services whenever any building of importance

is erected are proofs of the confidence which the public is at all times ready to place in his skill.

Mr. Parker is a native of Dubuque, Iowa, where he was born Aug. 20, 1862. He attended the public schools as a boy and when still a youth went to Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where he engaged in the plumbing business. After coming to Freeport he bought the plumbing stock of the Freeport Water Company, and later on the plumbing and heating stock of the Bartlett Hardware Company, and at present is occupying a building at 141 Galena street. Here he carries on a general supply house for both water and steam fitting and for house heating and all forms of sanitary plumbing. Mr. Parker's methods of work are modern and the materials used are all of the very finest and best quality. He has met with unusual and gratifying success and his business relations in this city have been most harmonious.

Mr. Parker is a member of the Knights of Pythias and is a pleasant and agreeable gentleman, held in high esteem by all who know him and enjoys an ever widening circle of friends.



M. L. PARKER'S STORE.

George Schmidt.

Mr. Schmidt is a native of Germany, where he was born December 15, 1841. After receiving a careful education in the very excellent schools of his native country, he began to learn his trade at the age of fifteen years. Having acquired a thorough knowledge of his trade and attained the years of manhood, he came to the United States, and in 1869 located in Freeport. His skill and industrious habits soon found him remunerative employment in the leading tailoring establishments of the growing city. After thus becoming acquainted with the customs and wants of the people here, he opened a merchant tailoring establishment on Chicago street in 1885, where his excellent work soon secured him a large patronage. His business has constantly increased since that time, and early in the spring of the present year he found it necessary to obtain larger quarters and more room for his extensive trade. He now occupies the entire second floor at No. 76 Stephenson street, where he has a finely selected stock of goods from which he makes the most

fashionable garments at moderate prices. Mr. Schmidt employs from ten to twelve skilled workmen and all his work is done on his own premises and under his direct supervision. Besides devoting strict attention to business, Mr. Schmidt is a public spirited citizen and takes a deep interest in whatever concerns the moral or social welfare of the city. He is a member of Embury M. E. Church and the Y. M. C. A.

As a citizen Mr. Schmidt stands very high; among the members of his profession he has few equals. He is energetic, active and progressive, and enjoys the entire confidence of all with whom his business interests associate him.



THEO. JANSSEN'S STORE.

Theo. Janssen.

Theo. Janssen was born in Freeport March 1, 1862, and has resided here ever since. He received a liberal education in the public schools of this city and then entered the store of his father, where he received the training which prepared him for a future of successful business life. His father, Herman Janssen, Sr., was a native of Germany and one of Freeport's early settlers. In 1860 he established the business which his son now conducts, and made a specialty of fine decorative work, dealing also in all the materials pertaining thereto.

On the 1st of January, 1884, the business was reorganized, Mr. Janssen, Sr., retiring and his son Theodore assuming control, since which time a large and enviable trade has been built up.

Mr. Janssen occupies a commodious two-story brick building 40 x 80 on Galena street, and carries a large and well assorted supply of materials, from the simplest whitewash to the rarest and most delicate tints of the artist. He has made a specialty of fine sign writing and interior decoration and has attained a degree of success most gratifying to himself and his patrons. He employs a large force of skilled workmen and endeavors to give every contract his personal supervision.

Mr. Janssen has entered the Masonic fraternity and has served it in many roles of distinction. He is Past Junior Warden of Excelsior Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Past Grand of Stephenson Lodge, Odd Fellows; Representative to Odd Fellows' Grand Lodge, and Deputy Grand Master of Stephenson Lodge, No. 61. He owns a pleasantly situated residence on North Galena avenue and has won hosts of friends, who esteem him both for his merits as a business man and for his genial companionship.

Smith & Thomas.

To this firm of contractors and builders perhaps more than to any other Freeport owes most of its handsomest and most substantial structures. They make a specialty of private residences and business blocks, and have acquired a splendid reputation. The firm was originally established in 1880 by Robert Smith and B. F. Thomas, both energetic and thorough business men, and experts in every department of the business which they represent, and both long residents of this city. They devote particular attention to fine residences, of which they have erected many in Freeport and the surrounding towns and cities. They employ from thirty to forty men during the busy season, and will allow none but skilled workmen to engage on their contracts. Their patrons are the leading business men and capitalists of the city. Among the fine buildings erected by them during the past six years may be mentioned the Blust, Harter, Koenig and Scheidt blocks, and the residences of Henry Baier, Dr. J. F. Fair, T. D. Hewitt, Dr. Hilton, John Burrell, Mrs. Chamberlin, Wm. Hance, John Hea, C. H. Seeley, Alfred Frueh, Dr. Caldwell, B. F. Brun, Miss Wentz, Otto Schulte, S. Schultz, Dr. Voigt, S. B. McCall, Louis Dickes, H. F. Hanke, F. J. Kunz, J. Ellis, F. Steffen, Albert Wagner, Otto Wagner, Fred Wagner, T. Engle and many others.



SCHAUB & DICKES BUILDING.

The firm has established a reputation for doing honest labor, and their figures are always as low as substantial work and fine finish will admit. Their work is handsome, durable and substantial, and no firm in the city is better entitled to the patronage and confidence of the people than they.

J. M. Hineline.

The handsome residences and substantial business blocks which grace the streets of Freeport are monuments to the ability of our local contractors. Very few, if any, of the buildings in Freeport were erected by outside contractors. This city has always boasted of good carpenters and builders, and none of them enjoy a better reputation than does J. M. Hineline, who has his office on Van Buren street, a block north of the post office. Many of the most handsome dwellings erected in Freeport during the past ten years were put up by this gentleman, and while still young in years he is considered a veteran in the business. He was born in this city and learned the carpenter trade under his father, who is a builder and designer of forty years' experience, but is now well advanced in years, although he still assists his son. He gave up active business ten years ago and his son took his place, and ever since he has conducted the business most successfully. He is a practical workman and employs none but skilled mechanics and his work always gives good satisfaction. Frequently he has been given contracts when he was not the lowest bidder, simply because the parties who had the contract to let had confidence in him and felt satisfied that it would pay in the end to give Mr. Hineline the contract. Much of his work he has secured without bidding on it, because his reputation for honesty and fair dealing is so well established that those who know him best are satisfied that he will do the work as cheaply as he possibly can, whether he has competition or not. Mr. Hineline erected the Nieman-Dreyer building, the Janssen building, the Metz-Schauer building and several other of our business blocks. Among the fine residences that he put up might be mentioned those of Hon. Wm. O. Wright, Hon. C. J. Fry, Dr. Stealy, Dr. Mease, H. H. Antrim, Henry Dorman, several for Wm. Walton, and in fact there is hardly a street in the city that has not been improved by his work. Mr. Hineline is not only a splendid builder but he can, when required, furnish the plans and specifications. He takes a pardonable pride in his work and always carries out his part of the contract to the letter.



J. M. HINELINE'S SHOP.

Mr. Hineline has spent all the years of his life in Freeport. He was married fourteen years ago to Miss Susie Sherman, and they have a comfortable home on North Galena Avenue.

J. W. Tate.

Many of the finest structures in Freeport and the surrounding cities are the result of plans prepared by architect J. W. Tate. Mr. Tate was born at Sydensburg, N. Y., in June, 1853, and after completing his common school education entered the Polytechnic Institute of Troy, in his native state. There he graduated in due time in the department of architecture and civil engineering. He subsequently went to New York City, where he continued his studies in architecture, and later studied under

the best architects in Philadelphia and Chicago. He then returned to his native city and served as city engineer of Ogdensburg during 1887 and 1888, and there he first embarked in the bussiness of his profession.

In 1889 he came west and established an architect's office in St. Joe, Missouri. In May, 1894, he came to Freeport, and soon became known as architect of many of the leading building enterprises of the city.

Since coming here he has made plans for upwards of twenty-seven private residences, among them being those of J. H. Edwards, P. R. Thompson, H. H. Antrim, A. Frueh, J. M. Hilton, W. Bennethum, J. E. Adamson, C. H. Seeley, Dr. Fair, Robert Luecke, A. E. Hanke; also St. Pius Hall, Trinity Church, Evangelical Tabernacle and Hotel, besides numerous other buildings. His services have also been in demand by the building trade in many of the neighboring cities. He has also made plans for residences at Polo, Ill., and also at Argyle, Blanchardville, Gratiot and Madison, Wis.

A. H. Tempel.

In reviewing the industries and commercial enterprises of Freeport, it is with pleasure that we give



a sketch of one of the most popular and well patronized business houses of this city. We refer to the furniture and undertaking establishment of Mr. A. H. Tempel, at 167 Stephenson street. He occupies the first floor and basement, each floor being 20 x 85 feet in dimensions. The entire establishment is stocked with one of the largest and finest selections of furniture to be found in the city. The stock carried embraces all the different grades of furniture to be found in a first-class establishment, comprising bedroom and parlor sets in all varieties of wood, lounges, rockers, dining and extension tables, wardrobes, mirrors, cabinets, settees, kitchen furniture, etc. The prices quoted at this establishment are at such reasonable figures as to be within the range of everybody's means. A specialty is made of undertaking and embalming, and a full variety of coffins, caskets and other funeral accessories is carried. In this connection it is worthy of note that Mr. Tempel owns one of the most elegant funeral cars in the state, made expressly to order for him. He has been established nearly three years for himself, but has had practical experience in the business for over thirty years. Mr. Tempel came to Freeport with his parents forty-three years ago, and has been a resident of the city since he was ten years of age. He is a cabinet maker by trade, and is thoroughly conversant with every detail of the furniture and undertaking business.

The Dodge Co.

It is the purpose of this company to supply a clean, pure, wholesome milk, as free from elements as human science and care can make it, and to offer to consumers an article superior in these particulars to any which has ever before been brought to the Freeport markets.

The company has spared no pains in finding the best kept dairies in the vicinity of Freeport, and has arranged with these for its supply of milk, and all milk is subject to chemical test to ascertain its purity and quality. This process removes from the milk all foreign matter and germs, after which it is sterilized and bottled. The milk when thus purified is guaranteed to contain not less than four per cent. butter fat, and is sold at the popular price of 5 cents per quart. Cream, 20 cents per quart.

The company also manufactures its own butter, from cream subject to the same purifying process, which produces an excellent quality of high grade butter, and is sold at the lowest market price.

The company's depot is located at No. 11 South Galena Avenue, where all interested are cordially invited to call.



The Freeport Insurance Company was organized in 1865, at a meeting held in the office of Dr. Geo. P. Kingsley, who with Messrs. A. H. Stone, A. M. Lawver, J. M. Bailey, S. D. Atkins and Dr. N. F. Prentice, formed the first Board of Directors. At this meeting A. H. Stone was elected President; Geo. P. Kingsley, Vice President and Treasurer, and A. M. Lawver, Secretary. But little business was transacted at the outset, the main object of the organization being apparently to preserve the charter and wait for something to turn up. They did not have long to wait. In June, 1866, a number of our prominent Germans, among whom were Richard Meyer, Wm. Massenberg, Louis Ahsendorf and D. Kuehner, evidently on the outlook for something good, obtained possession of the charter. The original directors and officers resigned, and thus was brought into the field what is now THE GERMAN INSURANCE COMPANY OF FREEPORT, an institution known throughout the length and breadth of the land, and carrying on its business from Ohio to Colorado and from Minnesota to Texas. At the time of the organization of this company, Freeport was the home of not less than thirteen insurance companies. So well known had the city become as a headquarters for such institutions that it was commonly dubbed the Hartford of the West. Owing to this a spirit of jealousy soon manifested itself, it being claimed that the use of the name, Freeport Insurance Company, was an infringement or calculated to secure some advantage, and after considerable wrangling the directors finally concluded to change the name, and having successfully petitioned the Legislature, then in session, on March 4, 1867, the name of the company was changed to The German Insurance Company of Freeport. The success of the company soon manifested itself. Safe, conservative, prompt, was adopted as its motto. On that line it commenced and has proceeded ever since. One by one its early home competitors fell by the wayside, until it alone remained, and remains a shining example of what careful and economical management can accomplish. With true German thrift the affairs of the company have been managed. No sky-rocket effects are sought after. For the first twelve years the business of the company was confined to its own state. Year by year the business increased. From a 12 x 16 foot room, its first office, it graduated to an entire floor of 20 x 60 feet. Finding these quarters too small, and a favorable opportunity offering, the site of the present quarters, then occupied by a two story office building, 38 x 70 feet in size, was purchased, to which has since been added another story, besides two additions, each 13 x 20 and 20 x 60 feet in size. The company, now finding these accommodations inconvenient and inadequate, is considering the advisability of erecting an office building for its own use, to be 77 x 90 feet and

three stories high, with ample accommodations for all its requirements, which will unquestionably be erected next spring. For the first three or four years the secretary did all the work necessary at the home office. Then a cheap boy was added, then a clerk, and another, and another, until at the present time forty-three men and women are kept busily employed to handle the company's business at the home office.

In January, 1867, Mr. U. H. Sikkema was employed as general agent of the company. Mr. Sikkema is still in the company's employ, being its general agent for the department of Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Colorado, with headquarters at St. Louis.

This is but a sample of the manner in which its employes become attached and adhere to the company. This is no doubt due in large measure to the fact that but very few changes, except by death, have occurred in the Board of Directors and among its officers. The late M. Hettinger was elected a director on July 3rd, 1866, and president on July 13th, 1866, continuing in both positions, with exception of one year, until his death, in November, 1890.

Mr. C. O. Collmann was elected a director on April 8, 1866, serving as such continuously to the present time, for many years as treasurer, and as president since the death of Mr. Hettinger. The lamented Fred Gund was elected a director and secretary of the company on December 17, 1867, and ended his duties as such only by his death, in 1889. Mr. D. B. Schulte, the present treasurer, was among the first, his connection with the company, in the various capacities of stockholder, director and treasurer, dating from June 25, 1866. The vice president, Mr. Henry Baier, is likewise a veteran, and the secretary, Mr. Wm. Trembor, who succeeded Mr. Fred Gund, has been with the company in various capacities for seventeen years. In this connection we must not omit that old (and yet young in spirit) veteran Bernard Huenkemeier, who has not missed a directors' meeting, except on account of illness, since July 9, 1866. It is this sticking together, this spirit of unity and harmony pervading all its proceedings, that has made the German what it is, a company with an incomparable record and a reputation for prompt, honorable dealing that has made it known and considered as one of the strongest institutions of its kind in our land.

It is exceedingly interesting to look over the records of the proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors in the early years of the company's existence. They show evidence of extreme care and economy; such economy, however, as laid the basis of its present prosperity. The same economical methods, though of course in different degree, owing to the more extensive business and advanced position now enjoyed, still prevails, and it is this which adds to its resources year by year and has builded this grand structure.

We find, under date of September 3, 1866, that the front room in the second story of B. Huenkemeier's building was rented for an office at $5.00 per month. Again on September 10, 1866, the secretary was, by resolution of the Board of Directors, instructed to have a sign board made, and October 1, 1866, must have been a red letter day, as the Board of Directors met in the office of the company, the aforesaid room, all meetings having previously been held and business transacted at the home of Mr. Richard Meyer, the secretary. It remained for January 7, 1868, however, to cap the climax, a carpet for the office being ordered on that day. These are but items to show from what small beginnings such a marvelous growth has been evolved, and to this care for the material interests of the company, which is continued to the present day, do the policy holders owe their security and guarantee that their interests are safe with this company. A loss by fire in those days was a matter of moment. The officers consulted and finally the Board of Directors was called together, and we find on December 1, 1868, the board directed that the loss of A. Rothfuss, of Decatur, Illinois, amounting to $550.00, be paid. To-day, through its corps of twenty-four general agents and adjusters in the fourteen states in which the company is operating, over $60,000.00 is paid out for losses each month. At that time the secretary in that office aforesaid wrote all the policies issued by the company, from six to eight per day. To-day 2700 agents write 10,000 policies each month, and the aggregate gross income of the company is a million and a half dollars per annum.

The last statement of the condition of the company, made on July 1, 1896, shows assets amounting to $3,090,239.85, nearly all of which is interest bearing mortgages on real estate and bonds.

Its officers are: C. O. Collmann, President; Henry Baier, Vice President; Wm. Trembor, Secretary, and D. B. Schulte, Treasurer.

The directors in addition to the above are, A. Bergman, Geo. W. Collmann, John Erfert, John Fosha, M. Hettinger, J. G. Hettinger, B. Huenkemeier, H. J. Moogk, O. L. Schulte, A. Volkers and W. H. Wagner.



Seven years ago there was organized in Freeport an association whose primary object was the social, moral and pecuniary benefit of its members, by their common labors, and whose secondary consideration was the cultivation of a true allegiance to the United States in which they lived. The organization, conceived, formulated and projected into the fraternal world by Dr. Wm. W. Krape, began life in an humble way on the 28th of August, 1889. The names of four charter members: W. W. Krape, I. G. Wise, H. W. Bolender and A. H. Wheat, were on that day subscribed to the constitution, and under the fosterage of Dr. W. W. Krape, the author and founder, the Order was christened the Knights of the Globe.

The title was comprehensive, but the founder, with an admirable foresight into the future, felt confident that a world-wide membership would at no distant day justify its claim to comprehensibility, and render it literally a body whose dominion of influence and power should be the globe itself.



KNIGHTS OF THE GLOBE STREET PARADE.

The past seven years have indicated for the Order a future rich in prosperity beyond the most sanguine expectations of its promulgators, or the most daring dreams of its creator. The Order owes its success to its own inherent merits, and to the broad foundations laid deep and secure by its author.

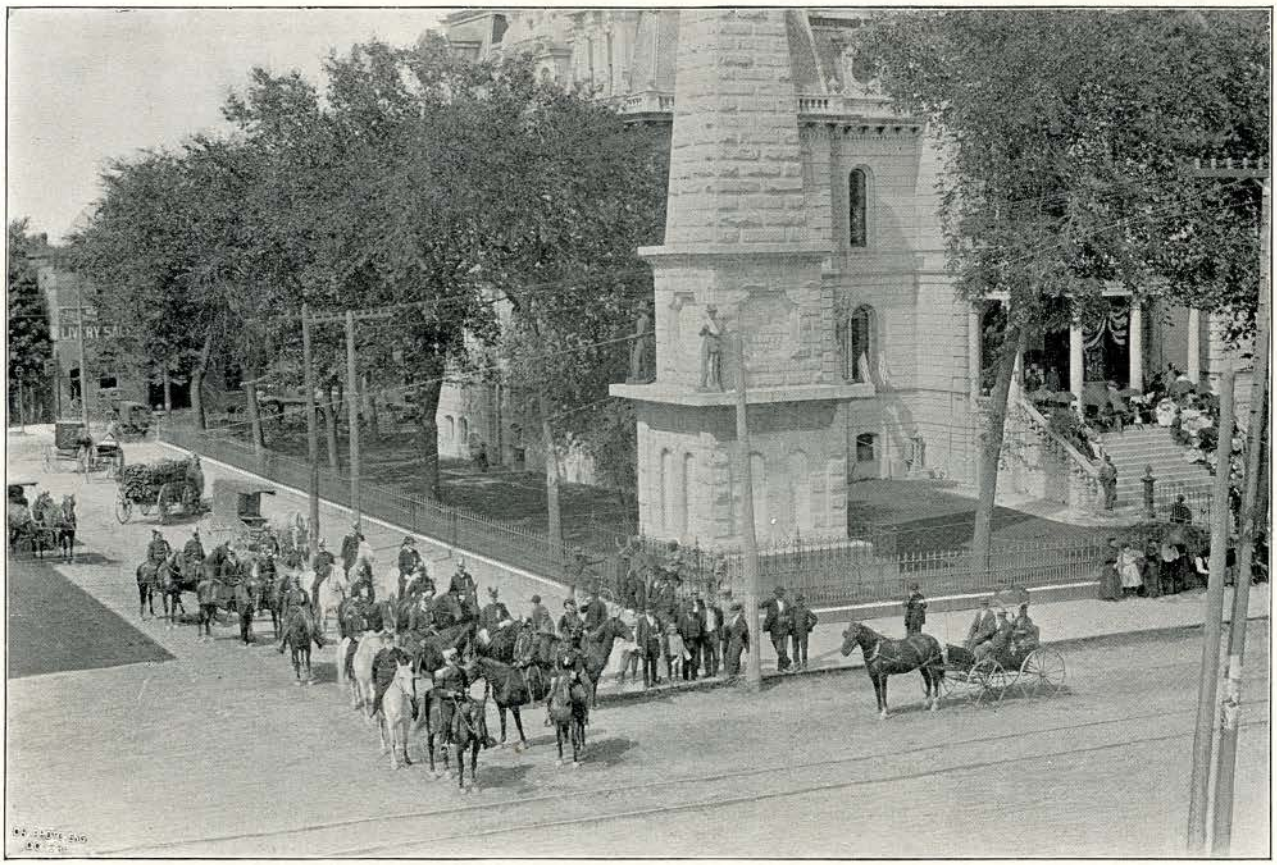
Although young in years, its character and aims place it in the front rank of such societies, and entitle it to the prominent place it occupies among organizations of a much greater age. Its objects—the goal toward which it tends—are three:

1. To preserve and strengthen kind and fraternal feelings which bind together those who are selected as members.

2. To select none for members except those who have an established reputation in the community in

tain General; I. G. Wise, Adjutant General, and H. W. Bolender, Quartermaster General.

On the 25th of March, 1890, the first subordinate body of the Order was established in the city of Freeport. It was called the George Washington Garrison, No. 1, and was organized with a membership of eighty persons. This number has since steadily grown until at the seventh anniversary of the Order, held at Freeport Aug. 28, 1896, it was found that the total membership was over 9,000. This membership



SUPREME CAPTAIN GENERAL W. W. KRAPE AND STAFF.

which they live for strict morality, honesty, loyalty, economy and industrious habits.

3. To cultivate a true allegiance to the United States of America, based upon paramount respect for the fidelity to the National constitution and laws; to discountenance any and everything that is disloyal, and to encourage the spread of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to every human being under the canopy of heaven.

When the author and founder of the Order organized the Supreme Council of the Knights of the Globe, April 28, 1889, its officers were designated in the following order: W. W. Krape, Supreme Cap-

comprises none but those of the highest intellectual and moral attainments. The Order exercises the most rigid scrutiny and scrupulous care in the selection of its members and none but those most eminently qualified are permitted to enter its ranks. The Order advocates the principles of Obedience, Honesty and Loyalty, and encourages free thought, free speech, and justice and equal rights to all without discrimination. One of its most commendable features, and one not to be found elsewhere, is its system of promotion. The humblest member by diligence and labor can, if he possess the requisite ability, reach the highest honor in the Order, being

promoted gradually, on his own merits and endeavors only, until he attains the rank of Captain General, and becomes a member of the highest body in the Order—the Supreme Council. There is but one road to travel in order to reach this goal, and it is open to rich and poor alike.

Dr. W. W. Krape.

Dr. W. W. Krape, the author and founder of the Knights of the Globe, is a man of great capabilities and indefatigable energy. He has fought his way from a poor boy to the position of responsibility which he now holds by dint of hard labor and incessant study, prompted and impelled by lofty ambitions and a desire to attain the heights where there is always room. He was born in a little log hut in this county on April 11, 1847. The foundation of his education was laid in a district school near his father's farm. When 16 years of age he enlisted as a private in Co. A, 46th Ill. Vet. Vol., where he served until the war closed. He then entered the University of Wisconsin and for several years attended the university and taught district schools. When 26 years of age he entered the profession of dentistry and practiced it successfully for several years.



DR. W. W. KRAPE.

He early became affiliated with numerous fraternal orders and soon began to make a profound study of secret societies. After searching investigation and careful study he concluded that imperfection existed to some extent in all of them, and that none of them struck at the root of what the present high state of civilization required. Accordingly he set to work to correct this neglect by formulating a new order to be adapted to the present needs of our citizens at large, and after nine long years of research and hard study presented to the world the results of his labors in the Order of the Knights of the Globe.

Dr. Krape is a gentleman of unimpeachable character, strict honor and integrity. He is thoroughly absorbed in the work to which he has devoted his best energies and most careful thought, and the results of his life of eminent service have redounded with great honor both to him and to the city in which he lives.

Union Loan and Building Association.

A well conducted loan and building association is a good thing for any community, if it is rightly managed, for it enables many poor people to gain homes of their own by paying monthly installments, and in this manner they pay for their homes in a few years without the expenditure of much more money than they have been in the habit of paying for rent. The Union Loan and Building Association is the pioneer association in Freeport and has prospered from the start. It was established June 1st, 1883, under the laws of the State, with a capital of one million dollars, and during the years of its existence it has paid fourteen series of matured stock, representing over $150,000. During these years it has also furnished money for the purchase, erection and improvement of over seven hundred homes. It now has five hundred stockholders, representing all classes of citizens, and the association has had a very prosperous career. It is ably managed and its directors and officers have always been selected from among our best known business men. The present board of directors consists of Messrs. A. K. Stibgen, J. H. Snyder, F. E. Schaefer, J. N. Galloway, H. D. Bentley, I. S. Zartman, Esrom Mayer, L. L. Munn and Capt. W. I. Brady. The officers are as follows: President, J. H. Snyder; vice president, A. K. Stibgen; secretary, Esrom Mayer; treasurer, J. H. Brockmeier. With this class of men at

the head of the association it is sure to prosper. It is conducted on conservative business principles and the hundreds of stockholders are well satisfied with their investment.

Any stockholder can borrow from the association nearly the full value of his shares by giving the same as security, and can repay the loan at any time. A new series of stock is issued in the months of December, March, June and September, upon which monthly payments of fifty cents per share can be made. Stated meetings for loans the third Monday of each month, at 7:30 p. m., at the Farmers and Merchants Bank, corner Stephenson and Chicago streets, and all dues are payable at the same place.

The Harlow Business College.

This well known and justly popular school of learning was established here in 1893 by the lady whose name it bears, Miss Cornelia Harlow, who is principal and business manager of the college, and a thorough teacher and business woman she has proven herself to be. Miss Harlow came here from Janesville, Wis., in 1893, and first started a school in a private house with only one pupil.

Her methods of individual instruction and close attention to business soon won the respect of our citizens, and at their solicitation she established The Harlow Business College at 111 Stephenson street, over Emmert & Burrell's drug store. These rooms are fitted up with handsome furniture, and here many of our most successful young men and women have received their business education. Many of the graduates are filling responsible positions here and elsewhere. During the three years and a half Miss Harlow has enjoyed the patronage of 150 families and has graduated over 200 students.

In connection with the college Miss Harlow conducts an actual business department. Here the students enter into actual business, buying and selling grain, potatoes and all kinds of produce with real Chicago firms. This college educates young men and women to be bankers, clerks, stenographers, typewriters, book-keepers, etc. Miss Harlow pays especial attention to the writing, spelling and grammar of the students who come under her charge, and for this reason, probably, the graduates are in greater demand than those from other colleges.

Another part of the college is the musical department in charge of Miss Harriette Coller. Miss Coller is organist and choir leader of Embury church, this city, a graduate of the Sioux Falls conservatory of music and a young lady fully competent to take charge of this department. Many pupils have made marked advancement under her teaching.

A night school is carried on, and many who are unable to attend during the day avail themselves of the opportunity to take up book-keeping, shorthand, typewriting and penmanship during the evening hours.

Miss Harlow was born in Wisconsin. She is a graduate from the high school and from the Normal school of that State and from the Chicago Business Teachers' Training school, where she has already received the title of B. A. and B. C. S. Before coming to Freeport she was court reporter for nearly three years, and held the position of stenographer, typewriter and book-keeper for Wm. Ruger, a prominent Janesville attorney, up to the time she came here. She is therefore well qualified to conduct a business college, as she has had the necessary training not only in colleges but in actual business life. The citizens of Freeport and the surrounding counties have shown their appreciation of this thorough business college by a very liberal patronage.

Miss Harlow comes from a family of noted people. Her uncle, George H. Harlow, was once quite prominent in Illinois politics and for several years he served as Secretary of State. Another uncle, Hon. John B. Harlow, is a member of the United States Civil Service Commission.

A Few of our Prominent Citizens.

L. L. Munn.

Loyal Levi Munn was born in the little village of Madrid, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., Sept. 1, 1829. His father, Abel Munn, was the son of the staunch old patriot, Daniel Munn, of Massachusetts,



LOYAL L. MUNN.

who, as captain under Ethan Allen, was the third man to enter Ticonderoga at the surrender of the English. His mother, Susannah Barnum, was descended from a proud old "Green Mountain" family, which breathed in a love of freedom and country in the pure air of the hills of Vermont.

The subject of this sketch received a common school education, and in 1846 removed to Freeport in order to join an elder brother, and was then occupied in working on a farm in summer and attending school in winter. In 1849 he had the advantage of attending for one year the sessions of a neighboring select school, after which he taught school in the northern part of Stephenson County for a few months. In 1850 he established himself in business in Freeport, and represented several New York insurance companies for the states of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Indiana. Three years later he organized the first insurance company in Freeport, called the Stephenson Insurance Company, of which he became secretary, continuing in that capacity until ill health compelled him to resign in 1865.

In 1866 he embarked in the dry goods business in partnership with his brother under the firm name of O. V. & L. L. Munn. He subsequently purchased his brother's interest, and in 1869 disposed of the whole stock. In 1871 he purchased a half interest in the Freeport Gas Light & Coke Company, and carried on that business until 1889, when he sold his interest to Mr. Farwell. In 1881 Mr. Munn was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Illinois, and filled that important office for twelve years. In 1893 he purchased a large interest in the Arcade Manufacturing Company, of which he is now the president. In 1862, becoming interested in real estate operations, he built the handsome building known as Munn's building. In 1857 he took an active part in the organization of the American Insurance Company, of which he became the president in 1867, and when in 1870 the company removed to Chicago, he continued to be one of its directors.

Mr. Munn united with the Masonic fraternity at an early age, being made a Master Mason in Excelsior Lodge No. 97, at Freeport, Oct. 27, 1853. He received the Capitular degrees in Freeport Chapter No. 23, being exalted therein June 27, 1856, and in

March, 1857, he was created a Knight Templar in Janesville Commandery No. 2, of Wisconsin. He united with the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in April, 1864, and June, 1870, was raised to the grade of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, or 33d degree. He has served in official stations all the time and in all places, and as Worshipful Master, High Priest, Thrice Illustrious Master, Eminent Commander and first officer of the respective bodies of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, he has been an able and efficient worker, and as Grand High Priest and Grand Commander he was a wise and skillful executive officer. As President of the Order of High Priesthood in Illinois, from 1867 to the present time, he stands unequaled as a dispenser of the beauties of that rank.

No citizen in Northern Illinois is more distinguished for his personal qualities and high moral worth than L. L. Munn. He is a man of great resources and unusual energy, and is widely and favorably known as an enterprising and indefatigable promoter of movements which have invariably met with success.

He was married in 1857 to Miss Lenora Lott, formerly a resident of Ogle County, Ill. In 1861 he was again married to Mary Louise Ladd–Hardy, of Haverhill, N. H.

Jacob Krohn.

Hon. Jacob Krohn was born in Prussia Feb. 22, 1832, of a race that has contributed much to the strength and solidity of our nation. In accordance with the laws and customs of his native country, he was placed in school at an early age and received an excellent education in his native tongue. At the age of 14 years he became apprenticed to a tobacconist, whom he served four years, evincing marked skill and business ability. Becoming dissatisfied with his condition and with the meagre prospects which his country held out to him, he determined to seek his fortune in the New World, and boarding a sailing vessel at the port of Hamburg set out for America, landing in New York in January, 1852, after a four months' voyage.

After a short period spent in the metropolis Mr. Krohn proceeded to Saugerties, in Ulster county, where he took up his residence and remained three years and then set out for the more desirable and wider fields of the West. He visited Freeport and resolved to make it his permanent abiding place. He at once established himself in the tobacco trade and began building up a profitable business, which finally assumed such proportions that he was enabled to command a snug fortune. His naturally energetic and progressive spirit, in conjunction with the genuine interest which he took in everything pertaining to the advancement of public welfare, commended him to the esteem and confidence of the people of Freeport, and he was soon recognized as one of its most enterprising citizens. His rare judg-



JACOB KROHN.

ment and fine executive ability enabled him to fill various public offices, and he was soon chosen alderman from the third ward and served four years. Later he was chosen a member of the Board of Supervisors, and soon afterwards was appointed a member of the building committee of the new county court house then under construction.

Mr. Krohn was twice elected alderman from the third ward and served two terms as mayor of the city. He served as a member of the Board of Education from 1878 to 1881, and was decidedly influential in securing a wise maintenance of the schools. He was a member of the Board when the present high school building was erected, and assisted in carrying to successful completion that enterprise so closely connected with the interests of the people.

Mr. Krohn early became interested in the bank-

ing business of Freeport, and in 1872 became one of the largest stockholders in the Second National Bank. In 1883 he was elected president of the bank, a position which he still continues to hold, to the entire satisfaction of all concerned.

At an early date Mr. Krohn became interested in Odd Fellowship in Illinois, and his name has been most prominently connected with that organization ever since. During his connection with the order he has officiated in every capacity where he could make himself useful, having at different times held almost every office in both lodge and encampment. In 1875 Mr. Krohn was elected Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment of Illinois, and the following year was elected to represent that body in the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the United States, but was unable to attend on account of pressing duties connected with his office as mayor of the city.

Mr. Krohn is equally prominent in Masonry. With this fraternity he also became connected while in Saugerties, becoming identified with Ulster Lodge No. 93, Feb. 7, 1855. In 1856, after coming to Freeport, he joined Excelsior Lodge No. 97. He is also a member of Freeport Chapter No. 23, R. A. M., and of Freeport Council and Freeport Consistory, and has held all the minor offices, besides that of presiding officer in Lodge, Chapter and Council. He has been treasurer of the Consistory for many years; also Deputy Grand Master for the Fifth Masonic District, and was also Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Illinois for one year. For many years Mr. Krohn was a director and member of the finance committee of the Covenant Mutual Benevolent Association, in the working of which he took an active part. He was also elected a trustee and vice president of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home, an institution which bids fair to be one of the shining ornaments of the fraternity, and which has already done a vast amount of good.

On March 22, 1857, Mr. Krohn was married to Miss Dora Fleischman, a native of Germany, with whom he lived happily for many years. Eight children were born to them, all of whom, with the exception of the youngest daughter, are married. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Krohn was married to Mrs. Feitler, of Cincinnati, Ohio, a lady of charming grace, culture and refinement.

Mr. Krohn is still an active, energetic man, deeply interested in the welfare of the city, and always first in any enterprise calculated to enhance its growth or prove to the good of its citizens.

Wm. O. Wright.

Foremost among the business men in Freeport is the Hon. Wm. O. Wright. He has been prominently identified with the business interests of this city for many years, and his father, the late O. H. Wright, was one of the first merchants of Freeport. Mr. Wright was born in this city Nov. 24, 1841, and has made his home here ever since. His early education was received in our public schools and completed at Beloit College and a college at Clinton, New York. After leaving school he learned the printer's

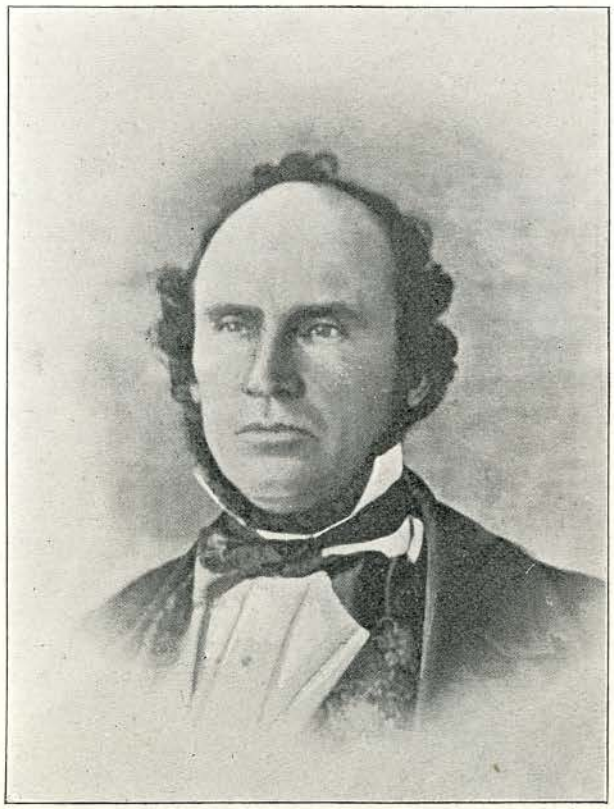


WM. O. WRIGHT.

trade and later started the *Northwest*, a paper which had a large circulation at the time Mr. Wright sold it to Mr. McCall, who converted it into a literary paper. Soon after the war broke out Mr. Wright, although still a mere boy, was anxious to go to the front, and went out with Col. Putnam's regiment and was given a position in the adjutant general's office under General Hurlbut. He also served in the transportation department for a time and had charge of all the boats that landed at Memphis. Several times while in charge of this department he was ordered to take supplies down the river to the troops in the field, and one of his special details was signed by General Grant.

When he returned home Mr. Wright accepted

a position in the office of the old Winnesheik Insurance Company, which was then doing a flourishing business here, and he arose to the position of treasurer of that company. In 1863 Mr. Wright formed a partnership with Joseph Cavanagh and embarked in the boot and shoe business. Soon afterwards they disposed of their stock and opened a wholesale leather store in the building on lower Stephenson Street now occupied by the Salvation Army. Here they built up a profitable trade amounting to about



O. H. WRIGHT.

$200,000 per year. They soon established another shoe store, which Wright & Co. have since conducted, and for the past seventeen years it has been in Fry's block. About ten years ago Mr. Wright disposed of his leather store and turned his attention to other lines of business.

In addition to his shoe business Mr. Wright conducts one of the largest and best clothing stores in the city. It is located at the corner of Stephenson and Chicago streets, known as the Stine corner, where a clothing store has been conducted for many years. Mr. Wright is also one of the directors and vice president of the First National Bank, and director and treasurer of the gas company.

Mr. Wright is well known in political circles throughout the state. In 1870 he was elected the member of the Democratic State Central Committee for this district, and with the exception of four years he held that position until the opening of the late presidential campaign, when he tendered his resignation because he was not in accord with his party on the money question. He was regarded as one of the most influential members of the committee and served most of the time as a member of the executive committee. He is a warm personal friend of both Senator Palmer and General Black, and during President Cleveland's administration very few appointments were made in this district without Mr. Wright's endorsement. He has never been an office seeker himself, but has been very persistent in securing offices for his friends. He has been frequently urged to stand as a candidate for office but always declined. In his younger days he served a term as alderman and also served several years as a member of the Board of Education, but that has been the extent of his office holding. He has always been a warm friend of the old soldiers and has assisted many of them in securing pensions. Mr. Wright is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to all the bodies of that order here, and is also a member of the Freeport Club, and an occasional game of billiards or pool at the club is about his only form of recreation,

Mr. Wright was married in 1864 to Miss Mary E. Humphrey, and he has four children living. He owns a model residence on upper Stephenson Street and takes great comfort in his home.

Dexter A. Knowlton.

One of Freeport's foremost citizens is Dexter A. Knowlton. He is a Freeporter by birth and takes a deep interest in the city and all that pertains to her welfare. His father was one of the pioneer settlers of Freeport. Few were here when he came, and no man among the early settlers did more to advance the interests of the then struggling village of Freeport. The son has followed closely in his father's footsteps, and since his maturity has been a man of influence in the community and a model for young men to follow. Mr. Knowlton was born August 26, 1843, and received his early education in the "Little Red School House" the early settlers talk so much about. He was afterwards sent to the Williams College, where he was graduated and was among the "honor men" of his class. After completing his education he returned to Freeport and entered his father's bank, and since his father's death has carried on the banking business in partnership with his

brother, Chas. D. Knowlton. Their bank is one of the oldest in the county and has withstood a great many financial storms. The firm does a conservative banking business and the bank has a high standing in commercial and business circles.

Mr. Knowlton has an honored career as a business man and stands high as a Christian gentleman. He is one of the oldest members of the First Presbyterian Church now living, and has been one of the



DEXTER A. KNOWLTON.

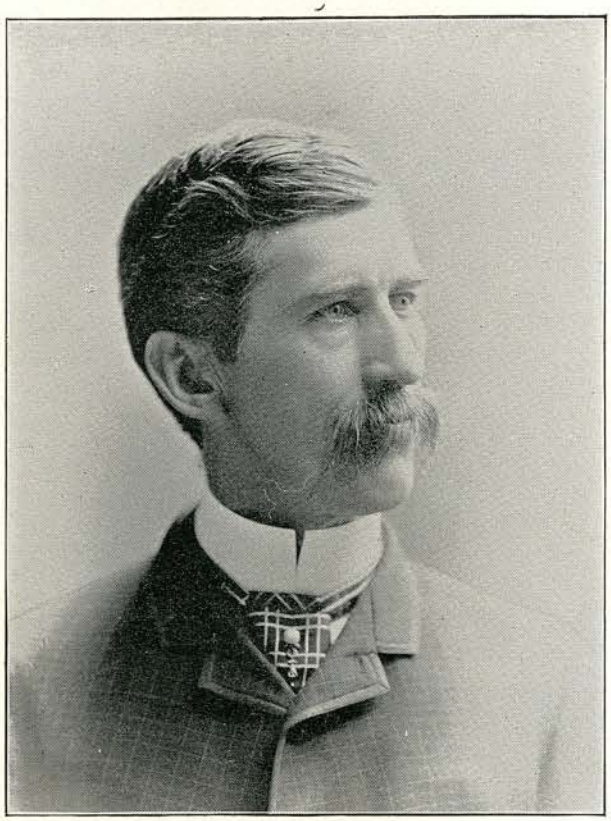
church officers for many years, and is also Superintendent of the Sunday School. Mr. Knowlton has been frequently selected as a delegate to attend important church conventions, both state and national. No man in Freeport takes a deeper interest in church work than does Mr. Knowlton. He has always been a staunch friend of the Y. M. C. A. and was largely instrumental in securing the erection of the present handsome structure owned by that association, and was one of the largest contributors to the fund.

For the past eighteen years Mr. Knowlton has been one of the trustees of Beloit College, and is the present treasurer of that institution. He is a man of literary tastes and devotes a good deal of his spare time to reading.

Mr. Knowlton was married in 1871 to Miss Mary L. Myers, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They reside in a handsome home on upper Stephenson Street and their family consists of six daughters.

Lalon Z. Farwell.

One of the most successful men in Freeport is L. Z. Farwell. He has been connected with, and has been at the head of a great many successful enterprises since he has been a resident of this city, and is rated as one of the wealthiest men in Stephenson county. He has a very high standing in business circles, and his judgment is rarely ever at fault. He has been uniformly successful in whatever he has undertaken, and has always met his obligations promptly. He has been a hard worker, and even now he by no means leads an idle life;



LALON Z. FARWELL.

and while he has freed himself from some of his business cares he still has plenty to occupy his mind.

Mr. Farwell is a native of Ohio. He had the advantages of a liberal education when he started in life, but was trained for a business career and early developed business ability which led to his rapid advancement.

Mr. Farwell came west with his parents in 1852, living on a farm until 1860, when he came to Free-

port. Soon after coming here he formed a partnership with O. B. Bidwell, the firm being Bidwell & Farwell, and they conducted a wholesale notion business all over the states of Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. In 1871 Mr. Farwell purchased his partner's interest, enlarging the business and conducting it alone with great success and doing the largest business ever done in this section, his sales running up to half a million of dollars per year. In 1885 he sold to a corporation and retired from this line of business.

For a number of years Mr. Farwell was proprietor of the gas works in this city, selling it to a stock company in 1895. He also established an electric light plant here and operated it very successfully until a few years ago, when he sold it to the Electric Street Car Co.

In 1879 Mr. Farwell organized a telephone company in Freeport and is still at the head of this enterprise. It is one of the most complete systems of telephones in the country and he has spent thousands of dollars to perfect it. The patrons of the company receive the best of service and Mr. Farwell takes pardonable pride in his splendid plant.

Mr. Farwell also owns stock in Freeport banks and other enterprises in this and other cities. He is one of the largest stockholders in the German Insurance Company. He has extensive interests in several of the best paying mines in Colorado, and in these, like all his other investments, he has exercised good judgment.

Mr. Farwell was married in 1867 to Miss Louise Aurand, who died in 1883. He has two children—Roy K., who is associated with his father in his business enterprises, and Miss Isabella B., who is at present in Paris, where she is completing her education. Mr. Farwell owns a splendid home on upper Stephenson street. He is passionately fond of flowers, growing them in great profusion both in garden and conservatory. He generously bestows them on his friends, and many a sick room has been brightened with a choice bouquet from his conservatory. At parties, weddings and other social gatherings he always shows his liberality in the decorations. Although a very busy man Mr. Farwell is socially inclined. He is a member of the Freeport Club and plays a fine game of either billiards or pool. He is fond of whist and is an expert player. He takes a keen interest in outdoor sports, and in his boyhood days was fond of baseball and was a member of the famous Freeport team which won glory in the days following the war. He is a good shot and has been for many years president of the Freeport Gun Club.

Mr. Farwell comes from a family of illustrious people; one of his brothers, Hon. S. S. Farwell, was for years a prominent member of congress from the state of Iowa. Another brother, the late M. A. Farwell, was a very successful business man of high standing in Chicago.

August Bergman.

August Bergman has long been one of Freeport's most highly respected citizens, both because of his progressive industry in business circles and because of the attentive regard which he has always taken



AUGUST BERGMAN.

in promoting her interests. He is a native of Germany, and was born in the village of Meinburg on the 27th of September, 1835. His father, Cort Bergman, died when August was but a lad of seven years, leaving a wife, Minnie, and her children in destitute circumstances. For seven years after his father's death August attended the public schools, and then, at the age of sixteen, set sail for America with his widowed mother. From New York they came directly to Freeport, arriving here in 1852. Young August at once assumed the responsibility of supporting the family, and secured work in a brick yard, where he labored for nearly eight years. In

the year 1864 he engaged in the livery business with Rufus Kirk, and three years later began to handle agricultural implements. With a limited capital of money, but with an unbounded supply of what is inestimably more valuable—perseverance, pluck and industry—he conducted this business on a small scale in a rude building in company with Henry and Frederick Dorman. The firm of Bergman & Dorman soon became known throughout the community, and its trade rapidly increased until the establishment became one of the largest in the Northwest.

Besides being a close and attentive business man Mr. Bergman has found time to answer the public's call for his services. In 1864 he was elected street commissioner, and later was chosen alderman, which office he creditably filled for six years. In 1878 he became one of the directors of the German Insurance Company, one of the most solid institutions in Freeport. In 1885 he was elected mayor of the city, and so satisfactorily did he discharge the duties attendant upon that office that he was chosen his own successor in 1887, and in 1892 was again called to the mayoralty.

Mr. Bergman was united in marriage April 12, 1864, to Miss Mary Scharer, a Maryland lady, and seven children have blessed the union, namely: August H , William, Mary, Minnie, Ida, Enna and Bertha.

During a residence of nearly forty-five years in Freeport, Mr. Bergman has identified himself with every step in the city's growth and progress. He has taken an active interest in each movement calculated to augment the public weal, and to that end has given liberally of his wealth and services. His excellent business abilities, his knowledge of the administration of finance, and his strict integrity in all matters, whether social, mercantile or political, have redounded greatly to his honor and have won him a degree of esteem and affection seldom attained by those starting in life under such meagre circumstances.

Peter Johnson Bentley.

Mr. Bentley was born in Reeth, Yorkshire, England, Feb. 13, 1811. After receiving an ordinary education in the Yorkshire schools he entered the wholesale warehouse of an uncle, Mr. Robert Bentley, dealer in silks, satins, ribbons and velvets, in Cheapside, London. Here he remained until his health became impaired. Physicians advised a change of place and occupation, and Mr. Bentley decided to go with his family to America, where four brothers had already preceded him.

In 1850, a younger brother, Rev. James Bentley, was sent by Bishop Chase to Freeport, Ill., where he established the first Episcopal church in the town. In this way Mr. Peter Bentley was attracted to Freeport. He soon decided to make it his future home, and in August, 1851, brought his family, a wife and three children, to the little village of Freeport. One week from the day of arrival Mr. Bentley bought from John S. Emmert the home on Stephenson street where he has since resided.



PETER J. BENTLEY.

With the exception of his brother James, Mr. Bentley's entire family were Wesleyan Methodists. On coming to Freeport he was soon identified with the First M. E. Church, and later on, as the population increased, he became one of the founders of the Embury M. E. Church, and one of its liberal supporters.

In his years of health and strength he was a man of ability, well informed and interested in all the vital questions of the day. In politics he is a staunch Republican.

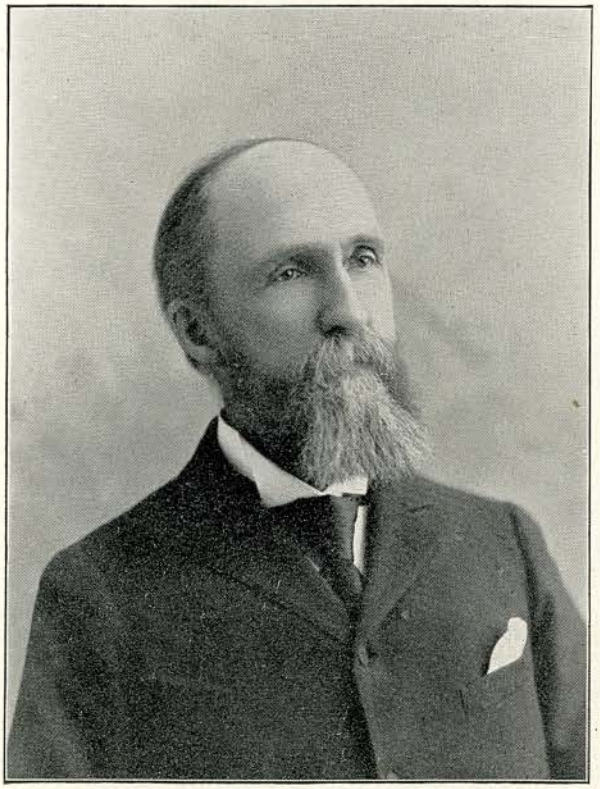
It may be truthfully said of Mr. Bentley, "He is

a good man—true to God, and just and honorable in all his dealings with his fellow men."

The old homestead on Stephenson street, with the First Methodist and First Presbyterian churches on either side, its fine setting of tall oaks in the background, and its wealth of lilac blooms in the spring-time, will long be remembered as one of the relics of early Freeport. Here, at the advanced age of eighty-five, Mr. Bentley still resides, surrounded in his declining years by the loving care and ministrations of wife and daughter, in the quietness and rest of home, at peace with God and man, thus verifying the promise, "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever."

R. W. Burton.

R. W. Burton, the subject of this sketch, was born in the state of Massachusetts, and received his primary education in the public schools of Cambridge. When he was nine years of age his parents emigrated to the west, settling in Kenosha County, Wis., where the lad was to grow up with the country. It was here he was introduced to the mysteries of the log school house and the quaint methods of the pedagogue of the backwoods. Until he was twenty-one years of age his annual schooling was limited to three months, the rest of the time being spent on the farm.



R. W. BURTON.

Upon reaching his majority, he found that by dint of hard work and close economy he had amassed a fortune of five hundred dollars, which he proposed to invest in an education. Bidding adieu to farm and friends, he at once became a pupil in the Kenosha High School.

He had been here but a few months when he was prevailed upon to take charge of a rural school a short distance from the village of Genoa, Wis. Having taught a term of three months, on the principle of "board around," he was urged to engage for a year longer. This proposition was declined, however, on the ground of its interfering with a long cherished plan of "going to college," and in the fall of '56 the country school master was numbered among the "preps" of Beloit College. Here he managed to maintain himself in school for four years, when by stress of circumstances he was forced to seek again the teachers' field.

In the autumn of 1860 he established a private school at Johnstown, Wis., which for two years was liberally patronized, proving a financial success, but suddenly in the spring of '61 the dogs of war broke loose and so thoroughly tore values out of his roll of bank bills as to make a return to college impossible.

In the winter of '61 and '62 he was elected principal of the Brodhead schools. Here his success was such as to warrant the board's engaging his services for the following year, but a belligerent spirit moved him to join the 12th Wis. Battery, recruited at Janesville in the summer of '62. Resigning his position as a teacher he was mustered as a soldier at Madison, and received his first experience of rebel fire at the battle of Iuka, Mississippi, Sept. 19th, 1862. To the close of the Civil War he shared the fortunes of this famous battery, participating in many of the most important battles in the history of the western army. At the battle of Altoona Pass he was slightly wounded, but preferred to remain with the army on its memorable march to the sea than to accept a furlough. In April, 1865, after the surrender of Lee and Johnson, he, with others of his company, was mustered out at Newbern, N. C.

Returning to civil life, in March, 1866, he married Miss Emma N. Wicks, of New York City, and settled at Irvington on the Hudson. Two years later the family moved west, and in September, 1868, Mr. Burton accepted the principalship of the grammar school at Monroe, Wis. In this field he

was ably assisted by Mrs. Burton. In less than a year he was made principal of the Monroe High School, his wife assuming charge of the grammar department.

In March, 1872, he resigned his duties in this very pleasant field to accept the superintendency of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home in Madison, a school established by Mrs. Gov. Harvey and maintained by the state, for the education of soldiers' orphans. In this new work Mrs. Burton proved an efficient aid, and as a result of their joint efforts the institution was greatly improved. Early in 1875, the limit of age having been reached by most of the children, the "Home" was discontinued by act of legislature, and its superintendent proceeded to close its affairs.

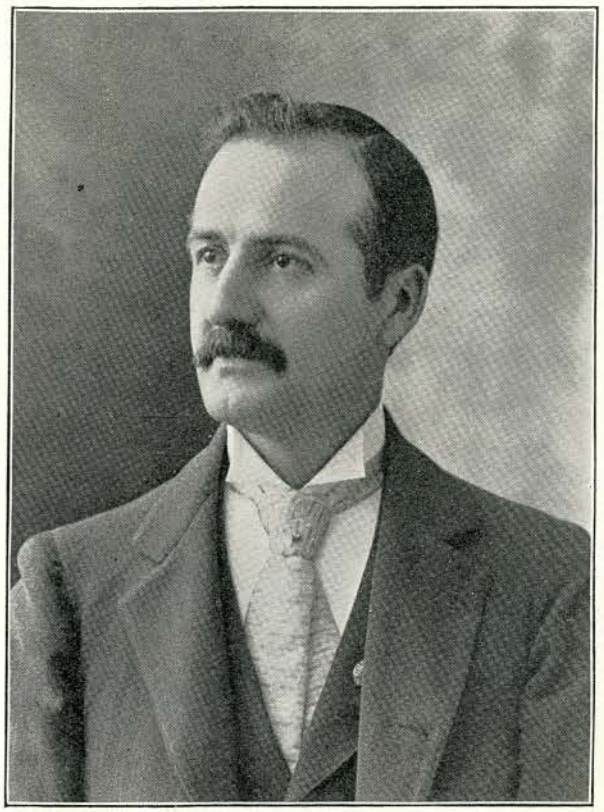
Before this work was complete, Mr. Burton was invited to take charge of the Janesville schools. Entering upon his work in April, 1875, he continued to direct their affairs until June, 1885, when he resigned the city superintendency and severed his connection with the educational work of the Badger State. At this time he was President of the Wisconsin State Teachers' Association, and was made recipient of the honorary degree of A. M. by Beloit College, as a recognition of his services as a teacher and school manager.

Accepting an appointment as superintendent of the public schools of Polo, Illinois, he entered upon the duties of that office in September, 1885, and there continued to work for six years with great pleasure to himself and marked satisfaction to all concerned. The hearty welcome accorded him by the fraternity of Illinois speedily reconciled him to the change from Wisconsin circles, and he at once became closely identified with the prominent educational movements of his adopted state.

In 1891 Mr. Burton resigned his charge of the Polo schools to accept the superintendency of the city schools of Freeport. Two years later, he left the teachers' field for a brief business experience, but returned to school work December, 1894, having been elected to the office of County Superintendent of Stephenson County. In this capacity he is now serving, and is proving one of the best County Superintendents we have ever had.

W. A. Merrifield.

There has not been very much romance in the life of W. A. Merrifield, but its story shows what pluck and energy can accomplish in this country. Thrown upon his own resources at a very early age, he began to fight life's battle unaided and alone, and the success he has achieved is possible for other young men to achieve. Mr. Merrifield was born in Lysander, New York, March 20, 1855, and his boyhood days were spent upon the farm. His early schooling was limited and was gleaned at the district schools in the vicinity of the place of his birth. In 1874 Mr. Merrifield came west and worked on a farm in this state and then returned to New York. In 1877 he again came west, this time to stay. He had relatives residing in JoDaviess county and there



W. A. MERRIFIELD.

he secured work on a farm. He was very anxious to secure an education, and saving the money he had earned on the farm during the summer, he entered the Bailey business college at Keokuk, Iowa, in the fall of 1877. He remained there until the following spring, graduating in penmanship, and then organized classes in penmanship in Freeport and other surrounding towns, and finally formed a partnership with S. C. Schofield, who was at that time conducting a business college here. Mr. Merrifield taught penmanship in the college and also took a thorough course in book-keeping. But the college was not a very paying venture and Mr. Merrifield had a hard struggle to make both ends meet. He joined the volunteer fire department and in this way was given a place to sleep in the engine house.

In the fall of 1879 he went to Stockton, where he had relatives, and here he worked on the farm and taught school.

In the spring of 1880 he returned to Freeport and accepted a position as book-keeper in the office of L. M. Devore. The following year he took a like position with D. C. Stover at a salary of $40 per month. In the fall of 1881 Mr. Stover, who was then running a small manufacturing plant, decided to incorporate the Stover Manufacturing Company, and Mr. Merrifield was selected as secretary and treasurer of the company. These positions he has ably filled to the present time, and has aided materially in making that corporation the great industry it is to-day. He is a thorough business man, a tireless worker and a man of splendid judgment. From an humble beginning his advancement has been steady, until to-day he is regarded as one of Freeport's most successful business men.

Mr. Merrifield is one of the leading members of Embury Church, and has been for years one of the trustees and stewards of the church, and for the past sixteen years has filled the position of Superintendent of the Sunday School, which has more than doubled in membership since he took hold of it. He also takes a deep interest in the Y. M. C. A., and was a member of the first Board of Directors and continued on the board until a year ago, when he refused a re-election, as he wanted to devote his spare time to the rebuilding of Embury Church. It was largely through his efforts as a member of the building committee that the church was remodeled and supplied with a handsome pipe organ. He has long been identified with the Lena Campmeeting Association and for the past two years has served as president of that association.

Mr. Merrifield erected a few years ago one of the handsomest homes on upper Stephenson street, and is very fond of home life. He has a very interesting family, consisting of his wife and two children, and is a model husband and father.

Capt. J. J. Piersol.

One of the best known and most popular men in Freeport is Capt. J. J. Piersol. He has held many positions of honor and trust, in all of which he has proven to be "the right man in the right place." Capt. Piersol is a native of New Jersey and was born in 1819. When he was but two years old his parents removed to Pennsylvania and there the Captain spent his boyhood days and early manhood. He was married at Easton, Pa., Oct. 17, 1841, to Miss Elizabeth A. Lattig, and on Oct. 17, 1891, in this city, they celebrated the golden anniversary of their marriage. They removed to this county in 1851 and settled at Cedarville, where he conducted a blacksmith shop until the breaking out of the war, when he enlisted in the gallant old 93d Illinois, made up largely of Stephenson county boys. He left his two young sons, George and E. P., at home to care for their mother, but they soon joined their father at the front and served with credit during the war. Capt.



J. J. PIERSOL.

Piersol was shot through the shoulder at the battle of Champion Hill, and it was thought that his soldiering days were over, but after his recovery he rejoined his regiment and served until the fall of '64, when he was honorably discharged. That fall the Republicans of this county nominated and elected him sheriff. He was again elected to the office in 1872, and in 1874 he was re-elected. During a portion of the time he served the county as sheriff the old jail was used and frequently the prisoners made attempts to escape, but the Captain was too sharp for them. Many a time he remained on guard all night. In those days he had some tough criminals to handle, but he never allowed a prisoner to get away. He captured several horse thieves in his

time, and it is a matter of record that Stephenson county never had a better sheriff.

Capt. Piersol represented the first ward in the city council for several years and made a splendid alderman. He also served as a director of the Second National bank and has held other important positions. He has always been an enthusiastic sportsman, and in the early days of this county brought down many deer and other large game with his trusty rifle. He has been for years a member of the Freeport Gun Club and has been the club's secretary almost since its organization. His eyesight is not so good as it once was, and the Captain has become too feeble to do much hunting, although he still dearly loves the sport. He is spending his declining years quietly at his comfortable home on North Galena avenue, and when the final summons shall come no man will be better prepared to answer it.

James P. Younger.

James P. Younger, the present mayor of Freeport, is a strictly self-made man. From a condition



JAMES P. YOUNGER.

of poor boyhood, with unpropitious prospects, he has worked his way up to manhood, and, by dint of toil and unrelenting persistency, pushed himself to the front and into the position of prominence which he now occupies, in both business and political circles.

He is a native of Illinois, and was born at Lombard Nov. 20, 1858, where his parents resided for many years. At an early age he left school and obtained a position in a creamery, where he remained until he had ultimately acquired a thorough knowledge of the business. He subsequently established himself in business in Afolkey, Ill., and remained there, doing a profitable business, for several years. As his efforts became more successful, he began to establish creameries throughout Stephenson county, and soon came into control of the greater part of that business done in the county. He now owns and operates a dozen or more creameries in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin, and his success in this business is phenomenal. He is one of the officers of the Elgin Board of Trade, and is influential in the council of the creamery men.

Mr. Younger has been a resident of Freeport but a few years, yet in that time he has taken front rank in his party. He is an ardent Democrat, and was elected mayor of this city a year ago last spring. He is noted for his pluck and energy, and does not hesitate to express his views on all matters of public interest.

Mr. Younger owns one of the handsomest houses in Freeport, and has a wife and an interesting family of children. He is greatly devoted to his home and spares no effort to provide it with every luxury. He is very generous with his means, and no friend ever applies to him in vain for assistance in time of need.

George E. White.

George E. White was born in Honesdale, Penn., April 14, 1858. His father was E. V. White, a respected citizen of Honesdale, and his mother, Theresa A. Brewster, came from an old established family which had been among the early settlers of the wilds of Pennsylvania.

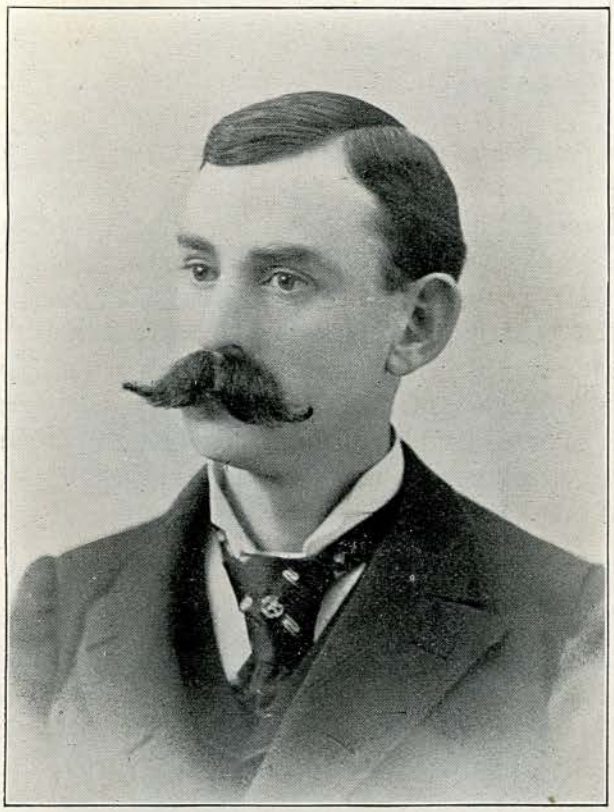
Young George was educated in the common district school and the public schools of his native town, and then learned the trade of axle making in his brother's factory. In 1882 he came to Freeport and entered the employ of the C., M. & St. Paul railroad, on the Racine and Southwestern Division. He remained thus employed until October, 1888, when he engaged in the hotel business with Mr. E. Kraft of this city.

Mr. White was married Oct. 4, 1882, to Anna R. Hess, and he is the father of one daughter, Grace L.

White, three other daughters having died in infancy.

Mr. White, besides being alderman from the first ward, is Deputy Grand Master of Winnesheik Lodge No. 30, I. O. O. F., Official Instructor I. O. O. F., Noble Grand of Busy Bee Lodge No. 138, Daughters of Rebecca, and Chief Patriarch of Western Star Encampment No. 25.

The Kraft House, Kraft & White, proprietors, is a large two story frame building on Taylor Avenue



GEORGE E. WHITE.

and opposite the C., M. & St. Paul depot. It was primarily intended to combine a restaurant and lodging house for travelers arriving on the C. M. & St. P. railroad, but it has since been enlarged in capacity and facilities, and is to-day one of the most modern and thoroughly equipped hotels in the city. Mr. White is an active, energetic business man and takes a prominent part in every movement instigated for the welfare of the city.

W. S. Best.

One of the best known men in Freeport is Ald. W. S. Best, who has so ably represented the second ward in the city council the past four years. Although a native of Ohio, he has spent the most of the years of his life in Freeport, and is regarded as one of our most popular citizens. He is a son of the late Rev. C. C. Best, who was one of the pioneer Methodists of Illinois, serving as presiding elder of the Freeport District in an early day and also as pastor of the First M. E. church of this city. Ald. Best was born in Woodsfield, Ohio, fifty-seven years ago, and as his father was a Methodist minister, he did a great deal of "moving around" in his childhood days, residing in the states of Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Illinois before reaching the age of twelve years. His father moved to Freeport in 1851, and after a brief stay here he was sent to Princeton, from there to Sterling, then to Peoria and then back to Freeport, where he finally settled down. The subject of this sketch received most of his schooling in this city, and after leaving school engaged in business. He



WM. S. BEST.

conducted a grocery store for a time and also tried his hand at farming. In 1873 he entered the mail service and for a period of thirteen years served as a postal clerk, running between Chicago and Dubuque. He was considered one of the most competent clerks running out of Chicago, and resigned his position when Cleveland was elected president the first time. He afterwards served a year as city clerk and then entered the office of L. L. Munn, who was Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Masons, and assisted Mr. Munn until seven years ago, when he accepted the position of money order clerk in the Freeport postoffice, which position he still holds.

Mr. Best is also prominent in Masonic circles and is regarded as one of the best posted Masons in the city. He served several terms as Worshipful Master of Excelsior lodge, has been Eminent Commander of Freeport Commandery, K. T., and is now Grand Secretary of Freeport Consistory. He also belongs to the Mystic Shrine.

Mr. Best was married in 1860 to Miss Gross, of this city, and has a family of three children. He resides in a comfortable home on the corner of Galena and Walnut streets.

G. A. Huenkemeier.

G. A. Huenkemeier chose Freeport as his permanent home because, like so many of our young business men, he was quick to discover the superior facilities which the city offers. Mr. Huenkemeier is a native of Freeport and was born April 14, 1862. His early education was received in St. John's parochial school and was supplemented by a thorough business training in the Freeport College of Commerce. At the age of eighteen he left home and engaged in farming in South Dakota. Five years later he abandoned farming and purchased a half interest in a general merchandise store at Dorchester, Neb. But Dorchester did not offer abundant opportunities to the energetic young merchant, and in 1891 he decided to remove to Freeport, a city whose future growth and business facilities were readily discernible to him. He established a grocery house at 159 Stephenson Street, to which he has constantly added, until it is now one of the largest in the city. His aim has been to handle everything in the line of staple and choice fancy goods, and that these efforts have been appreciated by the public is manifested by the liberal patronage which he is now enjoying.



G. A. HUENKEMEIER.

Mr. Huenkemeier's popularity outside of business circles has been attested by the fact that a year ago he was chosen to represent the second ward in the city council. As a public officer he has shown himself conscientious and faithful in the discharge of the duties devolving upon him, and is relentless in his efforts to promote the best interests of the city.

F. C. Kruse.

Frederick C. Kruse, alderman from the second ward, is one of that class of citizens who have contributed most largely to the stability and firmness of our city. He is a native of Holstein, Germany, where he first saw the light of day Jan. 9, 1847. His father, H. H. Kruse, was president of the village board (ortesvorster) in his native land for more than twenty years, and was highly respected throughout the community in which he dwelt. His mother, Margaret Ahrens, came from one of the oldest and best established families in northern Germany.

When but a lad of tender years young Frederick entered the public school of his native city and received a fair education in his own tongue. Having completed the courses offered by the grammar schools, he became apprenticed to a brick layer, and continued in that employment from 1863 to 1868. From 1868 to 1871 he was a soldier in the German Guard in Berlin, and served during the Franco–German war. As the boy grew in years and stature the New World began to hold out living prospects to his increasing ambition, and finally, after much careful deliberation, he packed his few worldly goods and set out to seek his fortune in a strange land. In 1872 Mr. Kruse arrived in Chicage, where he worked at his trade for three years, and then came to Freeport, where he has since resided.

Mr. Kruse's large experience, both in his native land and in America, has enabled him to establish himself in Freeport as a contractor and builder, and he has had charge of the construction of many of its largest and most beautiful buildings. He erected the J. B. Taylor tannery, the high school building, the Second Presbyterian church, the German Cath-

olic school house and parochial residence, the Arcade Manufacturing Company's buildings and many other structures of equal importance.

Mr. Kruse is an active member of the Order of Odd Fellows, being a Noble Grand in that body and



FRED. C. KRUSE.

Chief Patriarch in the camp of Odd Fellows. He is also Grand Lodge Representative in the A. O. U. W. In 1895 he was elected alderman from the second ward, and has most creditably filled that important position. He is in all things steady, industrious and enterprising, a man of excellent judgment and splendid ability.

Chas. F. Franz.

One of the best known members of the city council is Ald. Chas. F. Franz, who has faithfully represented the third ward for so many years. Mr. Franz is a native of Freeport. His father, the late D. Franz, came to this city in 1853, and was for years one of our leading merchants. Charley had the advantage of a good education, and after leaving school assisted his father in the store, and when his father died he engaged in business on his own account. For a time he was one of the proprietors of the Kraft House, and has engaged in other business enterprises. He has now formed a partnership with his brother George and will soon take charge of the old Western Brewery. They will remodel the plant, and it is their intention to conduct a brewery second to none in this section of the country.

Charley is one of the most genial and popular gentlemen in the city, and is noted for his enterprise. In the days of the old volunteer fire department he used to "run with the machine," and was noted as one of the bravest fire fighters we had. He has always taken quite an active interest in politics, and is one of the leaders of the Democratic party. He has frequently represented his party at county, congressional and state conventions, and has served on important committees during campaigns. Six years



CHAS. F. FRANZ.

ago his party nominated him as one of its candidates for aldermen in the third ward and he was elected by a large majority, and gave such good satisfaction to his constituents that he has been re-elected at every subsequent election. He has served on all the important committees in the council, and no man is better posted on city affairs. Charley has a habit of sticking close to the people, and is looked upon as the champion of the laboring men. His voice and vote are generally in the interest of the tax payers, and, while favoring improvements, he is not reckless in the expenditure of the people's money.

W. T. Rockey.

W. T. Rockey, the Democratic alderman from the third ward, is a native of Stephenson county, being born in Buckeye township, Aug. 5th, 1847, his father being John Rockey and his mother Catherine (Folgate) Rockey. In the district schools he received a practical business education and then entered the Northwestern College at Naperville, Ill., from which in due time he graduated. He then returned to his native town and engaged in farming pursuits for a number of years. In 1886 he abandoned farming and entered the purchasing department of the Henney Buggy Company, where by industry, diligence, and a careful study of the requirements of the place, he soon mastered every detail of that branch of the business. No department of a large manufacturing establishment requires greater sagacity or more constant watchfulness than the purchasing and supply department, and no better man could be selected to fill such a responsible position than Mr. Rockey. His success and fidelity in that line pointed him out as a proper representative of the people's interests in the city council, and in 1895 his party gave him the nomination for alderman from the third ward, and in spite of the popularity of his opponent, he was elected by a handsome majority. His work in the city council on behalf of his constituents thus far justifies the wisdom of the choice.



W. T. ROCKEY.

On January 31, 1879, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah C. Bennethum, an amiable woman and devoted wife.

Mr. Rockey is a member of Rinaldo Lodge No. 98, K. of P., where he has held many offices of honor and trust; he is also a member of the Division of the Uniform Rank of the same order and takes a lively interest in promoting its welfare. In politics he is a Democrat, and in civil life a useful and public spirited citizen.

Charles Nieman.

One of Freeport's best known citizens is ex-mayor Charles Nieman, of the firm of C. E. Meyer & Co., manufacturers of vinegar. He has been the architect of his own fortune and has won his way in the world by pluck and perseverance. Mr. Nieman is a native of Germany, where he was born in 1847. His first schooling was acquired in that land, but at the age of twelve years he emigrated to this country with his parents and for a time lived in New York City, where he completed his education. In 1875 he came west and settled in Freeport and soon afterwards accepted a position with the Freeport Syrup Company. After the closing of that factory he entered the employ of the Freeport Vinegar Works and was soon afterwards made a member of the firm, the name of which was changed to Chas. E. Meyer & Co. Mr. Nieman aided greatly in extending the business of the company and also became identified with other leading manufacturing enterprises in the city. He is a stockholder in the German Insurance Company, in the State Bank, and also a stockholder in the shoe factory and in several other enterprises. He was a member of the syndicate which laid out the shoe factory addition and has otherwise aided materially in developing the city.

Mr. Nieman is also socially inclined, being a member of most of the leading social organizations of the city. He stands high in the Knights of Pythias order, and in addition to having served as Chancellor Commander of Rinaldo Lodge of this city he has served many years as representative to the Grand Lodge and has held several Grand Lodge offices, and is at the present time treasurer of that organization. He also belongs to the Masonic fraternity, to the Red Men, Knights of the Globe, National Union and kindred organizations. He is

now a member of the public library board, an institution in which he takes a deep interest and which he has aided materially during his terms as mayor of the city.

Mr. Nieman is well known in local and state politics. He is an ardent Democrat and is one of the party leaders in this part of the state. He first represented his ward (the third) in the city council, being elected to this office in 1885, and made such a good record that he was nominated for mayor by his



CHARLES NIEMAN.

party in 1888, but owing to a factional fight in his party he was defeated by about thirty-five votes. Two years later he was again nominated and this time was elected by a large majority and was re-elected by a still larger majority. He was a progressive mayor and worked for the public interests. It was during his administration that the first pavement in this city was put down and our splendid system of sewers laid.

Mr. Nieman represented the Democrats of this congressional district in the state committee for two years and at the Democratic state convention held at Peoria last July he was again elected to that position. When John P. Altgeld was elected governor of this state he selected Mr. Nieman as one of the three trustees of the Elgin asylum.

While Mr. Nieman is a very busy man, he has never been known to neglect his family and spends the greater part of his leisure at home. He owns a handsome residence on Washington street, in the third ward, and it is a model home in every respect. His family consists of his wife, two daughters and two sons and he is greatly devoted to them.

A man who has been as prominent in politics as Mr. Nieman is bound to make some enemies. He is a man of positive convictions and outspoken in his views. He is noted for his loyalty to his friends and has a large following of devoted friends who are always glad to hear of his success and advancement.

E. B. Clingman.

One of the oldest and best known families in Stephenson county is the Clingman family. Josiah Clingman settled in Buckeye township in 1837, and was prominently connected with public affairs in the county for many years. His son, E. B. Clingman, was born there July 22, 1852, and, with the exception of a brief period, his life has been spent in his native county. He received a thorough education in the district schools, after completing which, at the age of seventeen, he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and continued his studies there for one year. Having thus completed his education he began farming in his native county, and in 1871 was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. Bell, the daughter of Thomas Bell. Six children have blessed the union—Harry A., Minnie G., Orville W., Belle C., Thomas J. and Vida. For a number of years Mr. Clingman was a teacher in the district schools of Buckeye township, where he discharged his duties to the satisfaction of the patrons. In 1874 he went to Iowa and spent four years there in farming. He returned here again and took possession of the fine farm in Dakota township, which he occupied until he moved to Freeport to take charge of the sheriff's office. Mr. Clingman is a steadfast and consistent Republican, believing and upholding the principles for which that party has contended as being right and for the best interests of our country, and in the ranks is an earnest and effective worker. In 1894 he received the nomination for sheriff of the county, and in spite of the popularity of his opponent, and the fact that his predecessor, a Democrat, was elected by over 500 majority, he was triumphantly elected by a majority of 430. Since entering upon the discharge of his duties he has had a succession of delicate, important and responsible duties thrust upon him, such as seldom

fall to the lot of a sheriff outside of a large city, all of which he has performed with dignity, fidelity, tact and courage, which gained for him the highest commendation of the courts and the people. He is



E. B. CLINGMAN.

an active member of several fraternal organizations, among them the Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and the Knights of the Globe. In public life he is recognized and honored as a faithful and upright public official, and in private life as a respected and public spirited citizen.

J. Mason Fox.

One of the most popular men around the court house is the genial deputy sheriff, J. Mason Fox. He is always good natured and happy, and is never happier than when adding to the happiness of those about him. He is always the same genial, whole-souled fellow, and no man in Stephenson county has more friends than Mason. He is a Stephenson county boy by birth and his father is one of our pioneer settlers. Mason was born in Freeport in June, 1852, but two years after his birth his parents moved to a farm in Florence township, where most of the years of his life were spent. He was educated in Freeport, and after leaving school returned to his father's farm and afterwards operated a farm of his own until about eight years ago, when he rented his farm on account of ill health and removed to Freeport and engaged in the livery business, in which he was engaged until two years ago, when Sheriff Clingman appointed him his chief deputy. During his residence in Florence township Mr. Fox was elected to various township offices, and proved a very efficient public servant, whether as town clerk, assessor or collector. Two years ago his friends urged him to seek the nomination for sheriff. He had always been an active Republican and had many friends in all parts of the county.



J. MASON FOX.

He went after the nomination and came within one vote of getting it. He took his defeat good-naturedly and took off his coat and worked hard for his successful rival, and when Mr. Clingman was elected he promptly appointed Mr. Fox his chief deputy, a position he has filled to the satisfaction of all. It is his intention to seek the nomination for sheriff two years hence, and it is quite certain that he will have votes enough the next time to nominate him.

Mr. Fox is a member of the Methodist Church; he joined the VanBrocklin M. E. Church while on the farm and was for years treasurer of the board of trustees. After coming to Freeport he united with

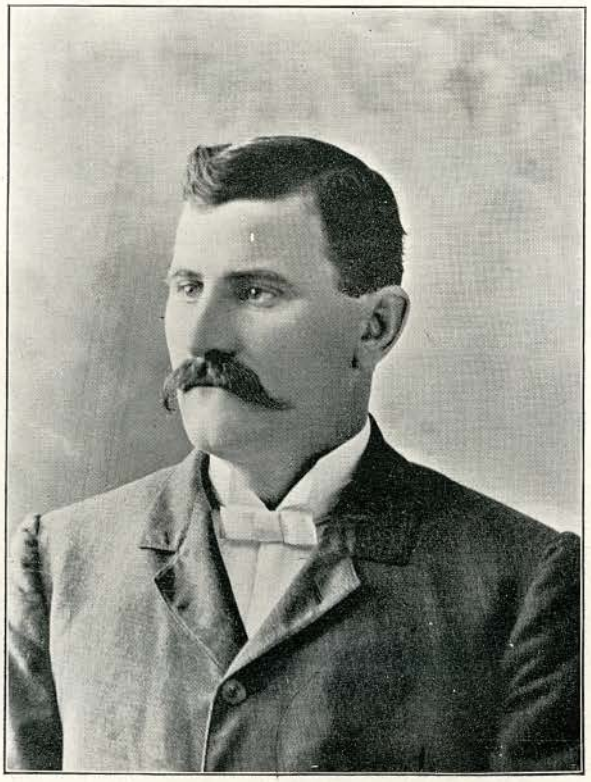
the First M. E. Church. For several years he has had charge of the police protection at the Lena campgrounds, and no man ever gave better satisfaction in that trying position. He also served in the same capacity at the Oakdale campgrounds last year and the year before.

Mr. Fox was married in 1874 to Miss Malvina Upp, daughter of H. H. Upp of this city. Mr. Fox is very devoted to his wife, who has been an invalid for several years.

C. J. Dittmar.

Christopher J. Dittmar affords a typical example of that class of young men who by pluck, push and perseverance, combined with confidence in their own abilities, force themselves into public recognition and ultimately acquire success. He is a son of Anthony Dittmar, for many years a prosperous and respected farmer of Stephenson county, and now a resident of Nebraska, and was born in Waddams township, in this county, in 1860. His early boyhood was spent on his father's farm, where hard manual labor gave him the rugged strength and vigor which stood him in such good stead in after years. His early education was received in the district schools, which he was allowed to attend during the winter months, but aside from this and the training which he acquired at his native heath, he had none of the advantages which the youth to-day deem necessary to successful business life. At the age of eighteen he removed to Freeport, and at once entered the employ of Jacob Kline, a manufacturer of wagons, where he learned the blacksmith's trade. Six years were spent thus employed, and then Mr. Dittmar accepted a position with the Robinson Buggy Company. Here he rapidly rose in favor and in a short time was appointed foreman of the blacksmithing department, a position which he held for five years. He then accepted a position with the Henney Buggy Company, but after spending a year with this company he decided to go into business for himself, and to that end formed a partnership with Messrs. Botdorf and Bloom, and opened a blacksmith shop on South Galena avenue.

While thus engaged in business Mr. Dittmar was twice elected assistant supervisor, and at the expiration of his second term of service was appointed



C. J. DITTMAR.

chief of police. In the latter capacity he served four years, rendering most efficient service.

When Mr. Dittmar vacated his public office he purchased the livery business conducted by Messrs. Meyers & Younglove and devoted himself to the maintenance of one of the largest and best equipped stables in the city. He has established a reputation for carefully conducting his business, and the public favor with which he is met attests his complete success. Mr. Dittmar was elected last spring to the office of supervisor of the town of Freeport, and now acceptably fills that responsible position.

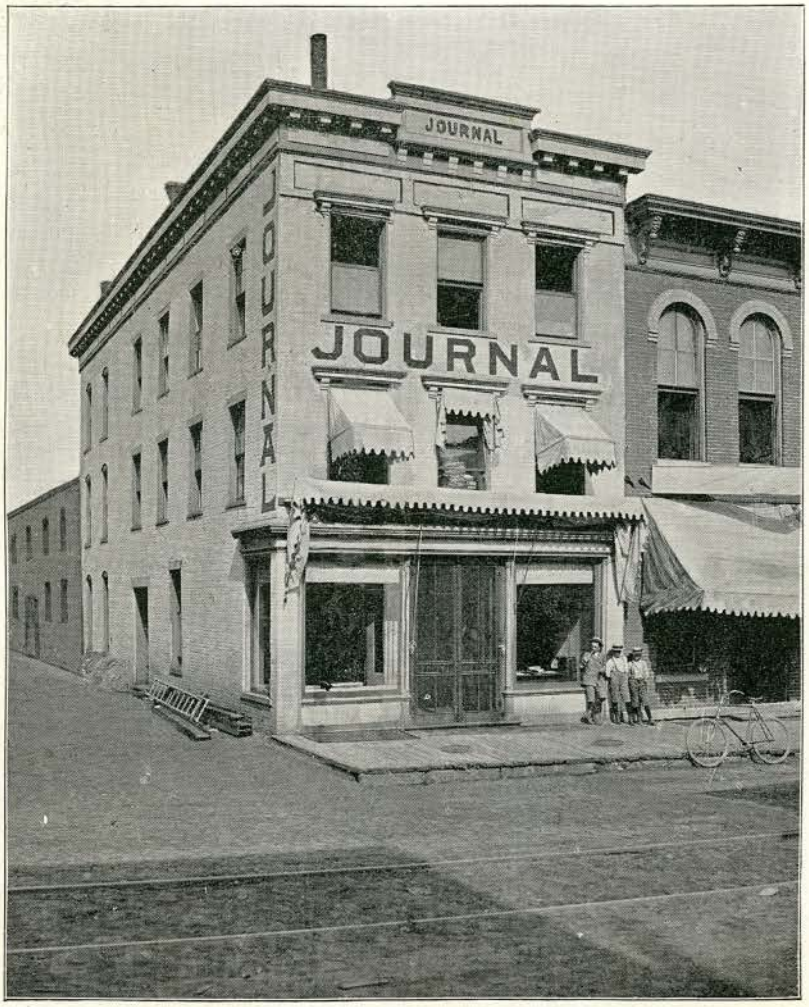
The Newspapers of Freeport.

The Journal.

The first issue of *The Freeport Journal* appeared on November 22, 1848. H. G. Grattan and A. McFaddan were the publishers and proprietors, and the office was located on what is now the corner of Broadway and Beaver streets.

In October, 1849, Mr. McFaddan retired from the firm, and in April, 1851, Hiram M. Sheetz became interested in the enterprise with Mr. Grattan. In 1856 the plant was purchased by C. K. Judson and C. W. McClure. In 1858 Wm. T. Tinsley became associated with these gentlemen, but remained less than a year, when he returned to New York.

In January, 1866, Judge J. M. Bailey and Gen. R. V. Ankeny became proprietors of the paper, and in November of the same year sold the office to James S. McCall. Mr. McCall retired from the field in 1869, and was succeeded by Gen. Smith D. Atkins, who remained at the helm until June 11, 1873, when he sold a half interest in the office to Wm. B. Thomas, D. B. Breed and Chas. R. Hawes, and retired for a time from active newspaper work.



THE JOURNAL BUILDING.


THE DAILY DEMOCRAT.
Freeport Daily Bulletin.
The Daily Journal.
Deutscher Anzeiger.
Freeport Banner.

On the 2d of September, 1875, A. V. Richards purchased a three-fourths interest in the paper, and remained in charge until April 14, 1883, when the plant was sold to the present company. On that date *The Republican*, then owned and edited by Gen. Atkins, and *The Journal* were consolidated, and for a year the paper was known as *The Journal and Republican*, when the latter title was dropped.

The present series of the *Daily Journal* was commenced in 1882, and has been a pronounced success



GEN. SMITH D. ATKINS.

from the first. It first appeared as a six column folio, then increased to seven columns, and finally, to provide for the demands of the times, it was enlarged to a six column quarto. F. Chas. Donohue was the first city editor of the daily, but was succeeded in 1887 by James R. Cowley, formerly foreman of the composing room, and a man who has grown up with the paper and filled every position from "devil" to city editor.

In the fall of 1892 the company purchased a building at No. 97 Chicago street, which it remodeled and occupied in the following spring. There it is domiciled to-day, enjoying the fruits gathered from the labors of those who spent the best years of their lives to assure its success. The present management comprises the following gentlemen: Gen. Smith D. Atkins, president and editor in chief; J. R. Cowley, vice president and city editor, and D. B. Breed, secretary, treasurer and business manager. The local field requires an assistant to the city editor, and the office and various departments furnish employment to twenty hands. The company makes a specialty of fine job and book printing, and is able to successfully compete with Chicago houses in that line.

The Democrat.

The Freeport Democrat was established in 1882 by W. T. Giles. In 1887 the plant was purchased by Mr. F. Chas. Donohue. Mr. Donohue is a native of Holyoke, Mass., and is of Irish parentage. Early in life he removed to Chicago, where for several



F. CHAS. DONOHUE.

years he attended the old Dearborn School. From early boyhood he had evinced a love for newspaper work, and while scarcely out of his teens had given practical scope to that proclivity by publishing a boy's paper. He subsequently became apprenticed in a printing house, where his natural abilities became at once so apparent that he was urged to enter the journalistic field. This he did, accepting a position on the reportorial staff of the *Chicago Times*, where he remained, under the most prominent journalist of the day, W. F. Storey, until 1877. During

that year he removed to Freeport, believing that this city offered special inducements for advancement in his chosen profession, and at once became interested in the *Daily Herald*, the only daily paper then existing in the local field. Under his guidance the *Herald* soon assumed a different aspect, and at once became an established success. In 1879 he severed his connection with that paper in order to accept a more lucrative position with the *Bulletin*, of which he became city editor.

In 1882 Mr. Donohue became city editor of the *Journal*, and was married in May, 1883, to Miss Mollie Gleason, daughter of a pioneer in the service of the Illinois Central Company.

On September 5th, 1887, he began the publication of a daily edition of the *Democrat*, and in 1893 the office was removed to its present quarters.

Mr. Donohue was appointed postmaster of Freeport in 1894 by President Cleveland, and continues to hold that important position with entire satisfaction to the numerous patrons of the office.

The Bulletin.

The *Prairie Democrat*, which subsequently became the *Bulletin*, was established in November, 1847, with Hon. Thomas J. Turner and S. D. Carpenter as proprietors. Col. J. O. P. Burnside succeeded these gentlemen in the management of the office, and in 1853 changed the name of the paper to *The Freeport Bulletin*. Mr. Burnside continued to conduct the paper for several years and then disposed of it to Bagg & Brawley.

In 1861 Messrs. Giles & Scroggs came into possession of the paper, and remained together until 1864, when Mr. Giles retired from the firm. In 1869 Mr. Giles purchased Mr. Scroggs' interest, and for four years thereafter conducted the paper.

January 16, 1873, Messrs. C. C. Shuler and J. W. Potter assumed management of the office, Mr. Shuler retiring in October of the following year.

The Daily Bulletin was started September 18, 1877, with O. F. Potter and F. Chas. Donohue in charge of the editorial and local departments.

On the 23d of May, 1885, at the age of 53 years, Mr. J. W. Potter's very busy life was closed, and his son, O. F. Potter, succeeded to the management of the business. In 1895 the plant was sold to Messrs. H. Poffenberger, P. O. Stiver and H. F. Rockey, the present able and efficient proprietors.

The office is located at 99 Chicago street, in *The Bulletin* building, and the proprietors are meeting with deserved success.

The Anzeiger.

No paper in Freeport has attained such popularity with the German element of the city as has the *Deutscher Anzeiger*. For over forty years it has been the faithful exponent of that substantial class of citizens, and its efforts have been unwavering in promoting loyalty, fidelity and good citizenship among them. Its founder, William Wagner, was a native of Germany and emigrated with his family to this country in 1852. He at once came west and located in Freeport, where in 1853 he established the paper which is now his most eloquent monument.



WILLIAM WAGNER.

Any one with less indomitable will than Mr. Wagner would have succumbed to the obstacles that presented themselves to his enterprise, but he, with more than the accustomary tenacity of the Teuton, clung to the little sheet he had launched and seemed to grow in courage with every fresh disaster.

In 1863, the son of Mr. Wagner became a partner with his father and was soon able to assume a portion of the editorial labors. In January, 1868, the paper was changed to a quarto, and in 1876 an extra column was added to each page. In November, 1877, the founder's busy life closed, and the management of the paper devolved upon his son, William H. Wagner, who assumed the entire control of the establishment in 1879. In 1874 a two story brick building was erected by the publishers on Chicago Street, and equipped with all the

paraphernalia peculiar to the craft. A job room was added and new presses and other machinery purchased. In 1879 a steam plant was added and the old method of working presses by hand forever supplanted.

After that the business of the *Anzeiger* increased rapidly and more extended demands were continu-



WILLIAM H. WAGNER.

ally made upon the job department, until Mr. Wagner realized that to meet the requirements promptly and satisfactorily, enlarged quarters and better facilities must be secured. A new building was therefore projected and completed in October, 1886. This business block, known as the *Anzeiger* building, is located at the corner of Galena and Chicago streets, and is a spacious three story brick edifice thoroughly equipped throughout, and is occupied by the newspaper and job offices of the *Anzeiger* and the book bindery, conducted by Wagner Bros., sons of the proprietor of the paper.

In 1891 the firm was changed to W. H. Wagner & Sons, by the admission of Albert F. and Oscar Wagner as partners.



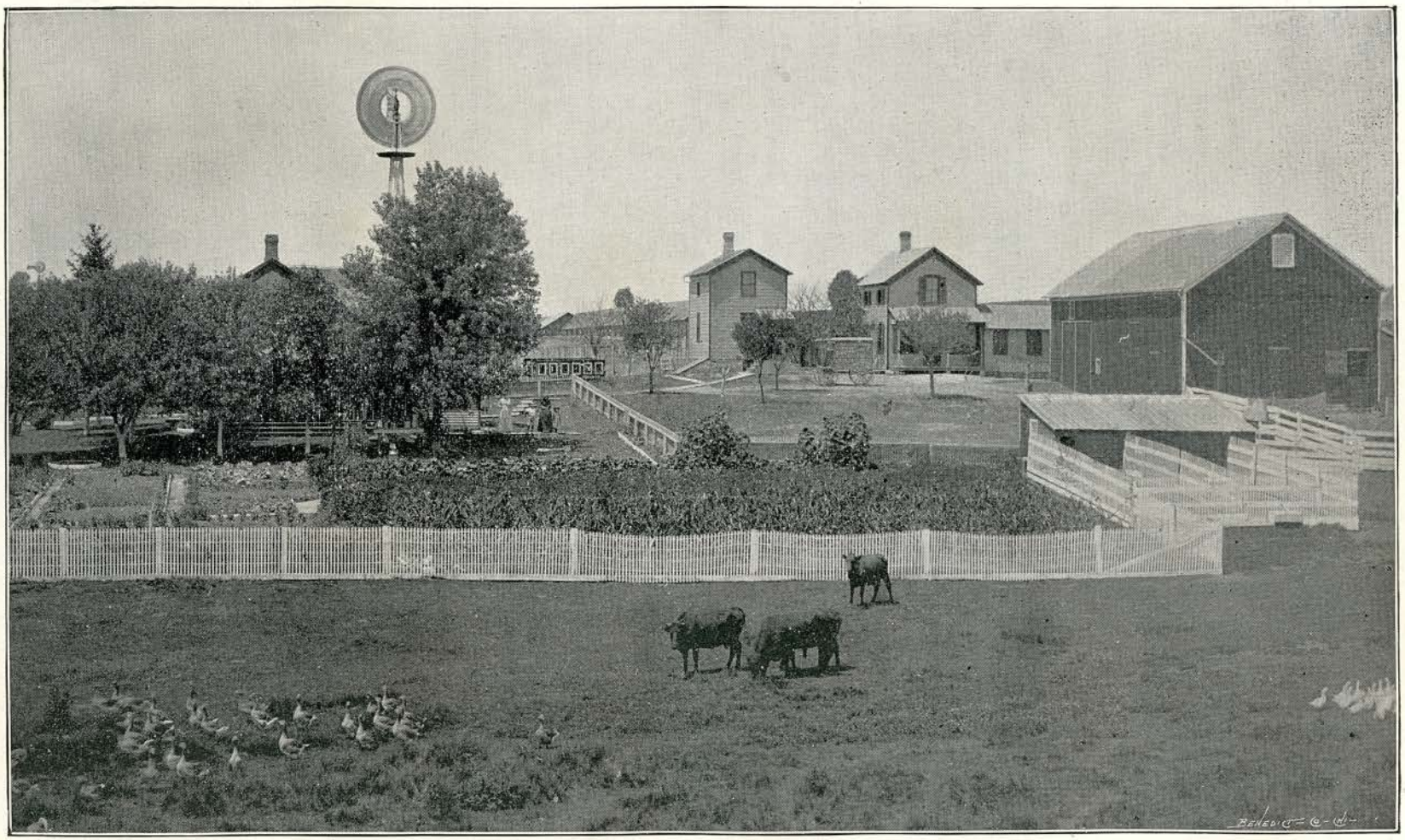
ANZEIGER BUILDING.

Mr. Wagner has become one of the leading business men of Freeport, and is widely known throughout the county as a man of sound judgment, clear reason, and excellent business capabilities.

The Banner.

The Freeport Banner is the latest acquisition to the fold of German weeklies in Freeport. It made its first appearance in July, 1879, fostered by H. W. Frick.

The paper was first published in a two story brick building on Chicago street. It was later removed to Stephenson street, and still later to the second and third stories of T. K. Best's block, where it is now domesticated. The paper is published as a seven column folio, and is rapidly gaining an extended circulation throughout the county. H. W. Frick subsequently removed to Janesville, Wis, and was succeeded in the management of the *Banner* by his brother, Charles H. Frick.



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The above cut represents the extensive poultry yards of Mr. C. C. Shoemaker, located near this city. Mr. Shoemaker is one of the pioneers in the poultry industry in this country, and his phenomenal success is largely due to the careful study he has made of the business and the superior strains of fowls that he has placed upon the market. Although Mr. Shoemaker is not an exhibitor himself, yet fowls from his yards have been awarded premiums wherever exhibited, and none have higher scores. Mr. Shoemaker is an honest, conscientious breeder, and has a well-earned reputation for fair and upright dealings. He publishes each year a very handsome as well as useful book on poultry, which should be in the hands of every breeder and farmer in the country. The 1897 edition will soon be issued. Send for one.

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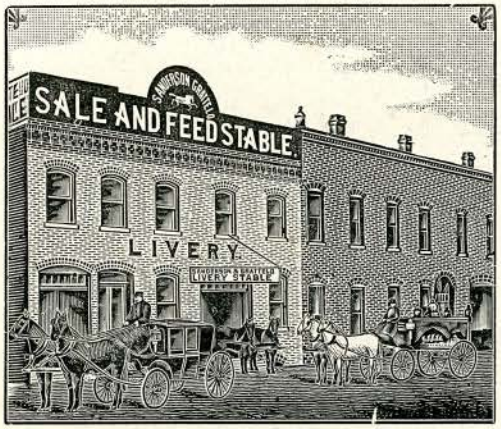
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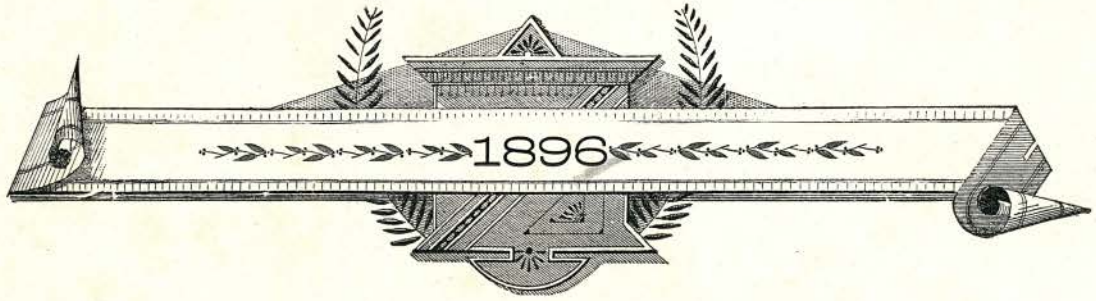
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