

business edifice in America, rearing its massive front in the midst of a great commercial city, where at the time were but a few humble log huts and frame shanties?

The first town election was held in the year 1835, 39 votes being cast, and the following officers elected: Supervisor, Geo. H. Walker; Town Clerk, Horace Chase; Assessors, James Sanderson, Albert Fowler and Enoch Chase; Commissioners of Roads, Benoni W. Finch and Solomon Juneau; Constable, Sciota Evans; School Inspectors, Enoch Chase and Wm. Clark; Path Masters, Enoch Darling, Baizillar Douglass and U. B. Smith; Fence Viewers, Paul Burdick, U. B. Smith and G. H. Walker. Pound Master, Enoch Chase. So small was the population at this time that, as will be seen from the "slate," there were more than enough officers to go around. It is satisfactory to know that this excess in the supply of positions of honor, trust, and emolument, was not experienced by the good citizens of Milwaukee for any alarming length of time, nor has it ever returned to annoy them. At the present date it may be said, in fact, that the offices in that princely young city are sought for by patriotic inhabitants to an extent which precludes the necessity of giving three or four to a single man, as was necessarily done in the initial campaign of '35.

The first sale of lots occurred in November, 1835, and by the beginning of 1836 the new village had entered upon a season of speculation and rapid growth known only in the history of our frontier towns. Of this prosperous era, Mr. J. S. Buck writes in his excellent Pioneer History of Milwaukee: "Stocks of goods would be sold out in many instances before they were fairly opened, and at an enormous profit. Every one was sure his fortune was made, and a stiffer necked people, as far as prospective wealth was concerned, could not be found in America. Nothing like it was ever seen before: no western city ever had such a birth. People were dazed by the rapidity of its growth; all felt good. * * * Some sixty buildings were erected, many of them of goodly dimensions. Streets were graded, fences established; officers of the law appointed; medical and agricultural societies formed; a court house and jail erected; and all in five short months."

The year 1836 was notable as witnessing the erection of a territorial government in Wisconsin, and the following officers were appointed to administer it: Governor, Henry Dodge; Secretary, J. S. Horner; Chief Justice, Charles Dunn; Associate Justices, Wm. C. Frazier and David Irwin; Attorney General, W. W. Chapman; Marshal, Franklin Gehl. The first sheriff of Milwaukee county, Henry M. Hubbard, was commissioned by Governor Dodge, August 2, 1836. At this time the population of the county amounted, according to a territorial census, to 2,893.

Considering the enterprising character of the early settlers of Milwaukee, it is not surprising that even at this period, co-incidental with the fancy of railroad projects in America, they should have set their heads upon the possession of an iron highway to connect the great lakes with the

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