

lies the southern portion of the state, while primitive rocks, such as granite, slate and sandstone, prevail in the northern part. Chancellor Lathrop gives the elevations of different points in the southern section of Wisconsin, as follows: At Blue Mounds, 1,170; head waters of the Rock river, 816; egress of the same river from the state, 1,280; and the portage between the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, at 223 above the level of Lake Michigan.

The mineral resources of Wisconsin constitute one of its great sources of wealth. Three-fourths of the great lead region extending from Illinois and Iowa, lies in its south-western part, and covers an area of about 2,000 square miles. La Pointe, Chippewa, St. Croix and Iowa counties are rich in copper. Excellent iron ores abound in Dodge county and on the Black river and other branches of the Mississippi, and the valuable ores of the Lake Superior region extend into the state from Michigan in great quantity. Magnetic iron, iron pyrites and geophite ore are among the other metallic products of the region, which is also prolific in fine marbles, gypsum, saltpetre, etc.

Of the beautiful lakes, almost numberless, which have earned for the state the reputation of being the most attractive lacustrine region on the continent, we shall have occasion to write in detail, regarding at least the more notable ones. Without stopping to notice particularly the great inland seas that wash the shores of Wisconsin, a short distance south-east from the centre of the state is situated Lake Winnebago, a fine body of water, 28 miles in length and 10 miles wide. It communicates with Lake Michigan through the Fox or Neenah river and Green Bay. In common with all the lakes of the locality, Winnebago has the clear water, picturesque shores and islets, and lies under the bright blue skies and in the diamond sunlight found nowhere in such perfection as in the Golden North-West.

"The rivers which traverse the interior, for the most part, flow generally in a south-west direction, discharging their waters into the Mississippi. The latter river bounds Wisconsin on the south-west for more than two hundred miles. Commencing on this line at the south, we have, in their order, the Wisconsin, Bad Axe, Black, and Chippewa rivers. Of these the largest is the Wisconsin, which flows nearly directly south for over 200 miles, and then west about a hundred miles, into the Mississippi. It is navigable for steamboats for nearly 200 miles. The Chippewa is about 200, and the Black about 150 miles long. The Fox river, or Neenah, is the outlet of Winnebago Lake, and connects it with Green Bay. The Wolf river, from the north, is the main supply to this lake. The Menomonee emptying into Green Bay, and the Montreal into Lake Superior, are very serviceable streams for manufacturing purposes. These rivers form part of the north-east boundary of Wisconsin." Navigation is difficult on most of these rivers. Steamboats ascend on the Wisconsin to where it

1 Hist. of Wisconsin.