

As Other People See Us,

September 13th of the past year was "Wisconsin Day" at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha. As an adjunct to the celebration of that day, the Milwaukee Sentinel issued a fine illustrated souvenir edition, setting forth the history, industries and resources of the Badger State. Merrill, along with sister cities, was represented and given brief description as follows:

"The city of Merrill affords a

column county, and central figure of this most desirable area in Northern Wisconsin, a thrifty and growing city of 9,000 inhabitants is located on the Wisconsin River and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, about 170 miles northwest of Milwaukee. The town itself has many of the improvements in which places of greater pretensions are still lacking, having broad, well paved streets, telephone systems—an excellent Holly system of water works, a first-class fire department, an electric street railway and an electric light plant by means of which the city as thor-



Log Driving Scene on Prairie River.

double inducement to the stranger or home-seeker to locate within or about its gates. First, perhaps, should be introduced the wonderful opportunities here afforded for the investment of capital and in manufacturing. It is also to be regarded as a place of vantage for the laboring man, who, if industrious and desirous of getting along in the world, can at all times find remunerative employment. That portion of the county of Lincoln which lies round about the city of Merrill is noted for the quality and quantity of its hardwood, hemlock, white pine, spruce, tamarack and cedar.

oroughly and properly illuminated. In Merrill also there is a handsome city hall, a public library building, an opera house with a seating capacity of 1,000, twelve public and parochial schools, first-class hotels, eight large saw mills, nine pine planing mills, four sash, door and blind factories, extensive booms for the storage of logs, a box factory, excelsior factory, brewery, bottling works, machine shop, flour mill, and wide awake and progressive newspapers.

"The main industry of the place at the present time, of course, is lumbering, the interests in which



Scene in the Wisconsin Pines.

which abound in almost every direction. Mills have been in operation in this section of the country for a number of years past, and consequently quite an area of ground has already been shorn of its original growths. A considerable portion of this land has found occupants in settlers who are anxious to build up and establish permanent homes for themselves. This, then, furnishes the second inducement for the people to turn their attention in this direction, as the soil is mostly of a rich black loam with a clay subsoil, while some of it is lighter in character. A

are estimated as being the largest on the Wisconsin river. The sawmills have a combined cutting capacity of 175,000,000 feet during the cutting season, in addition to a large amount of shingles, lath, sash, door and blinds, etc., which are almost altogether shipped in carload lots.

"As an economical point of location for manufacturing purposes Merrill is unusually advantageous from the mere fact of its wonderful resources in the matter of water power alone. Such, indeed, are furnished by the Wisconsin, Prairie and Tomahawk rivers. Particularly is the Wisconsin riv-

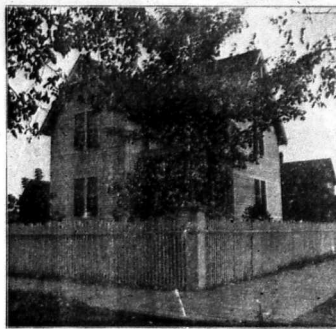


Scene in the Wisconsin Pines.

failure of crops in this vicinity is by far the exception. The soil of the county is in fact considered particularly well adapted for the raising of vegetables, while small grains such as barley, oats and rye have always been a successful crop. An excellent quality of wheat is also raised in this county, but the season is considered rather short for corn; it is usually a good crop and stock seem to thrive and do exceedingly well, the water and pastures being of a most desirable quality.

Merrill, the county seat of Lin-

er adapted for such purposes, the waters of that stream rushing along between solid walls of rock, thus making it comparatively easy to build dams for the utilization of its wasted power. It is no Utopian dream, then, of Merrill's most progressive citizens that the day is not far distant when, with such means at hand as nature has so kindly vouchsafed, Lincoln county will be dotted with manufacturing of all kinds, furnishing employment to thousands, who, with their families, will make thrifty and healthy towns and villages in that section our state."



Residence of Dr. Coulahan.

PRAIRIE RIVER LUMBER CO.—In 1859, but was reared in Muskegon, Mich., whither his parents removed while he was still young. Here he received his education, and then for a number of years was engaged in railroad work, being soliciting freight agent for the Chicago and West Michigan for eight years previous to coming to



has a capacity of 30,000 feet per day and they manufacture all kinds of hardwood lumber, sawed to any dimension, and also manufacturing box hoes. Orders for anything in their line will receive prompt attention. T. J. Delanty, Daniel Delanty and M. D. L. O'Rourke. The mill

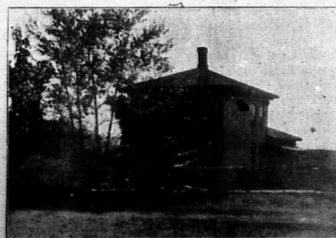


Residence of J. N. Cotter.

JOHN N. COTTER.—One of the early pioneers of this section, and a man who has done much to develop its resources, is John N. Cotter. He was born in Franklin county, N. Y., on April 11, 1849, and received his education there in the public schools. In '68, he came to Jenny and for eleven years worked in the woods and on the old Wisconsin, making a number of trips to St. Louis with fleets of lumber. In the fall of '79 he formed a partnership with James O'Connor and began lumbering operations on the Prairie river, which firm continued until the death of Mr. O'Connor in '85. For the next seven years Fred Smith was associated with Mr. Cotter in his logging business, the firm being dissolved in '92 and since that time Mr. Cotter has continued his lumbering business alone. In '88 he associated himself with David Finn, H. R. Feld and Julius Thielman and organized the Central Manufacturing company, Mr. Cotter being president of the company until the

plant burned out in May, 1894. In March he purchased a lumber yard at Knox, Ind., and also started yards at Waukegan and Hamlet, that state, which business is managed by his nephew, S. C. Close. Mr. Cotter has considerable real estate in Merrill and several thousand acres of fine agricultural land near the city. Any one desiring a good farm, would do well to correspond with him. Mr. Cotter is a Democrat in politics; has been mayor of the city; alderman of the Second ward five years; chairman of the county board two years. Mr. Cotter was married in 1885 to Miss Dora A. Smith of Merrill. They have four children—Prue, Dora G., John N., Jr., and Gordon.

The many superior advantages of Merrill and Lincoln county are barely touched upon in this issue, but such as it is, if placed before an enquiring public it is sure to do much good for our county. Send in orders for extra copies.



Residence of L. H. Willett.

W. H. MONROE, M. D.—Dr. Monroe was born in Granville, N. Y., in 1856, and until he reached his seventh year lived on his father's farm. He then went to Rutland, Vt., and attended school two years; thence going to Waterville, Me., where he graduated from the Classical Institute; thence entered Colby University, which institution he left in his sophomore year to teach school at South Thomaston, Me. In 1881 he came to Chicago and entered Rush Medical college; graduated in '84 and practiced one year, and then, in '85 came to Merrill, where he entered upon the active practice of his profession and acquired a lucrative practice. He built the Merrill hospital and conducted the same several years, with the exception of one year

AGUST KAMEK.—The subject of this sketch was born in Germany in 1858, was educated there in the public schools, and came to the United States in 1873, locating in Schofield where he worked in the mills until '84, when he came to Merrill and engaged in the saloon business at 1201 Main street.



He carries a large stock of fine liquors, wines, brandies and cigars. Mr. Kamek owns a handsome two-story brick block 25x56 feet which he occupies. In 1881 he married Miss Minnie Peal of Schofield. They have seven children. Mr. Kamek is a member of the I. O. O. F., Druids, and is a Democrat in politics.



B. F. GIPPLE.—One of the most popular establishments of its kind in the city is "The Midget," presided over by that prince of good fellows, B. F. Gipple, famous in this city and fast familiarly known to everybody as "Ben." He has recently opened "The Midget," and his popularity has at once established for him a first-class trade. At "The Midget" you will find everything of the best in the way of imported wines and liquors, and fine old whiskeys and brandies, and a choice line of cigars. All the surroundings of "The Midget" are in keeping with a first-class place of his kind—neat, clean and tasty, and it is a popular resort for those who enjoy the good fellowship of kindred spirits.

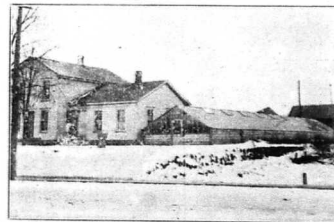
Extra copies of this issue, 10c.



Residence of Hon. H. W. Wright.

NICK GROEVELDING.—The Mr. Nick Groevelding is a native of Germany, an expert gardener and horticulturist are fast gaining a wide patronage in Lincoln county. Here all varieties of potted plants and cut flowers are

ceive prompt attention. Mr. Groevelding is a native of Germany and there learned the floral business of his father, afterwards working at horticulture in Metz, Germany, and Paris, France. In 1890 he came to this country;



for sale at all seasons of the year at reasonable prices, and special attention is given to furnishing wedding and funeral decorations and designs. Mail orders addressed to the Merrill Green Houses, Merrill, Wis., will be

worked at LaCrosse, then ran a green house at Sparta; coming to Merrill in the fall of '97. He has two green houses 18x100 feet with 4,000 feet under glass, and stocked with an endless variety of plants and flowers.

JAMES E. LEARY.—Lincoln county's efficient county clerk is a native of Wisconsin, having been born at Stevens Point in 1861; after finishing his education he engaged in the mercantile business which he followed seven years; he then spent three years in the west and came to Merrill in 1887 and engaged in the dry goods business with M. D. L.

O'Rourke, selling out to his partner in 1894. In '95 he was city register and in '96 elected county clerk, which office he has filled to the satisfaction of everyone. He is a loyal Democrat and has ever taken an active interest in political affairs. Mr. Leary was married in 1885 to Miss Hattie Rousseau of Stevens Point. They have five children.