

prairies were uncropped by the countless herds that now roam over them.

*Fourth of July, 1836.*—The first celebration of Independence day was, according to the age of our new settlement, a matter of some interest to nearly all our population, and numbers from Racine. The place chosen for this display of their loyalty to old custom, was in a beautiful grove near the north end of the Island, and near the lake. Some hundreds were addressed by the writer; and several good old songs were sung with much spirit, the whole people constituting the choir, making the grove resound with their patriotic sentiments in Auld Lang Syne. Pleasant Prairie sent a large delegation of men, women, and children, on a car drawn by twenty yoke of oxen, carrying flags suited to the occasion. A suitable dinner was furnished near the house of Mr. Resigne, on the bank of the Lake. Their toasts required the aid of neither rum nor party politics. At this period every settler was chiefly concerned in making and protecting his claim.

*The Harbor and Piers.*—For some years after the first settlement was made at Pike River, much difficulty was experienced in landing passengers and freight from the boats which called at the place. In 1835, schooners from the Lower Lakes ventured within a mile of the shore, and some a little nearer, and sent their lading on shore by their small boats, at the risk of hard labor and damage. Smaller craft came near land. Capt. Robinson, of the small schooner "*Hiram*," brought lumber in 1835; and the schooner "*Fly*" brought potatoes from Michigan. The steamer "*Detroit*," in 1836, was the first that ventured here with passengers and provisions; the "*Daniel Webster*" made us a call in 1837; and after this, all kinds of vessels called in good weather. In the summer of 1836, our first citizens provided a lighter, which considerably lessened the risk in landing; A. G. Northway deserves the credit of having built and managed this craft.

It had been observed by some of the early settlers, that where poles had been driven in the Lake, so as to penetrate firmly into the clay, they withstood the severe north-easters. This fact sug-