

ened and industrious people! and the flourishing city of Madison, the concentration of fashion and affluence, vieing with older cities for pre-eminence as the seat of science, literature and the arts, with her University, State Historical Society, State Agricultural Society, Natural History Association, Public Libraries, and various other local institutions, respectably comparing with those of similar character in the Eastern States.

"The Lake Side Water Cure," a hydropathic institute, of large dimensions, "across the waters," in the midst of a natural park of fifty acres or more, and in view from all the prominences of the city, is another object of attraction, and is fast gaining celebrity among invalids from all parts of our country.*

The buildings of the city, both public and private, also partake of the Quakeress character, though not of brick; the material generally used is a magnesian limestone, entirely destitute of fossils, susceptible of tolerably fine sculpture, and, upon penetrating the quarries beyond the influence of surface discoloration, of a beautiful buff color. I presume it to be the *lower* magnesian stratum. Are there in it indications of a lead-bearing character?

The lakes around Madison are deep and of remarkable transparency, abounding in many piscatory varieties, of large size, where disciples of Izaak, male and female, enjoy the angling pleasures with more reality than mere *nibblers*.

Prairie du Chien, on the Mississippi, at its confluence with the Wisconsin River, contains about two thousand inhabitants, though, like Rip Van Winkle, she has reposed for many years. A railroad, in progress from Milwaukee terminates here, and the prospect of the near approach of the "iron horse," with its shrill whistle, seems to have aroused her citizens from their lethargy. "The Prairie," a handsome river plain, covering an area of ten or twelve square miles, is skirted on the east by the same picturesque bluffs, which adorn the scenery of the Mississippi as far

*This institution is now under the superintendence of one of the ablest hydropathists of the Union—Dr. E. A. Kittredge, recently of Boston, so favorably known by his humorous productions over the signature of "Noggs."