

Hon. Charles Durkee, now U. S. Senator, also arrived at Kenosha in the summer of 1836, and bought lands next south and adjoining to the lands of Mr. Kimball. Mr. Durkee evinced great liberality in the disposal of his lands, and was also for many years prominent in every useful enterprise. He has left the evidence of his industry in every part of the place, having built more buildings than any other individual in Kenosha. He went from Kenosha a member of the first Territorial Legislature that convened in Wisconsin. Kenosha county was not then organized, but formed a part of the county of Milwaukee.

In the month of October, 1837, the steamboat *Detroit* was wrecked at Kenosha. She had on her upper deck a protuberance called a ladies cabin, which was about twelve by sixteen feet in size. This ladies cabin was bought by William Seymour, and placed on lot one, block fourteen, on the harbor. It was first occupied by a colored man by the name of Joseph Hobbs, who divided it into two apartments, the front of which he used as a barber's shop, and the back apartment for telling fortunes. In the double capacity of barber and fortune-teller, he managed to make a living from the necessities of one class, and from the credulity of another. Soon after, however, the ladies cabin was opened as a medical office and botanical drug store, by an ignorant pretender, who called himself Dr. McGonegal. The Doctor could be heard after midnight, pounding up roots, and days he drove up and down the streets and highways, a small lean horse, hitched to a heavy, one-horse, lumber wagon, in the hind end of which he usually had several bundles of roots, so arranged as to be in sight of those he might pass. In the course of two years, however, the place became too much "settled up" to suit the Doctor. Other physicians, whose theories and practice he looked upon with disgust, had come in, and Daniel McGonegal, M. D., left Kenosha, with a full determination, if there was such a place as the "Far West," he would find it.