

whose surface may not be turned with the farmer's plow and traversed with his cart.

"The Wisconsin River, one of the noblest of nature's streams, rises in the northern part of the county, receiving its waters from a multitude of silvery lakes, and meanders in nearly a south course, through the center of the county, into Portage, and empties its waters into the Mississippi, near Prairie du Chien. Its principal tributaries in the county, coming on the east, are Prairie, Pine, Trapp and Eau Claire; on the west, Big Eau Plaine and Rib. These are large enough to float lumber and logs, and mills are located on each, except Prairie. Besides these, there are other tributaries of equal importance further north, one the Eagle River, on which is found the best pine in the State.

"Along the immediate vicinity of the rivers, the timber is various. There is found pine, hemlock, sugar-maple, spruce, oak, elm, birch, &c., embracing almost every variety that grows in the Western country. Either way from the rivers, the hemlock generally disappears, and in many instances the pine also, and a beautiful growth of hard wood covers the soil, such as sugar-maple, butternut, walnut, oak, elm, &c.

"The soil throughout the county is of the finest quality for agricultural purposes. Within two years, attention has been turned to this branch of business, and the yield and quality have exceeded the expectations of the farmer. In towns 28, 29 and 30, ranges 5, 6 and 7, the land is mostly entered by Germans, who are doing a good business by way of farming. Openings are being made throughout the county, and some farms with a hundred acres of improvements have sprung into existence.

"The lumbering business is carried on quite extensively. Within the county is annually manufactured about 62,000,000 feet; of which Wausau turns out about 20,000,000; Rib River, 5,000,000; above Wausau, 10,000,000; Eau Claire, 15,000,000,