

market; in all the counties on the Wisconsin, and near the river, there are good lands at the graduation price of *seventy-five cents* per acre, yet remaining unsold.

There is scarcely a foot of waste land in Portage county—the few marshes or swamps in it, are all susceptible of drainage, whereby they may be made the best of plow-lands. Plover is the county seat; but Stevens' Point is the most populous village. This county is the most central of the State; and in position, soil, climate, and commercial advantages, holds the first rank on the Upper Wisconsin.

To Wood County the same general remarks are applicable, with the addition that its north-western portion lies on the head waters of several streams—as Mill creek, Yellow river, and Black river, all of which rise from the most beautiful spring brooks, and water several townships of the most charming hard-timbered lands in all this region. They are rapidly being settled up with *bona fide farmers*. Grand Rapids is the county seat; and with its transcendent water power, and pushing population, is fast becoming a stirring, prosperous town.

It seems hardly necessary to speak of the *health* of this part of the State; that fact having passed into a proverb. But some observations will be required on temperature and our *winters*. We shall not deny that we have a cold country, nor attempt to compare it with Southern Illinois or Missouri; yet as a general proposition, we are prepared to maintain that our climate, even in the depth of winter, is as agreeable in most respects, as that of the southern countries named. Our winters are fully inaugurated about the 10th to the 15th of November, and with slight interludes, continue from the 10th to 20th of March. During these sixteen weeks, the ground is generally covered with snow; with good sleighing, and steady cold weather, all of which are found much more conducive to health, pleasure, business and the success of agricultural pursuits, than the alternate thaws and freezes, mud