

Besides the portraits above named, we have one of the late Hon. Ben C. Eastman, one of the Hon. Edward Pier, an early settler of Fond du Lac county, and one of the Hon. A. A. Townsend, one of the first settlers of south-western Wisconsin, and two pictures of the Black Hawk battle-grounds.

The battle-field of Wisconsin Heights, near Sauk, is a splendid landscape view, by the aid of which the relative positions of the opposing forces can easily be understood. The battle-field of the Bad Ax presents a fine view of the Mississippi river, with its wide margin of bottom lands, in which the Indians were concealed. Both these were painted by Brookes and Stevenson, from drawings made from nature. One was purchased by the Society, and the other was a gift from Hon. H. C. Bull, whose munificence has enabled the Society to add much to its efficiency. The same artists are to sketch and paint the Pecatonica battle-field the present season.

Looking back, at this distance of time, upon those early scenes and border wars, they may seem trivial; but when we consider Wisconsin as it was then, almost entirely unsettled, with roving bands of Indians, the terror of the few whites, it will be seen that the settlement of the country depended upon the battle-fields of the Black Hawk war; and instead of being uninteresting spots, they are the birth-place of our State.

The Society have endeavored to perfect the plan alluded to in our last Report, and hope at no distant day to have the portraits of all our prominent public men. Several of our well-known pioneers have promised portraits, and when all these promises are fulfilled, our Picture Gallery will exceed in interest any collection of Paintings in the West. Thinking that short sketches of those whose portraits have, during the past year, been added to our collection, and now adorn our walls, and also of the artists who painted them, would not prove uninteresting, we subjoin as many as we have been able to obtain,—in the preparation of which, the Committee