

to expand very much in business, a wholesale trade brought into demand, and our ware-houses loaded with flour and grain, most of which are taken to the west side of the Mississippi, to supply that vast territory recently opened for settlement. While many thousands of dollars have been expended in the erection of mills, business houses, shops, and dwellings, it is probable that more than double the amount would have been expended, had it been possible to have obtained lumber sufficient. Prescott, like all other towns in the Upper Country, suffered from this cause this year.

The village of Prescott is located in the north-west corner of the State, at the junction of the Mississippi river and Lake St. Croix. The streams are about one thousand feet wide, with an average depth of 15 feet. The bank slopes easily to the river, forming an excellent levee, and rises in a vertical ledge generally along the Lake. The entire front is nearly in the form of a crescent. The lower part of the village ascends gently from the Lake and river for a distance varying from thirty to sixty rods; it then rises about seventy feet, and there spreads out into a beautiful prairie, half a mile in width. This elevation is also semi-circular. The front is worn out in scalloped shape, and upon the summit of each "scallop" the Indians have erected mounds. From every portion of this prairie, the most charming views are presented—long stretches of the Mississippi, up and down the river, dotted with islands, with bold, precipitous banks, and the green prairies and rounded hills of Minnesota stretching away far in the distance. Lake St. Croix, too, opens a long vista of gorgeous scenery. No description, however, would give an adequate impression of the beauties of the place. Nearly opposite the center of the water front, there is a narrow, low peninsula, stretching southward, between the river and the Lake, called Point Douglas, and some half a mile up the river there is a small village of the same name, containing two stores, a hotel, and several dwellings.