

In 1849, the land office for the Chippewa district, was removed from St. Croix Falls to Willow river, where it has been located ever since. For several years, however, the advantages of this section of country, were very little known abroad, and consequently very few emigrants were attracted thither, hence the business of the land office was so small, that an entry was hardly made once a month; and, it is said, that the gentlemanly Register used to get up nights, in order to wait on a customer who came from a distance. It was not until sometime after the admission of Wisconsin, as a State, that the rush of emigration to the North-West commenced, and when it did begin, Minnesota became the great point of attraction, and the claims of North-Western Wisconsin, were little thought of or regarded, and its settlement was, therefore, much less rapid.

In June, 1850, Messrs. Gibson and Henning, Peter F. Bouchea, J. W. Stone, and J. G. Crowns, laid out about twenty acres adjoining Buena Vista, and called the village Willow River, which superseded the former name, and was subsequently changed to Hudson.

At first, but few emigrants found their way to Hudson, except such as by chance happened to stray away from Minnesota, and attracted by the beauty of its situation, and its evident natural advantages as a center of commerce, determined to locate there, and abide the result, feeling certain that it must, at some day, become at least an important town. As no extensive speculators in real estate were ready to expend immense sums in advertising and puffing their town site, the village increased gradually, as the wants of the back country demanded, steadily attracting greater attention abroad, since every man who had actually seen it, was a living advertisement of its natural beauty and advantages,—until in June, 1855, it contained, according to an accurate census, a population of 1011.

Since that time, Hudson has rapidly increased in popula-