

tion and wealth, and especially since the passage of the Railroad Land Grant by Congress, its position has become more widely known, from its connection with the contemplated railroads, and its progress has been correspondingly rapid, so that on the opening of navigation in 1857, its population was hardly less than 2,500. Additions to the town plat have been made from time to time, as the demand for lots increased, until the city, as now laid out, covers an area of some eight hundred acres. At the last session of the Legislature, a charter was granted for the city of Hudson, and the organization under it has been completed by the election of officers, who have already entered upon their duties.

Nearly opposite Hudson, on the Minnesota side of the Lake, is the village of Lakeland, a town newly laid out, and containing at present a population of about 200. It is admirably situated, on a level plateau, which commands an extensive view of the Lake and the opposite shore. Its location is exceedingly favorable for milling and manufacturing business, the deep water, and the elevated and gradually sloping shore, making it a very desirable place for steam saw-mills. One large mill is already in operation, and three others are being constructed. Arrangements are being made to secure a steam ferry between Hudson and Lakeland during the present summer. The growth of the two towns is destined to be identical, and they may be regarded as in fact one town.

Independent of the prospects which Hudson has, of becoming the depot of the immense amount of commerce which must eventually spring up, between the Mississippi Valley, and Lake Superior, it is also backed by a region of country, necessarily tributary to it, which, when fully developed, is of itself sufficient to create and maintain a large city. Of this region, we propose to give a brief account.

If we start at the point where the south line of St. Croix county strikes the Lake, and draw a line north-easterly, to the mouth of Hay river, thence north, up the Red Cedar river, to