Judge Joshua Hathaway, was one of six brothers who carried muskets side by side under the famous Gen. John Stark, at Bennington, and who, July 4th, 1817, was selected to remove the first spade full of earth at the commencement of the Erie Canal.

His father, Maj. Larrabee, while yet connected with the army, was at Green Bay and Prairie du Chien in 1821, and was subsequently ordered to Chillicothe, Ohio. For a while he held the office of surveyor of the port of Cincinnati, by appointment of President Jackson. The early education of his son was principally obtained at Springfield Academy, and Granville College, now Denison University, Ohio, where he pursued an academic course in English studies, mathematics, and the ancient languages, excelling in debates with his fellows on the rostrum.

He read law with Gen. Samson Mason, and W. A. Rogers, prominent lawyers of Springfield, Ohio; but being yet young, he concluded to engage awhile in the hardy employment of civil engineering, and thus aided in the construction of the Little Miami railroad, the pioneer improvement of the kind in Ohio. Thence, in 1841, he went to Pontotoc, Mississippi, where he joined his old Granville classmate, the writer of this sketch; and where after a spasmodic attempt at farming, he was, in September, of that year, admitted to the bar, and was an unsuccessful candidate on the Bond-Paying Democratic ticket for the legislature. The climate not agreeing with him, he finally settled at Chicago, in July, 1844, where he engaged in the practice of law, and edited the Democratic Advocate, on the insignificant salary of twelve dollars a month, and where he was elected city attorney. On May 13th, 1846, he was united in marriage with Minerva Norton, a young lady of many accomplishments; and at the close of March, 1847, he settled at Horicon, Wisconsin; giving that beautiful name to the lake and village. He utilized the fine water-power at that point by the erection of mills, and there he made for himself a very cosy home.

In October of 1847, he was chosen one of the three members to represent Dodge County in the second constitutional convention, having been elected by a large majority, receiving the unanimous vote of the people of Horicon. Out of the sixty-four