

tinued for many years, for there was then no civil law by which rights could be enforced or wrongs redressed; but the establishment of our Territorial government, and the immediate influx of a large population, eventually destroyed the Indian trade, and Farnsworth with others, abandoned his old trading-post, emerged into civilized life, and engaged in other pursuits.

For the last twenty-five years he has been a resident of Sheboygan, having been one of the first proprietors and settlers at that place. The first lumbering establishment on Menomonee River was started under his auspices, as well as the first upon the Sheboygan River, and in all his plans of business, a strength of will and a determination of character were exhibited, which under most unpropitious circumstances, would ordinarily insure success. We have spoken of him only, as the fearless and enterprising pioneer; we can also bear our personal testimony to the cordiality of his friendship, and if his enmities were many and implacable, we account for them rather as the fruit of the constant and unscrupulous warfare always attendant upon rivalry in the prosecution of the fur-trade, than springing from natural bitterness of disposition, or a cold and selfish spirit. At his old home on the Menomonee, we have often, at an early day, partaken of his generous hospitality, and in later years have looked back with unalloyed pleasure upon many hours of social intercourse, without one unpleasant thought to embitter the recollection of his uniform kindness and liberality.

His course in life has been varied and interesting. He abandoned the pleasures of civilized society to brave the hardships and privations of the frontier; he staked without fear, life, fortune and hope in an unequal encounter with a powerful rival for pecuniary profit; he devoted a life-time to the slow progress which converts a wilderness to civilization, and when all his hopes were ripened into fruition, reposing in fancied security from harm, he fell a victim to dangers he had so often and habitually courted yet despised. When the lives and sacrifices of those adventurous spirits who penetrated and reclaimed the forests of Wisconsin, are recorded by the future historian, the name of William Farnsworth will be entitled to a prominent place.

M.