

from their old homes; only a very few articles which were most essential could be transported at that time: no chairs, no tables, no bed-steads—nothing but the old traditional feather bed and a meager lot of crockery for the table.

I remember very well the construction of our log house. Logs were rolled one upon another, and between the logs were put wedges of split oak, filled or “chinked” in with mud from the bank. The floors were made from plank split from oak; and the shingles were turned out in the same manner. The table which we used for many years was made from oak, and the chairs we possessed were simply three-legged stools with plank to cover the three legs; old settlers have a keen recollection of them. In the end of the log house was an old-fashioned chimney, made in the usual manner. It was many years after this log house was constructed, before a frame house was erected in that portion of the county. These old landmarks have now almost wholly disappeared, and with the old pioneers will soon have returned to dust.

The early settlers of Jefferson county, so far as I can remember, were all men of small means. They had but little money. Many of them found it difficult to furnish bread for their families during the time the ground was being cleared and broken in order to produce a crop. The first township organization was Jefferson, including Aztalan, Milford, Lake Mills and Waterloo. At this time, and for several years subsequent, provisions were very high, and the market for the early settlers was Milwaukee, some fifty or more miles distant, with the roads almost impassable. I remember that in the spring of 1838 we got out of provisions, and my father started for Milwaukee for some flour and pork. The weather was unpropitious, the roads were very bad, and after an absence of over three weeks, during which period his family were much alarmed about his safety, he returned, having spent all of his money for just one barrel of flour. This was, before long, nearly all loaned out to the settlers who had not money enough even for their necessary wants. A kindly and fraternal feeling prevailed most emphatically among all the early settlers. There was no