

In 1846, the population of Manitowoc county was said to be 629. In 1850 it was 3,702, and in 1860 about 23,000, among whom was a large proportion of Germans. Probably the first group of North Germans to settle in the county, were a body of men from Holstein, whom Frederick Burchardt, a native of Saxony, met in Detroit and induced to go to Neshoto, where there was a saw-mill belonging to the Stringham Company, by whom he was employed. Some of the people located in Neshoto, others in Mishicott. This was about 1840. The next German settlers were mostly from Saxony and Rhenish Prussia. Between 1848 and 1865, a large number of Mecklenburgers and Pomeranians located in the county. There are said to be about 5,000 families of this class, together with the Hanoverians and Oldenburgers, who are known as Mecklenburgers from the fact that the majority came from Mecklenburg-Schwerin. These people belong to eleven or more Lutheran congregations.<sup>1</sup>

Passing to Winnebago county, we find the German element outside of Oshkosh, mostly confined to the northern towns. In the city of Oshkosh there are over 1,000 North German families, of which the men chiefly work in the lumber mills and factories, while a few are engaged in some independent business. They belong to four Lutheran churches and one German Methodist; of these, about 700 families are said to be from Pomerania,—the rest come from Posen, Mecklenburg, and East and West Prussia. The time of settlement is difficult to determine exactly, though it seems that few came before 1854, and the great bulk had settled in Oshkosh before 1870.

In Neenah, there is a group of one hundred families from the district of Stettin, Pomerania. The process of settlement began about 1865, and has continued to within five years. In the city and town of Neenah, and in the neigh-

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<sup>1</sup> The location is, so far as I can learn, about as follows: The town of Maple Grove, and the adjoining towns of Cato, Franklin, and Rockland contain about 80 or 100 Pomeranian families; in Reedsville, there are a number of West Prussians, while in the city of Manitowoc, and scattered through the country, are the Mecklenburgers and Hanoverians.