

PREFACE.

The documents with which this volume opens, illustrate a prominent phase of the relations of our pre-Territorial pioneers with the aborigines of the district around Green Bay, particularly as to the manner of acquiring land grants and mill-site privileges.

In previous volumes of this series, there have been published documents setting forth facts attending the establishment in Wisconsin of the Catholic and Episcopalian denominations. In this volume, we devote much space to valuable documentary material bearing upon the formation of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches in Wisconsin. Jesse Miner and Cutting Marsh were the pioneer Presbyterian missionaries. Concerning Miner's brief work here, we have but few documents. Marsh's career is outlined for us by Dr. John E. Chapin; following this sketch, are presented Marsh's exhaustive annual reports to the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge, and other papers by him, which throw light upon his remarkable mission to the Stockbridges at Statesburg (Kaukauna). Alfred Brunson, "the first Methodist minister who set foot on the soil north of the Wisconsin River," tells us of his curious experiences upon a "Horseback tour from Pennsylvania to Wisconsin," in 1835, and describes pioneer life in southwest Wisconsin the year previous to the organization of the Territory.

Readers of Vol. XIV of our series will remember with pleasure Mrs. Elizabeth Thérèse Baird's recollections of her life upon Mackinac Island during the second and third decades of this century. We now publish her "Reminiscences of Life in Territorial Wisconsin," from 1824 to 1842. These memoirs possess much of the charm which charac-