

night we passed at Major Meecham's, an old friend of Governor Dodge. The fifth day we reached Milwaukee, after having passed Prairieville (now Waukesha), and tasted the sweet comforts of traveling over the corduroy roads through the so-called "Milwaukee woods."

The principal object of our trip was to establish business relations at Milwaukee, by which we might be enabled to send the products of the lead mines to Milwaukee, thence to be shipped to the eastern markets by way of the lakes, and so create a competing port with Galena. Our arrangements were made with Messrs. Joe and Linsey Ward, gentlemen of means and enterprise, to whom the lead was consigned. But the undertaking did not prove a financial success, and was not kept up long. The transportation of the lead by "prairie schooners," as the ox teams were called, while in the lead mines they went by the name of "sucker teams," was too expensive.¹

During this visit to Milwaukee, I became acquainted with most of the prominent business men of that city; particularly with Josiah A. Noonan, with whom I continued on intimate terms until his death. Mr. Noonan was a man of remarkable energy, and acquainted with the public and private history of every prominent man of Wisconsin. He was a true and honest friend of his friends, but a good hater of his enemies. Linsey Ward was a Democrat, but Joe Ward was a pronounced Whig and a friend of Governor Doty; and although he shortly afterward married Mrs. Kingberry, a daughter of Governor Dodge, he remained loyal to his friend, and was one of his trusted counsellors, so that in the mines he was known as "Doty's left bower." I also got acquainted with Solomon Juneau, Fred Warner, Daniel Wells, Jr., Hans Crocker, and many prominent men who afterward gained great distinction in business and politics.

The summer following, I began the erection of a brick store and dwelling house at Mineral Point, which was, I think, the first solid brick building put up there. Most of

¹ See Libby's "Significance of the Lead and Shot Trade in Early Wisconsin," *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xiii, pp. 293-334.— Ed.