The LUTHERAN TRAIL

The LUTHERAN TRAIL

A History of the Synodical Conference Lutheran Churches in Northern Illinois

By Louis J. Schwartzkopf

CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

Printed in the United States of America

This work, THE LUTHERAN TRAIL, *we dedicate to the blessed memory of the sainted Fathers of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, who, under God, have blazed a trail through the prairies of northern Illinois, leaving to their children a sacred heritage, a Church with the Word of God and His Holy Ordinances pure and undefiled.*

We further dedicate this record of the accomplishments of God's grace within the Lutheran Church to all fellow Lutherans of this region, particularly to our children and to future generations, praying that they ever may be mindful of the rich blessings which the Lord our God has wrought so abundantly in our midst during the past century, and that they may prove to be worthy administrators of their inheritance.

Preface

IT was with wavering courage that the undersigned yielded to the request submitted to him in 1944 by the Centennial Historical Committee appointed by the Rev. Ernest T. Lams, then President of the Northern Illinois District, to prepare a history of "True Lutheranism, Its Part in the Development of Greater Chicago." The committee, consisting of Pastors Ferdinand L. Gehrs, Paul Sauer, and William Gahl, subsequently forwarded to all pastors in charge of Missouri Synod congregations in the area of immediate concern a friendly appeal for support in this venture, with the specific request that "every pastor compile a history of his congregation." All data were to be in the hands of the committee by February 1, 1945. Approximately one year later, a comparatively large number received another, but more urgent, appeal for historical data: "Please do not stand back, but send the history of your congregation or a brief sketch of it before *September* 1, 1946, to . . ." (the undersigned).

Meanwhile, at several special meetings with the Centennial Historical Committee in the central office of the Northern Illinois District, 77 West Washington Street, Chicago, the outline and the scope of the proposed history were enthusiastically and thoroughly discussed; these meetings invariably were followed by personal visits to many sources of pertinent information: pastors, teachers, laymen, libraries, historical deposits, etc., which resulted in a tremendous amount of copying, most of which was competently done by a daughter of an 1884 graduate of the old Teachers' Seminary in Addison, Emma,

nee Gerlach, my wife. From the more than 6,000 standard-size double-spaced typed sheets, progress toward adequate conciseness was understandably slow. With the unstinted aid of John L. Astley-Cock, associate editor of Religion and Education, *The Chicago Tribune*, and of Dr. John G. Kunstmann, associate professor in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, The University of Chicago, the basic objective was reached during the winter months of 1946-1947. Grateful acknowledgment is herewith directed also to Mr. C. W. Tennant of the Western United Gas and Electric Co., Aurora, for supplying copies of the "Service Bulletins" containing valuable data concerning various points of local historical interest; likewise, to the Rev. Walter G. Stallmann, through whose voluntary efforts access was prepared to F. O. Peterson & Sons, printers in Aurora, from whom a well-preserved copy of *The Centennial Record of Aurora* was secured; also to Miss Clara Schweppe for her cheerful co-operation while searching for salient facts regarding pastors and day school teachers in the files of the Statistical Bureau, Concordia Publishing House; to Miss Lillian Brune for her patience in trying to convince us of her choice of design and general make-up; to Prof. L. Blankenbuehler and his associates for their meticulous proofreading; to Dr. Martin Piehler and his staff for supplying needed copies of synodical *Proceedings*; and to all others who in any way participated in bringing the task to a successful finish.

Difficulties which arose in the printing trade prevented the publishing of this historical volume, the title of which was altered to "The Lutheran Trail," in 1947—the Missouri Synod's centennial year. After a long lapse of time this writer was informed that Synod's Centennial Committee was desirous of having the history published, with the understanding, however, that it would be brought up to date. Additional data were forthwith gathered, and several months afterward the publishers began the actual printing job.

The feasibility of presenting an, albeit somewhat sketchy, account of Lutheran activities in America which preceded the inception of Lutheranism in this part of our country probably will not be seriously questioned. The purpose seems obvious. Neither will the chronological arrangement of the 250 congregations constitute a grievous problem; moreover, it is hoped that the reader's imagination will not be stretched too taut as he approaches the end of an article in "1949" and at the beginning of the next one suddenly is whisked back, in spirit, to "1860" or "1900."

An attempt to supply vital information concerning the Missouri Synod's founding and gradual development and the various educational institutions and charitable organizations in the Northern Illinois area is exemplified in Part Three.

If the "Trail" has not been properly blazed, we shall soon find out. May all who follow in its wake charitably consider the manifold obstacles that had to be overcome on this its first peregrination.

Vista of the Midway Plaisance
1443 East Sixtieth Street
Chicago 37, Illinois

LOUIS J. SCHWARTZKOPF

Contents

Plates

The LUTHERAN TRAIL

Part One

The Trail Starts

"Martyrum Sanguis Semen Ecclesiae"—"The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church"—and martyrdom marks the genesis of the Lutheran Trail!

Admiral de Coligny, the eminent Huguenot leader, in the year 1564 had established a settlement near St. Augustine, Fla., a territory over which Spain claimed dominion. Whereupon Pedro Menendez was dispatched under commission "to destroy the Lutheran French who had dared to settle there." Accordingly, on September 20, 1565, occurred the Massacre of Fort Caroline. Two hundred and thirty-three members of the settlement were beheaded, and a placard was placed over their graves bearing the inscription: "We slew them not as Frenchmen, but as Lutherans."*

But with this sanguinary execution of his mission Menendez signed his death warrant. There were seven survivors of the massacre. They, together with the Levantine sailors of the expedition, mutinied against Menendez, killed him, and betook themselves in his ship to Denmark, and it was from Denmark that history, fifty-four years later, erected another

*Some historians refer to these French settlers as "heretics."

marker on the Lutheran Trail, again associated with death.

Captain Jens Munck with crews of two Danish vessels set out to discover the northwest passage to India. In 1619 he anchored in Hudson Bay and set up winter quarters on the western shore, now part of the Province of Manitoba. That winter forty of his crew died. Chaplain to the expedition was the Rev. Rasmus Jensen. He read the funeral service over these sailors who were buried in a plot he had previously staked out, and thus was dedicated the first Lutheran cemetery on the North American continent. The chaplain's last recorded pastoral act was celebration of the Lord's Supper on Christmas Day of that year. On February 20, 1620, he died and was interred alongside the flock to which he had so faithfully ministered.

Overshadowed as the Lutheran Trail was by mass murder in the sixteenth century and the tragedy of death in the seventeenth, it was further darkened by massacre in the first half of the eighteenth century.

In 1710 a migration of Lutherans from Switzerland settled at New Berne in North Carolina. Indians almost wiped out the colony the following year, and the survivors fled to Virginia. In 1739 some German Lutherans had founded a colony on the "wild and forbidding" coast of Maine where today the town of Waldoboro is situated. Seven years later the settlement was raided by Indians, who murdered the majority, carried the remainder into captivity, and by burning their primitive homes "turned the whole region into a dreary waste." But the Salzburgers, harassed for three years in their homeland, who emigrated to Georgia, found a goodly heritage.

The Salzburgers were a persecuted group from the Alpine district of Austria, so called because they formed a confederacy named the Salzbund. They existed on a diet of salt and bread, and vowed never to prove untrue to their Lutheran

convictions. On October 31, 1731, an order was issued that they change their faith or emigrate, leaving behind all children not of age. A considerable number so did, and they were welcomed at Charleston in March, 1734, by General Oglethorpe. A few days later, accompanied by the Rev. J. M. Belzius and the Rev. I. C. Gronau, they were allotted territory near Savannah. They named their settlement Ebenezer—"Rock of Salvation."

Let none think, however, that at this early period the Lutheran Trail was nought but sporadically stained with blood; along its way are many historic markers recording heroes and deeds of first instance.

There was the first Lutheran pastor to work among settlers in America, the Rev. Reorus Torkillus. He arrived on April 17, 1640, a passenger of the second expedition from Sweden. He became pastor of the Swedes who had settled on Christina Creek, where they had erected a fort, named in honor of their Queen, Christina.

Then there was the first missioner who erected the first church, the Rev. Johan Campanius of Sweden. In 1645 he brought the evangel to the northeastern coast of America and forthwith busied himself translating the Small Catechism of Dr. Martin Luther into the Iroquois dialect. On September 4, 1646, he dedicated the first Lutheran church, "a handsome wooden building," on the Isle of Tinicum, about fifteen miles from the mouth of the Delaware River, known now as Tenacon Island.

Also there was the first pastor to the Dutch, who had settled in 1623 at Fort Orange on Manhattan Island, the Rev. Johannes Ernestus Goetwater (Gutwasser). He was commissioned by the Lutheran ministry of Amsterdam "to minister to the Lutherans in the Hudson Valley," and arrived at his post early in 1657.[1]

Next was the first pastor of the German Evangelical Lu-

theran Church in America, the Rev. Justus Falckner, who holds the distinction of being the first Lutheran minister to be ordained in this country. His ordination took place in the Swedish church at Wicaco on November 24, 1703. The site is now included in the "City of Brotherly Love"—Philadelphia, Pa. After a ministry of about twenty years, mostly in the States of New York and New Jersey, he died in 1723.[2]

Finally, there was the Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, founder of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania in 1748, the mother synod of the Lutheran Church, originally called "United Pastors and United Congregations."[3]

The Lutheran Trail now enters on an era of continuous achievement. Those unrelated, indistinct by-paths, started variously from Hudson Bay to the Atlantic Ocean, at last converge to form the objective of this chronicle. All preceding was prophetic of what Lutherans had to surmount as the Trail began to traverse the State of Illinois before it ended in the Centennial accomplishment of the Missouri Synod in northern Illinois.

Before blazing this trail, however, attendant circumstances and society must be briefly sketched better to apprehend the arduous labors of those pioneers in the past century.

By the Peace of Paris in 1763 Illinois was ceded by France to Great Britain. Seven years after the adoption of the Declaration of Independence (1776), Illinois was ceded to the United States of America and was then known as "Illinois County of Virginia." "The two extremes of the early civilization of America were immensely influenced by two very opposite forms of the religious idea, namely, that which the Puritans represented in the East and that which the Jesuits represented in the West."[4]

In 1787, one year before the organization of the second Lutheran synod in this country, the New York Ministerium, Illinois became a part of the Great Northern Territory.

When Thomas Jefferson was elected the third President of the United States, in 1800, Illinois was made a part of Indiana Territory, with General William Henry Harrison as governor and the seat of government at Vincennes, Ind. By this time "the New York Ministerium had completely fallen away from Lutheranism." Rationalism was the monster that had pounced upon a large section of Lutheranism.[5]

In 1803 the North Carolina Synod, the mother synod of all the Southern synods, was organized by four Lutheran clergymen, including the Rev. Paul Henkel, and fourteen laymen at Salisbury, N.C.[6]

For the first time in the history of the Lutheran Church in America—now about 166 years old—the "language question" became an issue in 1806. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, William C. Berkenmeyer, and other German as well as Swedish clergymen had been preaching in the English language without serious disapproval or drastic interference. But now, in 1806, under the leadership of John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, an illustrious son of the "patriarch of the Lutheran Church in America" and colonel in the Continental Army, some of the members of Saint Michael's Congregation in the "City of Brotherly Love," Philadelphia, Pa., insisted upon calling an English-speaking minister to replace their own two German ministers. Most of the votes cast were in favor of abiding by the existing arrangement. The minority left and established a church of its own—Saint John's.

Near Saint Michael's stood Zion Church. Under the auspices of the United States Government a memorial service for "the Father of his Country"—George Washington—who died December 14, 1799, was held in the latter Lutheran church on December 26, 1799. Members of the Senate and the Supreme Court as well as many generals and other officers who had served under General Washington's brilliant leadership attended that service. General "Light Horse Harry" Henry Lee

gave the principal address on this occasion, and it was here that the now familiar words were heard for the first time: "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

In 1815 Saint Michael's Congregation was again disquieted by the "language question"; and in September of the following year another separation occurred, resulting in the founding of Saint Matthew's Congregation.[7]

In 1809 Illinois was made a separate territory, with Ninian Edwards as governor and the seat of government in the old French village of Kaskaskia,[8] in what now is Randolph County in the southwestern part of the State.*

During the "era of good feeling," which began in 1816, or slightly less than four years after the United States Government had signed the treaty of peace with England, the fifth President of the nation, James Monroe, in his second annual message to the Congress of the United States, declared: "I communicate with great satisfaction the accession of another State [Illinois] to our Union, because I perceive from the proof afforded by the additions already made the regular progress and sure consummation of a policy of which history affords no example, and of which the good effect cannot be too highly estimated. By extending our Government on the principles of our Constitution over the vast territory within our limits, on the Lakes and the Mississippi and its numerous streams, new life and vigor are fused into every part of our system."[9] Thus Illinois, in 1818, became the eighth State to be admitted to the Union.

What constitutes a State?
Not high-rais'd battlements, nor labored mound,
Thick wall, nor moated gate;
Nor cities proud, with spires and turrets crown'd,
Nor starr'd and spangled courts,
Where low-born baseness wafts perfume to pride:

*In 1820 the seat of government was moved to Vandalia, where it remained until moved to Springfield in 1837.

But *men!* high-minded men,
Who their *duties* know, but know their *rights*,
And knowing, *dare* maintain them.[10]

In the same year, 1818, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Ohio and Adjoining States, constituting the western part of the Pennsylvania Ministerium, was founded at Somerset, Perry County, Ohio.[11]

It was during the decade 1820-1830 that the great westward trek was in progress. The gradual opening of new territories beyond the Appalachian Mountains, combined with the widely publicized offer of low-priced land and relief from the hard times which had been brought on by the recent War of 1812, lured many people away from the Atlantic seaboard. "Overland in great Conestoga wagons, and driving their herds before them, came settlers from Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Virginia, entering the eastern borders of Indiana, establishing their homes and subduing the wilderness. From the sunny Southland came hardy pioneers, desiring to improve their temporal conditions, and to escape the baneful influence of slavery. Everywhere the woodman's ax was heard, and the smoke ascended from hundreds of clearings, where the finest poplar, oak, and walnut were consigned to the flames to make room for the corn and wheat of the thrifty farmer."[12] Among the participants in that great early "Cavalcade of America" were numerous Lutherans. "Lutherans of Pennsylvania and New York moved into Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, and many from Maryland and Virginia and the Carolinas went to southern Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and even Missouri."[13]

First settled in the southern section, Illinois as a United States territory and State, derived its earliest population largely from southern and southeastern States. The first known Lutheran clergyman in the young State was the Rev. John L. Markert from Ohio.[14] According to Wagner, however, the Rev. Daniel Scherer "may justly be regarded as the patriarch of the

Lutheran Church in Illinois"; in fact, Wagner goes so far as to say that Scherer was for a number of years the only Lutheran pastor in the State.[15]

Illinois, the "most level" of the forty-eight States, has an area of approximately 56,650 square miles. The northern section, which is our immediate concern, comprises approximately eleven thousand square miles. Hence, only about one fifth of the State's total area is the theater in which the events between 1840 and 1949, chronicled in these pages, took place.

Inasmuch as Chicago will be referred to more frequently than any other city, town, or village in Illinois, no apologies are offered for presenting at least a brief outline of this great metropolitan center's history and development.

The wars which had ravaged the northwestern frontiers were terminated on August 3, 1795, by General "Mad Anthony" Wayne when a treaty of peace with the hostile Indian tribes was successfully negotiated at Greenville, Ohio. By that treaty, signed for the United States by General Wayne and for the Indians by Chief Little Turtle, the Indians ceded, along with other items, "one piece of land six miles square, at the mouth of the Chikagou River, emptying into the southwest end of Lake Michigan, where a fort formerly stood."

The fort alluded to probably had been built by the French during the latter part of the seventeenth century. In 1804 another fort was erected on or near the same site and named "Dearborn," in honor of General Henry Dearborn, an officer in the American Revolution and later Secretary of War. It was located on the south bank of the Chicago River, directly east of what was the Rush Street Bridge.* At that time the "Chikagou" River took a sharp turn to the south, just east of the fort, and made its way into the lake over a heavy sandbar near the now eastern end of Madison Street. "Far in the wilderness," the fort was reached from Detroit by a woodland trail.

*Rush Street no longer extends as far south as the river; also, the bridge has long since been non-existent.

When, in 1812, this nation became involved in war with Great Britain, the Indians independently went on the warpath and in this part of the country attacked Fort Dearborn. Obedient to an order from General William Hull, at Detroit, Mich., Captain Nathan Heald and his party abandoned Fort Dearborn in the middle of August, 1812. On the fifteenth day of that month the company was attacked by Indians among the sand hills along the lake shore. Most of the Americans, "including twelve children, were massacred and their scalps sold to Colonel Proctor, who had offered a premium for American scalps."

For four years after this tragic event the place was deserted by all save the Indians. . . . Chicago seemed to have been recommitted to aboriginal obscurity. At the end of that dark period, however, the pendulum started a powerful swing backward, and a great change took place in the dramatic presentations, particularly in the "Northern Illinois Theater."

In 1816 the fort was rebuilt under the direction of Captain Hezekiah Bradley, and thereafter it was continuously occupied by United States troops for twenty-one years, except for a short time in 1831. In 1827 the town of Chicago was composed of six or seven families, a number of half-breeds, and a lot of idle, vagabond Indians loitering about. For several years mail was brought once or twice a month from the nearest post office—Fort Wayne, Ind.

At that time, Cook County, named after Daniel P. Cook, one of Illinois' first Congressmen and perhaps better known as the "father of the Illinois-Michigan Canal," embraced all the territory now included in the counties of Lake, McHenry, Du Page, Will, and Iroquois. For a short time prior to that, the entire northern portion of the State of Illinois was included in Peoria County.

According to George S. Phillips the period between the second building of the fort until 1830 was, geologically speak-

ing, the Saurian period of Chicago's history. The first white settler was John Kinzie, and the first white child born in Chicago was Ellen Marion Kinzie. Reputedly, however, a Negro, Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable, has the distinction of having been the first "Chicagoan."

In the spring of 1831 the United States Government Postal Department in Washington, D.C., established a post office in the village of Chicago, which during the previous year had been laid out to cover an area of only three eighths of a square mile and "had streets marked off, although these were indistinguishable in the mud." The time required for mail to come from New York, via Cleveland, Ohio, and Detroit, Mich., was about twenty days.

The Government troops which had been dispatched to expel the Indians from the "Great Northwest" returned to their respective homes in 1832 and there sang the praises of the fertile valleys which they had discovered along the banks of the Illinois, the Fox, and the Rock Rivers. This resulted in the beginning of a great influx of immigrants into this area; many of them preferred to settle in the little town of Chicago at Lake Michigan, "the great water."

When Andrew Jackson in 1833 started upon his second term in the White House, the Congress made an appropriation for a harbor at Chicago. Piers were built out into the lake, a channel was cut through the old sandbar, and the heavy spring rains, together with the melting snow, gave it a thorough and much needed cleansing.

On August 10, 1833, the incorporation record of the "village" Chicago, numbering 250 inhabitants, was registered in the now thirteen-year-old capital, Vandalia. A few weeks later, September 26, the treaty of peace with the Potawatomis, Ottawas, and Chippewas was definitely completed, and soon afterward the Indians, accompanied by Chief Sauganash, were on their trek toward their new reservation on the western side of

the Mississippi River, "the Father of Waters." Two years after its incorporation the village's population had increased to 3,297.

In 1836 the digging of the Illinois-Michigan Canal, linking Lake Michigan and the Chicago River with the Illinois River and the apparently boundless riches of the vast Mississippi Valley, was begun. In the following year, 1837, when Martin Van Buren became the eighth President of the United States and had to cope with an acute financial panic, the first candidates for the mayoralty of Chicago were nominated: the Democrat William Butler Ogden and the Whig John H. Kinzie. Ogden was elected with a majority of 282 votes—809 being the total number of votes cast.

At that time Chicago's population was 4,180. There were 398 dwellings, 29 dry goods stores, 5 drugstores, 5 hardware stores, 4 warehouses, 45 grocery stores, 10 taverns, 17 law offices, and 5 churches when the struggling village was reincorporated as a city in 1837.

The financial panic referred to affected the Chicagoans to such an extent that for a time it appeared as though it would have been better for most of them to have remained at the Eastern seaboard, if not in the "old country." More and more they were being fettered by poverty and practically profitless toil. The real estate boom burst like a bubble; the value of landed property declined with almost incredible speed; cash money was virtually out of circulation; and trade and commerce lay wholly prostrate.

A factor which very materially helped to prevent Chicago from sinking back into oblivion was the construction of the Illinois-Michigan Canal, which provided an income for many Chicago laborers. Other early settlers moved into the country districts round about and engaged in farming and truck gardening on a greater or lesser scale. This fact may account for the familiar reference to Chicago as the "Garden City."

According to Lewis and Smith, Chicago's incorporation as a city included the selected motto "Urbs in Horto" (City in a Garden). The depression lasted for seven long years, and during this time some of the inhabitants supplied food for their tables by hunting and fishing. The Madison Street Bridge was a popular place for duck hunting. "As late as 1838 wolves could be heard at night howling in the woods around this little town."

The first census of Chicago was taken July 1, 1839. It showed a grand total of 4,170 persons, of whom 3,989 were white, 77 Negroes, and 104 sailors.

As the 1840's dawned, 4,470 inhabitants sat along "Garlic Creek"—more politely called the Chicago River—wondering if they were justified in referring to their community as the Garden City, or if the slurs of certain other people after all had more basis in fact, namely, that Chicago was only a "mudhole in the prairie," or a huge dismal swamp. Perhaps some of them opined that they had jumped out of the frying pan into the fire.

The climax of the depression came in 1843, when, due to the complete exhaustion of essential materials, work on the canal was halted. A loan from the United States Government, in 1844 or 1845, made possible the resumption of work on this project. Despite the hard times the city's population had increased to twice its pre-depression size—about 8,000. The reason for this sharp increase was probably the restoration of economic stability in the country at large, and many people, hoping to improve their lot, were streaming from the Eastern States and from the southern to the northern part of Illinois to the Chicago area. The rising generation sought its own place. So soon as they felt that they could properly handle an ax and a rifle, the young men set out for the "Far West." And older people who could not live peaceably with their relatives or neighbors went along with the young folks.

In those days there was no Lutheran church in Chicago. The first Christian Sunday school was opened on August 19, 1832, in a log house at the Point, on the west side of the river's south branch. The first pupils, fifteen in number, were mostly children of the French and half-breed residents.

A Methodist minister conducted services in a portion of his own double log house near the river bank, where the north and south branches meet, in 1832. It was here also that the first services of the Presbyterian denomination were held in 1833. According to Charles Cleaver, however, the building which constituted the locale for various denominational beginnings in Chicago "had five or six windows on the side fronting on Franklin Street . . . owned, so we afterward found, by the Baptists, but then used, being the only one in the village, by the Presbyterians and Methodists as well." The first Baptist church was organized on October 19, 1833. The first Roman Catholic resident priest in Chicago was the Rev. Saint Cyr, who come from Saint Louis, Mo., in 1833. The first church of this denomination was built "somewhere on State Street" and called Saint Mary's. The first Episcopal parish, Saint James, was organized in 1834 in a wooden building which stood on the corner of Wolcott (now North State Street) and Kinzie Streets. The first church building was erected on land donated by the Kinzie family. In the month of July, 1837, the Rev. Jacob Boas, who at that time had charge of the Miami Circuit (Ohio) of the Evangelical Association, came on horseback through the wilds of Indiana on a missionary visit to Chicago—the first German Protestant minister that penetrated these parts—and in August preached the first sermon in the German language in Chicago in the old Methodist frame church, near the corner of Washington and Clark Streets. An organization was not deemed practicable at this time, and Mr. Boas, after having confirmed the organization of several societies in the country and visited and

preached in other settlements, as for instance at Dunklees Grove, returned to his charge in Ohio.[16]

"In 1846 the Illinois Methodist Conference sent the Rev. Philip Barth from St. Louis to serve the German emigrants settling here. Finding no parsonage, no church, and no congregation, compelled to sell his furniture in order to feed himself and his family, the Rev. Mr. Barth nevertheless organized a congregation, and a year later built a church on Indiana, now Grand Avenue, between Wells and Franklin."[17]

Between 1840 and 1850 Pittsburgh, Louisville, Detroit, and Cincinnati all doubled their population, while the increase in the case of St. Louis was nearly fivefold and in the case of Chicago sixfold.[18]

The Lutheran Trail is now passing through the "roaring forties."

Part Two

From Duncklees Grove to Cummings Corner

1. Duncklees Grove

The dawn of Lutheranism in this part of the country was dimly foreshadowed, not at the center—Chicago—but at the periphery, slightly less than twenty miles northwest of Chicago, on an island, not a body of land surrounded by water, but an island of trees surrounded by prairies (*Waldinsel*—grove). There were many such "islands," or groves, in the vicinity of the "Garden City," or, as Chicago was also known, the "Prairie City by the Lake," as will be seen in subsequent chapters.

The first of these groves to be considered was named Duncklees Grove.* Presumably this island of trees was named in honor of the first settler in that region. History, it would seem, has thus far failed to ascertain the nationality of this settler. T. John Grosse merely points out that at the time the first German settlers arrived there, in June, 1834, only "two Americans, M. Smith and H. Duncklee, sojourned here"

*Other spellings: Dunkel and Dunckley.

("hielten sich damals hier auf") and that the other inhabitants of the wild prairie were Indians.

Vague and fragmentary records of the territory and of its earliest white inhabitants lead one to the belief that among them was a Jan Hinrich Rothenfeld, who, while residing in "Amt Stolpe" in the province of Hanover, Germany, developed the desire to emigrate to "fabulous America" and to seek out Duncklees Grove, about which he had heard numerous and, perhaps, only glowing accounts, for the establishing of a homestead. Eventually he came to Chicago and thence walked along Indian trails to the place of his not altogether wild dreams—Duncklees Grove. Without undue delay he purchased from certain "Yankees" a suitable tract of land; and before long he realized that the soil, which he forthwith began to cultivate, by far surpassed that of "Amt Stolpe." Yearning for good, amiable, and industrious neighbors of his own kind, with whom he might associate and leisurely converse ("en baeten wat snakken"), he soon corresponded with his relatives in the "Old Country," wishing to lure them across the Atlantic. Surely he did not fail to tell them about the source of good meat: deer, grouse, rabbits, etc. Grosse relates that one day a number of prairie chickens gathered on top of the chimney of Fred Stuenkel's log house. Mr. Stuenkel shot one of them; it fell down through the chimney and directly into a pot of boiling soup.

Numerous relatives of Jan Hinrich Rothenfeld, pleased with the prospect of better living conditions, at more or less frequent intervals, appeared on the scene, and each group, according to its means, then purchased real estate, the price of which was raised in proportion to the increase in the number of purchasers. A flourishing and prospering German settlement was the result of this influx. There were difficulties, to be sure, including altercations with interloping "Yankees" who from time to time appeared in the vicinity of Duncklees

Grove to stake claims of land already bought and paid for by the German settlers. The names of some of the earliest German settlers, 1834–1844, appear below*

The social life of these pioneers can, perhaps, be more readily imagined than described. That the conversations were carried on in their native language or dialects may be regarded as a foregone conclusion. But, of course, religious life nowhere in the world originates in the fertile soil or in agricultural enterprises. Having been reared in a religious atmosphere, those German settlers surrounded themselves with a similar atmosphere in their new home at or near the "island of trees," Duncklees Grove. However, for quite some time, so it would seem, no serious attempt at erecting a church building was made by them. Moreover, unlike the Saxon settlers in Missouri (1839), there were no ordained clergymen among the Duncklees Grovers.

Discussions of church matters culminated in the decision, in 1838, to organize a Christian congregation. Viewed in the light of subsequent history, this congregation actually proved to be a very strange compound of conflicting, contradictory, and incongruous religious elements.

The first preacher to serve the newly organized congregation was a Prussian, Ludwig Cachand-Ervendberg. After only about two years of "spiritual activity" (1837-1839) at Duncklees Grove he departed for the State of Texas (then the independent republic of Texas),† where for a time he served a congregation as pastor. In 1863 he was killed by Mexican Indians.

*Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Blecke
Mrs. G. Buchholz
Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Leeseberg
Mr. and Mrs. Friedrich Leeseberg
Mrs. Sophia Mesenbrink
Mrs. Dorothea Preuszner
Friedrich Graue
Heinrich Buchholz
Friedrich Knigge
Wilhelm Rabe
Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Boeske
Mr. and Mrs. Friedrich Stuenkel
Mrs. Sophia Tonne
Mrs. Dorothea Plagge
Wilhelm Buchholz
Friedrich Krage
Heinrich Stuenkel
Mr. and Mrs. Dietrich Hahn
Mr. and Mrs. Friedrich Eickhoff
August Graue
Heinrich Hackmeister

†Texas was admitted to the Union in 1845; shortly afterward the United States was at war with Mexico, 1845-1848.

Ervendberg's successor as preacher among the Germans of Duncklees Grove (1840) was eighteen-year-old Francis Arnold Hoffmann, a printer by trade and a youth whose heart was filled with enterprise. Being obliged to earn his living during the week, he was unable to prepare sermons for Sunday delivery and at first read sermons "out of a book." Later he prepared and delivered lectures on various religious subjects, and before the close of the second year of his adopted profession as a preacher, young Hoffmann was officially recognized as the congregation's spiritual leader and pastor, "without further examination and ordination." After three years he left the congregation, and during his absence a Jew who had joined the Methodist Church preached several times. According to Grosse, Pastor Hoffmann returned to Duncklees Grove in August, 1844, and pleaded for forgiveness. Not only was he forgiven, but reinstated in the pastorate. Karl Kretzmann disagrees with Grosse's version; he says: "The truth is that Hoffmann, apparently early in 1841, traveled to Southeastern Michigan, where he received whatever theological training could be obtained in those days, probably from the Rev. Friedrich Schmid of Ann Arbor, president of the Michigan Synod. 'By diligent study he soon became so proficient that the superintendent of the circuit, a Hannoverian by the name of Wyneken, could ordain him, after he had passed his examination' (*Hannoversche Tagespost*, April 16, 1861). Nor is there any room for the claim of Grosse that Hoffmann 'looked for a better congregation.' His temporary absence from Addison is accounted for by his trip to Michigan and by his missionary activities in the territory assigned to him by the Michigan Synod in Northeastern Illinois, covering the counties of Du Page, Cook, and Will, in Illinois, and Lake County, Indiana, an area of about 4,000 square miles. . . . In 1844, on February 22, in Crown Point, Ind., Hoffmann married a young lady of English antecedents, Miss Cynthia Gilbert, who had been born

May 18, 1825, in Columbiana Co., Ohio, where C. A. T. Selle held a pastorate in 1844-45."*

In 1842 a tract of land comprising forty-eight acres was purchased for $200, and upon it was erected the first church. No official records having been kept prior to 1844, the exact date of the formal dedication cannot be definitely established, but it is believed to have taken place on a Sunday in November, 1842. Its official name was "Die deutsche vereinigt reformirt lutherische Gemeinde zu Addison, Du Page County, Illinois" ("The German United Reformed Lutheran Congregation at Addison, etc."). A paragraph of its constitution contained this broad and liberal statement: "The faith and the confession of the teacher and the hearer shall never be taken into consideration in this congregation." The author of this document was a surveyor, Dunlop by name. In later years Dr. Martin Luther's Small Catechism, introduced by Pastor Hoffmann, was used for instruction in Christian doctrine.

In the fall of 1842 a German man, well reputed and generally known in Chicago, suddenly died. His family at once dispatched some of its members to Duncklees Grove in an endeavor to secure Pastor Hoffmann to conduct the service of interment. The road through the woods proved impassable, and plans to bring Pastor Hoffmann to Chicago for the funeral had to be abandoned. Meanwhile a colporteur, found in the city, was engaged to speak at the service. Many of the Germans of Chicago attended the rites. Most of these were sorely disappointed with the appearance and message of the man who had been pressed into service. This situation tended to heighten the desire for an organized church and a full-time pastor who would uphold the faith and language of the Prussian State Church.

Pastor Hoffmann remained with the United Reformed Lutheran Church of Duncklees Grove until 1847, when he ac-

*Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly

cepted a call to the near-by German settlement of Sarah's Grove (Schaumburg). Thereupon three candidates presented themselves for the vacant place, and each preached a trial sermon. One, F. W. Poeschke, a converted Jew, selected for his theme "The Jewish Laws Regarding the Ten Commandments." When he had come to "fourteenthly," only three people remained in the church. When neighbors inquired as to what had kept them so long at church, they replied: "Why, we are getting home early. The preacher has more than a hundred commandments to explain; we left at the fourteenth; the last will come at about four o'clock tomorrow morning." Of course, this candidate completely annihilated his chance of being called as Hoffmann's successor. Candidate Ernst August Brauer, who had the assurance of the Consistory in Hanover, Germany, that upon his return from America he could enter the State Church at Hanover, was ordained and installed at Duncklees Grove December 15, 1847. He accepted the pastorate on the condition that the congregation should become thoroughly Lutheran. It was determined upon; but then came bitter opposition from the rationalistic party, which in February, 1848, separated from the "mother" congregation and built a church of their own a short distance from the first one.

The way having been prepared for a sounder type of Lutheranism, Pastor Brauer experienced on the one hand the joy of seeing a change in the congregation's name to that of "Evangelical Lutheran" and, on the other hand, the sorrow of witnessing a defection. Within the next two years, however, it became increasingly apparent that the defection did not have the expected damaging effect upon the "mother" church; in fact, the increase in membership necessitated enlargement of the church building, in 1850, and on October 8, 1851, the parish was divided into four parts: North, South, East, and West.

During the following thirty-five years special school districts were established in various centers of the large parish. The eastern district was organized on May 2, 1852; the southern, at "Franzosenbusch"—approximately nine miles south of Duncklees Grove—now known as Proviso, October, 1852; the northern, November 4, 1855; another portion of the southern, about one mile southeast of Lombard—at a place called York Center, 1860; the Elmhurst district, March 8, 1879; the Town Bloomingdale district, July 25, 1880; and the Itasca district, July 29, 1885. The "home district" had been established on January 14, 1849. In the latter, the following served as teachers: H. Bartling, G. Seitz, Miss Regina Rotermund, A. Albers, J. Brackmann, Adolph Gruhl, Karl Koebel, W. Kammann, Christian Greve, Miss Liesette Leeseberg, Miss Bertha Heidemann, Miss Amalia Brauer, Edmund Brust, and G. Ritzmann.

The following served in the eastern district:* F. Griese, H. Riebling, W. Kohlmann, G. Seitz, W. Fuerstenau, Frederick Polzin, A. Daake, H. D. Cluever, C. A. Louis Wuellner, and C. Theo. Diesner.

School activities in the northern district were begun in a private home. A certain Mr. Gehring, who "happened to be staying with Pastor Brauer," was engaged to teach; he left in May, 1857, and joined a "sectarian church." Other teachers were Fred Gehrke, Henry Gehrke, R. Vogel (he died of the cholera in 1866), A. Albers, A. Ehmann, E. F. Rosen, Adolph Kastner, Eugene Schulz, Martin Eggerding, and Walter G. Gerth.

In March, 1856, the congregation, now known as Zion Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, was received into membership with the Missouri Synod, which had been organized in 1847, in Chicago.

In March, 1857, Pastor Brauer accepted a call to Pittsburgh, Pa. His place at Duncklees Grove was taken by the Rev. A. G.

* This district was closed from September, 1860, to April, 1861.

G. Francke, called from Cook's Store, Lafayette County, Mo. He was installed as pastor of Zion Congregation on August 28, 1857. That year also marked the beginning of extensive mission activities in the surrounding territory, including the following communities: Proviso, York Center, Elmhurst, Itasca, Bloomingdale, Bensenville, and Elk Grove. In January, 1878, the Rev. Traugott John Grosse, professor at the Teachers' Seminary at Addison, a short distance west of Duncklees Grove, was called as assistant pastor of Zion Congregation, and, upon the death of Pastor Francke at the age of 58 years, January 3, 1879, Pastor Grosse was installed as permanent pastor on May 11, 1879. The Rev. Prof. J. C. W. Lindemann, first director of the Teachers' Seminary, died at the age of 52 on January 15, 1879. Addressing himself to the students, the Rev. Henry Wunder of Chicago, in the course of a memorial address on January 20 in the institution, said: "Here below you can no longer thank your instructor for what he has done for you; so, then, follow his footprints: become humble students of the Word, fervent in the faith, zealous in godliness, faithful in your profession."

During the winter of 1888-1889 services were conducted every other week in near-by Bensenville; but pecause of poor attendance they were soon discontinued.

In 1892 the members residing in the Elmhurst school district were granted permission to withdraw from Zion and to organize their own congregation; it was named Immanuel.

Beginning in June, 1892, afternoon worship services were held on alternate Sundays in the chapel of the Teachers' Seminary for the students and for other Lutherans living in the vicinity of that institution. Beginning the first Sunday in November of the same year, forenoon services were held there, with Professors C. August T. Selle, E. A. William Krauss, John Theodore Brohm, and Frederick Koenig serving according to a prearranged schedule. On September 8, 1893, Prof.

Frederick Lindemann was called by Zion Congregation to serve as assistant pastor.

In January, 1895, the Duncklees Grove congregation was reincorporated under the name "German Evangelical Lutheran Zion Congregation of Addison, Du Page Co., Ill." By that time the "claim wars" of the early pioneer days probably had been completely forgotten; but another kind of problem had arisen: horse thieves—how to handle them? These disturbers of the peace took advantage of the opportunity to ply a profitable "trade"—particularly, it seems, while the Duncklees Grovers were attending worship services or meetings and their patient horses were tied to the hitching posts outside. So, the congregation hired a special watchman and paid him for his services—fifty cents for daytime watching and one dollar for nighttime.

In April, 1907, the western and Bloomingdale Township school districts were released to Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Addison. At the same time a pastor was called to conduct services and teach school in the Itasca school district. With eleven members released from Zion, Saint Luke's Congregation was organized in the village of Itasca in 1907. Prof. Frederick Lindemann died Dec. 13, 1907.

Pastor Grosse died February 14, 1919. His successor, the Rev. Oscar H. Weinrich of Janesville, Calif., was installed June 15, 1919.

A severe hailstorm in 1927 destroyed all the windows of the church building. In January, 1929, the congregation decided to content itself with only eight acres of the original property purchased in 1842. Forty acres were sold to Harvey Branigar of Chicago. Three of the retained acres on the east end comprise the cemetery, while on the other five acres are the church, the parsonage, and the janitor's dwelling.

During the ten-year period 1927-1937 English and German services were repeatedly shuffled; a regular schedule of three

English and four German services was maintained after that time, with an additional English service combined with Communion on the fifth Sunday of certain months.

On August 19, 1937, the church was struck by lightning, and after burning for three hours the fire was extinguished, but in its wake was a mass of wreck and ruin.

On April 20, 1945, Pastor Weinrich died. His successor in the Zion pastorate, the Rev. Erwin H. Heidorn of Hoxie, Kans., was installed September 2, 1945.

Many of the congregation's children now attend the central school in Itasca, maintained by Zion of Duncklees Grove (now called Churchville) and Saint Luke's of Itasca. The teachers: Gerhard Elbert, Mrs. W. Danker, Miss Edna Bonitz. Recently a new school was established by Zion—the first one on the original church property—taught by Alfred C. Abel.

A large number of Lutheran pastors and teachers could point to Duncklees Grove and say: "That's where I was born." The names of some of them are listed below.*

Among those who died while studying at the Teachers' Seminary at Addison were August Mesenbrink (March 7, 1869), Ernest Bartling (May 9, 1881), and Edward Hoppenstaedt (October 11, 1887).[19]

2. Chicago, First Saint Paul's

Returning from Duncklees Grove by way of the Indian Trail (Lake Street), the Lutheran Trail at once proceeds to what is now known as Chicago's near North Side. Prior to the year 1846, seemingly, there was no evidence of Lutheranism anywhere in the "Garden City."

*Pastors: William Bartling, Augustus Reinke, F. Wesemann, Henry Norden, Fred Lindemann, George Rosenwinkel, W. Burmeister, H. L. Pflug, J. Johl, Adolph Bartling, William Koepchen, and W. Baeder. Karl Selle, a student at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Mo., died on March 12, 1885.

Teachers: George Bartling, Ernest Selle, Louis Selle, Henry Brauer, Carl Appel, William Leeseberg, Louis Rittmueller, William Pflug, Herman Weiss, Clem. Kambeiss, Alfred Johnson, Hermann Maudanz, Albert Rossmann, and Henry Grosse.

Standing at the portal of that eventful and memorable year, outstanding events in Chicago's history during the previous record must be reviewed.

In 1836 several members of the German Evangelical Association had emigrated from Warren, Pa., to this then remote and insignificant village at the Lake. In the spring of 1837 a number of families from the same place had followed, settling in what is now the village of Northfield, others in Naperville, and a few of them in McHenry County. In the summer of 1840 the first society of that Association had been organized in Chicago by the Rev. Isaac Huffert. Three years later Chicago had been selected as a center of mission activity under the direction of the Rev. Frederick Wahl. A lot on the northeast corner of Wabash Avenue and Monroe Street had been donated by the old Canal Company, and upon it a church, 32x38 feet, had been erected. This, then, was the first German Evangelical church in Chicago.

In the year 1840 the Rev. Frederick C. D. Wyneken of Fort Wayne, Ind., started out on horseback to investigate mission possibilities in the Chicago area. Because of inclement weather he could not go beyond Elkhart, Ind., where he then spent some time doing mission work.

One Sunday afternoon, late in 1843, during a heavy blizzard, nine men and several women met by arrangement in a grocery store at the corner of Franklin and Lake Streets definitely to attempt the organization of a congregation. As was the custom in Germany, these men organized themselves into a church council and appointed a "ways and means committee" of five men to select and obtain a building lot; and they decided upon the name Saint Paul for the new congregation. The names of the founders are on record: George Schaiver, Karl Teschner, John Pfund, Charles Stein, B. A. Beyer, H. H. Rantze, Arnold Kroeger, William Frank, and Jacob Letz. Pfund was a baker, and Letz a shoemaker.

In that year the "city fathers" decreed that the farming citizens ("Ackerbuerger") must not permit their pigs to roam about in the streets and lanes of the city.

Before the end of the year 1843 the little German congregation received as a gift from William Butler Ogden—"the city's richest man"—and Walter L. Newberry a spacious piece of property on the southwest corner of Ohio Street and La Salle Avenue, in an area which at the time was largely swampland, dotted here and there with small groves of trees; the nearest building, a small frame house, stood at the corner of Ohio and Clark Streets. The small and unpretentious church building, 20x60 feet, was completed in February, 1844. The men of the congregation had carried the lumber on their shoulders to the building site all the way from the Jackson Street Bridge, about a mile south.

During the first year of its existence the congregation did not have its own pastor. Various unpleasant experiences with self-styled "clergymen" induced the leaders of Saint Paul's Congregation to appoint a special committee for the purpose of carefully selecting and calling a competent and dependable preacher and pastor. "In those primitive times," says Solon Justus Buck, "it was not thought to be necessary that a teacher of religion should be a scholar. . . . However ignorant these first preachers may have been, they could be at no loss to find congregations still more ignorant, so that they were still capable of instructing someone." Obviously, such was not the case here. The little group had had enough of Catilinarian practices and "ravening wolves in sheep's clothing." Through the mediation of the Rev. J. Fred Winkler, a Lutheran pastor in Detroit, Mich., to whom the first call had been extended, but by whom it was declined, presumably for cogent reasons, the committee extended a call to the Rev. Christian August Thomas Selle of New Lisbon, Ohio. He accepted the call on the condition that he "could serve the

congregation as a Lutheran congregation and in a building suited for Lutheran worship services" (" . . . dass er die Gemeinde als eine lutherische, in einem fuer lutherische Gottesdienste geeigneten Gebaeude bedienen koenne").

After a long trip, partly by wagon and partly by boat, from New Lisbon, Columbiana County, Ohio, by way of Detroit, the Strait of Mackinac, and Milwaukee, Wis., the new pastor arrived in Chicago on Easter Day, April 18, 1846, and on the following day, also a church holiday, he preached his first sermon here (in German) on the topic: "Christ is Risen Indeed." Within the next few days the first Lutheran parochial or day school in Chicago was opened with twenty-six pupils, a Lutheran constitution was unanimously adopted, and Pastor Selle was, upon his request, recognized as a *Lutheran* pastor and preacher. About two years later, April 9, 1848, this constitution was repudiated and rejected by an overwhelming majority of the members, and one with "Reformed" tendencies was substituted. Pastor Selle and only four of his members, R. Ohm, C. Michel, C. Bluess, and W. Brockschmidt, although in a veritable sea of troubles, declared their adherence to the Lutheran constitution. After the meeting these four men appeared in Pastor Selle's home to assure him of their determination to assist in the continuation of the Lutheran congregation, even though its membership might never be increased.

At that time, the city limits extended from the Lake to Wood Street, and from North Avenue to 22nd Street, now Cermak Road. "The years from 1833 to 1848 had been, in every sense, elemental." During the latter part of that period the war with Mexico was in progress, and between seven and eight hundred men of Chicago had volunteered to help terminate that conflict. Chicago was at the dawn of a new commercial and political and industrial era. The great new region west of the Appalachian Mountains was on the march,

and Chicago was becoming its dynamic expression. In another respect the 1840's may be regarded as an age "characteristic for its 'dollar magazines, shilling theaters, shilling concerts, penny papers, beggarly office seekers, rascally politicians, unprincipled bankers, cut-throat financiers, doubtful saints, miserable Wall Street editors, and fine women.'" But what about that remnant of Saint Paul's Congregation, which on April 9, 1848, was like a ship tossed to and fro on the sea of life? Cognizant of the fact that the majority group by withdrawing had established a new and non-Lutheran congregation, the minority group, abiding by the Lutheran constitution and considering itself the true continuation of Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, henceforth called itself "First Saint Paul's." On the next day, Sunday, April 10 (Judica Sunday), the entire confirmation class, composed of sixteen members, appeared for instruction at Pastor Selle's home. All declared their intention of vowing loyalty to the Lord as Lutherans on the following Sunday, even though it would be necessary to be confirmed in a nook ("Winkel"). Contrary to all expectation, in the course of the first week after the separation had taken place, eight of the former voting members returned to join the minority group. The confirmation took place, not in a "nook," but in the County Court House, at the southeast corner of Clark and Randolph Streets, and 250 persons attended.

In connection with the "Chicago Charter Jubilee," a bronze plaque, authenticated by the Chicago Historical Society, was placed on the wall of the building now standing on the site of the original Lutheran church.

Desirous of erecting a church of its own, First Saint Paul's Congregation purchased a piece of property on Indiana Avenue (now Grand), between Wells and Franklin Streets, at a cost of $600. On February 8, 1849, the following resolution was passed: "Dass der Kirchenrath beauftragt sei, mit dem Bau-

meister einen Kontrakt abzuschliessen ueber den Bau einer Kirche (34x55 Fuss) mit einem Turm, der Arbeitslohn die Summe von $260 nicht uebersteigend." ("That the church council be instructed to make a contract with the architect for the erection of a church building, 34x55 feet, with a steeple, the cost of labor not to exceed the sum of $260."

In March, 1849, the Chicago River was the scene of a disastrous flood.

At the third annual convention* of the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States, popularly known as the Missouri Synod, which had been organized in Saint Paul's Church at Ohio Street and La Salle Avenue (now forfeited to the aforementioned majority group), First Saint Paul's Congregation was accepted into membership. One month later, July 15, 1849, its church was dedicated. By 1851 the congregation had a membership of fifty voters, and the enrollment in the day school, conducted from the beginning by the pastor, was 49. The time, therefore, had come to give serious consideration to the calling of a teacher in order somewhat to alleviate the pastor's growing burden. A young man, who had expressed the desire to enter the teaching profession, was at first engaged as an assistant instructor. Should he prove his teaching ability, he was to be called permanently. In the preliminary dealings, however, it became apparent that the young man under observation was an obstinate and arrogant individual ("ein eigensinniger und hoffaertiger Mensch"). Among other things, he declared that an annual salary of $100 would be insufficient; he wanted $104; also he refused to "fire up" for the school, because he insisted that he was no "Feuerjunge" (fire boy). Later he dropped these "ridiculous" demands; but the congregation did not call him, not even as assistant.

This happened at the time when the streets of Chicago

*June 6-16, 1849, in Fort Wayne, Ind.

were being planked and, for the first time, the city was lighted by gas.

In February, 1851, Pastor Selle received a call to Crete, Ill. Among the reasons advanced for accepting the call, Pastor Selle gave the following as "probably the principal one: "Dass ich meine Hausmiete nicht mehr erschwingen konnte, ohne Schulden zu machen, zu deren Abtragung ich keine Aussicht hatte, waehrend ich freilich zugleich hoffte, des Herrn Werk in Chicago werde um so herrlicher voranschreiten unter einem andern treuen Pastor, auf dessen Namen nicht in den Augen des allgemeinen Publikums das Odium bestandener heftiger Kaempfe lastete. Vor der Trennung war, meine ich, mein Jahresgehalt $300 gewesen; die drei Jahre nach derselben nie ueber $130. Davon forderte die Miete $50, die Feuerung $50, und der Rest ging auf Milch, und Wasser, das beim Fass gekauft werden musste." ("I could no longer raise enough money for my house rent without going into debt, for the settlement of which there was no prospect; while, at the same time, of course, I hoped that the Lord's work in Chicago would progress more gloriously under the guidance of another faithful pastor, upon whose name, in the eyes of the general public, did not rest the odium of furious battles of the kind to which I had been subjected. Prior to the separation, I think, my annual salary had been $300; during the three years following the separation it was never above $130; of this amount, rent required $50, fuel $50, and the rest was used for milk, and water, which had to be purchased by the keg.") Bessie Louise Pierce says that in those days water was transported to consumers by carts, from which householders could buy a barrel for ten cents.

Of more than passing interest is the following quotation which concerns Pastor Selle, who was not, as below intimated, "the founder of the Missouri Synod": "Persoenlich war an diesem wuerdigen und gewissenhaften Manne nicht das Min-

deste auszusetzen. Aber er war ein orthodoxer Lutheraner und *gruendete* gegen Wunsch und Willen der Gemeinde, deren Mitglieder zumeist aus der sogenannten unierten Kirche hervorgegangen waren, *im Jahre* 1847 *auf einer von* 16 *Gemeinden beschickten Konferenz die lutherische Missouri Synode.*" ("So far as his person was concerned, there was not the least reason for censuring this worthy and conscientious man. But he was an orthodox Lutheran, and *founded,* contrary to the wish and will of the congregation, most of whose members had come from the so-called 'united' church, *in the year* 1847, *at a conference to which sixteen congregations had sent delegates, the Lutheran Missouri Synod.*" (Italics our own.)

In his biography Pastor Selle states that his congregation approved of the invitation, but decided not to join the Synod immediately.

Pastor Selle did not at once follow the call to Crete, Ill.; he accepted it in April, 1851, and went there in September of that year.

On January 19, 1851, George Henry Fischer was installed as First Saint Paul's first day school teacher. Eight months later, September 21, 1851, the congregation's second pastor, the Rev. Henry Wunder of Centerville, near Millstadt, Ill., was installed.

During the decade 1850-1860 the membership grew to such an extent that the church on Indiana Avenue, erected in 1849, became too small. A site on the corner of Franklin and Superior Streets was purchased for $5,400, and upon it a church building was erected. It was dedicated in December, 1864.

Late April, 1859, four cars of the Chicago City Railway, laden with Chicagoans enthusiastic over the new method of transportation, made the initial trip from Lake to Twelfth Street.

During the period 1857-1863 a great missionary effort was made by the "Missouri" Lutherans of Chicago, which resulted

in the organization of many new congregations throughout the Middle West—in the States of Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin. The vast and comprehensive mission program was sponsored jointly by First Saint Paul's and its first "daughter" congregation, First Immanuel (founded 1854). In the course of time the following three young clergymen were called to serve as assistant pastors for both congregations: William Heinemann, Gotthilf Simon Loeber, and H. F. Fruechtenicht. Later, First Saint Paul's independently called, consecutively, as assistant pastors: Traugott John Grosse, who was ordained and installed before the close of the seminary term because of the prevailing pressing circumstances ("unter den obwaltenden noetigenden Umstaenden"); Grosse served as assistant until First Saint John's Congregation, another daughter of First Saint Paul's, was organized in 1867; then, in 1869, Candidate Herman W. Querl, who served as assistant until Saint James (Sankt Jakobi) was organized in 1869; next came Herman Brauns, and then Herman Sauer. And then occurred a tragic interruption.

Men said at vespers: "All is well."
In one wild night the city fell;
Fell shrines of prayer and marts of gain
Before the fiery hurricane.

On threescore spires had sunset shone,
Where ghastly sunrise looked on none.
Men clasped each other's hands and said:
"The City of the West is dead!"*

At ten o'clock in the forenoon of October 9, 1871, the church, which had been solemnly dedicated less than seven years before, fell a victim of the flames of the Great Chicago Fire. The only article saved was the wooden figure of an angel which used to hang on the wall above the pulpit and which

*First two stanzas of "Chicago," by John Greenleaf Whittier.

PLATE I

(PLATE II *following page*)

The Weekly Chicago Democrat
IS PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING AT
NO. 107 LAKE-ST., CHICAGO, ILLS.
AT THREE DOLLARS A YEAR,
From which one dollar will be deducted when payment is made in advance.
ADVERTISEMENTS
Will be inserted on reasonable terms and a larger and better circulation given to them than by any other paper in the State.
There is also issued from this office the
Daily Democrat,
☞ Five Dollars a year, or Fifty Cents for one month. ☜

Weekly Chic

NEW SERIES, VOL. XI, NO. 24. CHICAGO, ILLS., TUES

TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1847.

HARBOR AND RIVER CONVENTION.

ADDRESS OF THE CHICAGO COMMITTEE.

The high prices of freight, taken in connection with the loss of life and property upon the western waters, last season, caused several public meetings to be held in various sections of the country, for the purpose of devising the best means of remedying these and other evils of which the great mass of the people interested in commerce, were complaining. At all these meetings, the propriety of holding a convention at some convenient point, was discussed and universally concurred in.

In consequence of Chicago having been generally named as the proper point, its citizens called a meeting, named the fifth of July as the appropriate time, and chose the undersigned a committee to craft an address, setting forth the objects of the convention.

The movers in this matter, have been, from the first, like the undersigned, of entirely different politics, and, so far from there being even in the remotest degree, any [illegible] in the [illegible] of the chief object [illegible], is to call together for a common object, the men of all parties, and to convince the people everywhere that the improvements [illegible] are not now, never have been, and never should be connected with "*Party Politics*" in the ordinary use of that term. Such a connection would, in the minds of all interested, have a very deleterious tendency. It cannot be denied that there is a predisposition among all politicians to support the measures of a chief magistrate of their own party; and hence we have seen western representatives, originally supporting harbor and river improvements, and elected upon express pledges to do so, finally vote to support a *veto* of bills providing for that purpose and assigning as a reason therefor that it was their duty to sustain an executive of their own selection, even though it be in express opposition to the wishes and interests of their constituents. Repeated instances of this kind must eventually give this question somewhat of a political cast, which the undersigned and all who co-operate with them, would seriously regret.

The construction of *harbors* upon our northern lakes, as well as upon the Atlantic, with the improvement of our great rivers, whose commerce is of a national character, necessarily involves no questions of party difference. They are matters that must interest all parties, as they do all classes, alike, and Harbor and River bills have been supported by the ablest men of both the great political parties which divide this country. This subject has never entered into any presidential canvass, since each party has always taken it for granted that the candidate of the other was above suspicion upon a matter of such pre-eminent importance. The first Congress that ever assembled under the present constitution, many of whose members helped to frame it, passed a law defraying all expenses which should accrue after the fifteenth of August 1789, in the necessary support, maintenance, and repairs of all light-houses, beacons, buoys, and public piers erected, placed or sunk before the passage of this act, at the entrance of or within any bay, inlet, *harbor*, or ports of the United States, *for rendering the navigation thereof easy and safe.* Gen. Washington signed this bill; and bills for the continuance of such works were also successively signed by Presidents the elder Adams, Jefferson and Madison. The first *Lake Harbor* bill was signed by Mr. Monroe. He never raised the constitutional question; nor do the Congressional debates of those days show that any members of either branch of Congress made any distinction between *salt* and *fresh* water improvements, or between foreign and domestic commerce. All at that time were acknowledged alike deserving the fostering care of the General Government, as they also were during the administrations of the younger Adams, Gen Jackson and Mr. Van Buren. Though remarkably scrupulous as to the extent to which the power to construct works of internal improvement should be exercised, General Jackson and Mr. Van Buren signed bills for the improvement of rivers and construction of harbors, to the amount of $7,800,000, and the two bills signed by Gen Jackson in 1836 contained no less than

ILLINOIS TROOPS.

To the two Illinois Reiments is due the credit of winning the battle of Buena Vista. Nearly all the others have had their conduct impeached in one way or an other. But not a voice has ever been raised against our own Illinois sons. On that occasion they honored themselves and their State.

JOLIET SIGNAL.—In far more prosperous times than the present, efforts to keep up a paper at Joliet have proved unsuccessful. Indeed, the idea of being able to support a paper at that town was about being abandoned when the present proprietors, Messrs ZARLEYS, took hold of it.—They were sons of an old democratic farmer, Reazon Zarley, Esq., who imparted to his boys the real fire of the flint. He learnt them in early life that they were no better than other people, and yet were just as good if they only conducted themselves as well. This made them democrats. He worked hard himself and made his boys work, too. This made them both steady and industrious. Fresh from a farm, these two young men took the press almost completely ruined and they have placed it on a permanent foundation. They do their own work, mental and physical, writing and printing. They eschew no sectional or local quarrels, but confine their labors to the advocacy of democratic principals and support of regular nominees. We are glad to see the young men of our State coming forward in this way, gaining popular esteem by their industry, punctuality, economy and virtue. This is practical democracy. The rise o these men will not be meteoric like some of our limbs of the law, nor will their fall be so. But, like the stately oak, their roots will extend so far and so deep, that they will have a strength commensurate with their growth and no storm can overturn them.

ROCK ISLAND.

ROCK ISLAND, Ill., April 21, 1847.

Editor Chicago Democrat:

DEAR SIR: Our returns, for Delegates, are mostly in and the following is the result, so far as ascertained:

	WHIG *J. W. Spencer*	DEMOCRAT *Joseph Knox*
Illinois City	9 majority	
Edgington's	30	33
Camden	45	53
Rock Island	113	106
Moline	93	17
Hampton	64	29
Port Byron	35	23
Cordova reported	majority	6
Drury's at noon	5	reported 7
Totals	394	274
	274	
Majority	130	

There were about 750 votes polled out of about 1100. There is not, on a fair trial, more than 30 or 40 whig majority in this county. The majority, last fall on a full vote, was 39 for Killpatrick for Governor and 28 for James Knox for Congress. We are gratified with the course of Wentworth the past winter: and we shall, so far as able, endeavor to sustain his views.

LUTHERAN SYNOD.

The German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Indiana, Missouri and adjoining States is in session at St. Paul's Church, (Ohio street, north side of the river,) in this city. We learn that there is quite a number of clergymen and lay-delegates of their respective churches.

☞ The elephants, Virginius and Pizaro, attached to Raymond & Waring's menagerie, were drowned on the 14th instant, in attempting to swim the river near Philadelphia.

They had exhibited in that city during the winter and were proceeding on the tour to N. York and the eastward by way of Camden.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

SLAVERY IN ILLINOIS.

We are in favor of putting the words of the Wilmot proviso into our constitution with such an addition as will not only prohibit slavery itself but will prohibit any legislation which acknowledges its existence in any other State. Every human being treading the Illinois soil should be free except in cases provided for by the United States laws. On our own statutes the word slave, or fugitive from labor, or bound to service should not appear. If other States will have slaves, it is a quasi endorsement for us to make laws to facilitate the capture of fugitives.

MINESOTAH is the Sioux name of the St. Peters River, and is composed of two words; *mine*, water, and *sotah*, turbid, or whitish turbid, in contradistinction from the reddish tinge which muddy streams generally have. At the junction of the St. Peters with the Mississippi, especially in the high waters of the spring, the difference in the color of the stream is quite perceptible at a distance of four or five hundred yards. As it appears to be a settled principle to give the new States and Territories the name of the principal stream running through them, as is the case with Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, the word Minesota, (should be Minesotah,) is quite appropriate, as the St. Peters is undoubtedly the longest, if not the largest river in the New Territory.

GEN. TAYLOR writes, under date of March 4th, after the battle of Buena Vista to General Butler as follows:

"I may observe that I have been also named as a candidate for that high office by a few newspaper editors and others, which has been done without my knowledge, wishes or consent.

This I have assured all who have written me on the subject, assuring them I had no aspirations for that or any other civil office; that my whole energies, mental and physical, were and had been absorbed in such a way as I thought best calculated to bring this war to a speedy and honorable close, believing it was for the interest of both countries the sooner it was done the better—at any rate so far as ours was concerned; and that President-making should be lost sight of until this was accomplished"

It is said that other letters had been received from Gen. Taylor expressing it as his opinion that the North is entitled to the next Presidency and giving a preference to Judge McLean.

DE KALB COUNTY.

De Kalb, April 22, 1847.

We had our county convention at so late a day that we could not get our proceedings to you before election. We passed resolutions in favor of the Wilmot Proviso and against a tea and coffee tax: and also one approving the course of Mr. Wentworth the past winter.

LEE COUNTY.

Dixon, April 24th, 1847.

Dear Sir: I send you the result of the election in Lee county, Ill. The votes canvassed as follows: Col. J. Dement, democrat, 308; W. W. Heaton, whig, 249. Gaston, abolitionist, 63; J. V. Eustice, bolter of democratic nomination, 12; leaving Col. J. Dement a plurality of 59.

DU PAGE CIRCUIT COURT.

On the criminal docket there were 23 cases, of which 17 were disposed of, and 6 convicted.

On the common law docket there were 47 cases, of which 37 were disposed of, and 10 convicted.

In Chancery, there were 21 cases, 13 were disposed of, and 8 convicted.

In all, 91 cases, disposed of, 67, convicted, 24.

☞ We would direct public attention to the concert of vocal and instrumental music, at the City Saloon, to-morrow, (Wednesday,) evening, for the benefit of the Permanent Temperance Union, of this city. Marsten's (Rechabite,) Band, the Harmon Choir, and Mr. Kieth have volunteered their services for the occasion.

DISTANCES FROM VERA CRUZ TO MEXICO.—

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28.

☞ W. G. Fargo, of Buffalo, has got th route from here to Milwaukee; and F. C. Co from here to St. Charles; and E. S. Alvo to Springfield.

We hope these contractors will come on forth with, as there is now one universal system mail disarrangements throughout Illinois.

The Department, some time ago, ordered th St Charles mail to leave here on Tuesdays an Fridays. It now leaves on Wednesdays on and breaks its whole western connection.

DR. TURNER, of the U. S. A., who was at th battle of Buena Vista, is now at the Sherma House, in this city, with his lady.

SCHOOL TAXATION.—An article on this subje in to-day's paper should be read.

Mr Clay, has been *set up* for nearly 30 yea Mr. Calhoun for nearly 25, Gen. Cass for nea 15, Gen. Scott for about the same period. M Van Buren ever since he was *pied* in 1840, M Webster ever since Gen. Jackson's second ele tion, and Judge McLean ever since 1829. W could mention several others who have been [illegible] but not up long enou for *stereotype*.

The *Union* says the President will call imm diately about 6000 more volunteer troops into t service. They are principally intended to fill the places of volunteers whose time of service about to expire.

These troops are intended to strengthen th divisions of our army, viz.—at Santa Fe, the my in the direction of the Rio Grande, and a c umn of Vera Cruz.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.—For more than 60 yea Mr. ADAMS is understood to have kept a diary which every thing connected with his event life is presented with careful minuteness. has been stated, also, that he has written a m moir of his father, but he has found time to co plete only a single volume, of four or five whi the plan embraced.

Mr Calhoun has been in Congress, or in t Executive, from time immemorial, and Sou Carolina has learned to think that the election any other man to the Presidency would be u constitutional. Kentucky thinks the same Mr. Clay, Massachusetts of Mr. Webster, N York f Mr. Van Buren, and other States other veterans.

QUICK TIME.—The Eastern mail last eveni brought Buffalo papers of Saturday the 24th in This makes us feel some nearer that city.

ICE AT MACINAC.

The steamer St. Louis, Capt. Fred Wheel has returned to Detroit after an unsuccessful t to Macinac. She reports *twenty miles* of ice the straits.

The Capt. also reports propellers Clevela Oneida, Princeton, Manhattan, and the sch Windham and Alvin Clark, and one brig, na not known, at Macinac.

LATEST FROM THE GULF.

Com. Perry was about leaving with the fle to capture every Mexican port on the G which had not been taken south of Alvarado. A fine one, called Kacotalpel, possesses a nob sheltered harbor.

☞ Alvarado surrendered to Com. Perry, his sending a flag of truce, before Gen. Qu man and his troops came up.

☞ The Cambria brought out, in spec £400,000, of which amount, [illegible] was at Halifax.

OPENING OF THE CANAL.

The New York Canal boards have decided open their canals on the first day of May.

[illegible]T BATTLE.

ago Democrat.

AY, MAY 4, 1847. OLD SERIES VOL. XV, NO 15.

SCHOOL TAXATION.

Chicago, April 26, 1847.

THE SCHOOL DIRECTORS OF COOK CO., ILL.

...Acts upon you that the School Law imposed The principal duty in carrying out its visions, relative to taxation for the support of mon Schools, it seems to me that this communication is appropriately addressed to you.—importance of the subject leads me to hope you will at once fulfill the duty of your po-n, and having called a meeting of the inhab-s of your districts respectively as required by urge upon them the necessity of taxation he support of common schools, and its j s-

he Legislature at its last session passed a ool law to take effect from and after the first of May, 1847, which repeals all former acts the subject. This act contains the following sections relative to the assessment and colon of taxes for the support of common ols, to wit:

TAXES.

EC. 110. On the first Saturday of May next, and on the first Saturday of May annually, eafter, the inhabitants, legal voters, (2) of school distri t in this State, may meet to-ier at some convenient place in the district, he purpose of voting for, or against levying x for the support of common schools, for ...ing repairing school houses, or for other ..., or to pay existing debts contract-... school purposes before that time, in the rict. The school directors (3) shall give ten notice of such meeting, by posting up no-in at least three public places in the dis-; setting forth the time, place and object of meeting: *Provided*, that if five of said in-tants request it, school directors shall call a meeting to be holden upon any Saturday, ce being given as aforesaid.

EC. 111. The inhabitants, legal voters, when ...ened as above provided, shall organize by ...ing one of their number chairman, and ...her secretary. They shall then determine ote, in such manner as they may choose, (4) whether they will tax themselves for the ...oses, or either, or any of them, (5) in sec-110 specified. If two-thirds of the voters ...ent shall be for a tax, they shall determine the rate to be levied for the current year, exceeding fifteen cents on the one hundred ...rs, and to what purpose or purposes (6) au-...ized in sections 109 and 110 hereof, the ...unt raised by tax shall be applied. The sec-ry shall keep a true record of the proceedings ...uch meeting, which shall be certified and ...ed by the chairman and secretary, and pre-...ed by said secretary, together with the ...es of all resident tax payers of the district, to the district treasurer: *provided*, that for ...hase of lot, or building and furnishing school ...e, the rate of taxation may be any amount, ...rmined by vote as aforesaid, not exceeding ...on the one hundred dollars.

he 64th section of the act creates a district ...surer, who is to be appointed by the school ...tors in the several districts of the township. to this officer that the proceedings of the ...ting above spoken of are to be certified.—...en these proceedings are received by him, 37th section of the act makes it his duty "to ...e and certify to the clerk of the County ...missioners' Court, BEFORE THE FIRST DAY ...UG. a correct abstract of the votes, (8) and ...amount of money voted to be raised at any ...ting of the inhabitants, under the provisions ...ections 110 and 111." The agency of the ...de in this matter ceases here, as no other ...eeding is required of them. The issuing the ...ant for the collection of the tax and its col-...on, are duties imposed upon the County ...k and the collector. After the tax is col-...d, the district treasurer is authorized to de-...d and receive the amount of the collect-...

...may be necessary to give a few practical ...estions on the subject of sections 110 and ...as difficulties sometimes occur in regard to ...construction of legislative acts. These sug-...ons for clearness I shall make as they oc-...in reading these sections, and number them ...onvenient reference.

...1. This meeting may be held upon *any* ...rday if requested in the manner pointed out ...in this section: but it must be ...time for the treasurer to make his re-...s to the county clerk, which is before the ...day of July.

...2. It is not necessary that all the inhabi-...s of the district, legal voters, should be pres-...at the meeting. If it is called according to ...provisions of the 111th section, any number ...habitants attending it, great or small, will, ...opinion, constitute a legal meeting.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29.

NOTICE.

A general meeting of the citizens of Chicago, will be held at the Court House, on Saturday evening, May 1st, for the purpose of nominating delegates to the River and Harbor Convention, to be held in this city on July 5th.

A general attendance is particularly requested.

We see no necessity of this meeting at all. Every citizen of Illinois ought to be considered a member of the convention, and every citizen of the United States an invited guest.

Supposing a select few get together on Saturday night and appoint none but members of their own circle or own party as delegates, do they suppose the mass of the people of Chicago will submit to it? No, never!

It has been with great difficulty that jealousy has thus far been kept down. But the matter is well enough now, and will be if a few men do not undertake, on their own responsibility, to resolve their own particular selves into a mass meeting.

Is it intended to have this convention in a school house, a law office, or some other small room that it becomes necessary to exclude any portion of our fellow citizens? We hope this *project* will be abandoned, and that every body will be allowed to attend the convention.

For the democratic party, we say, once for all, that they have acted thus far in good faith and intend to do so. They, however, know when they are well used; and, unless every body is allowed to take part in the Convention, they will *hand it over, with all its responsibilities*, to that party which is eternally proving itself more nice than wise.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

Brigadier General GIDEON J. PILLOW, to be Major General in the army of the United States, in the place of Thomas H. Benton, who declined to accept.

Brigadier General JOHN A. QUITMAN, to be Major General in the army of the United States, in the place of William Cumming, who declined to accept.

Colonel CALEB CUSHING, to be Brigadier General in the army of the United States, in the place of John A. Quitman, promoted.

☞ Mr. Baptiste Irwin, of Louisville, Ky., was so severely wounded by the premature discharge of a cannon, with which he, with other citizens, was firing a salute in honor of the glorious victory of Buena Vista, as to cause his death on the evening of the next day.

ALVARADO, as every one anticipated, was taken without firing a gun, and the squadron has returned to Vera Cruz. Capt. Mayo has been left as Governor of the town with a small force, while Capt. Tatnall, in the Spitfire, has gone farther up the river to look in at the different towns.

A great number of cannon and other military stores were captured at Alvarado, for there were no less than seven forts and batteries on the water side. It is said that Com. Perry brought off every thing of value.

The two ports reported to have been taken by our forces are Tlacotalpan and Cosamoloapan, above Alvarado. They have fallen without resistance. They are important points, situated upon fine inland waters which have their outlet to the Gulf of Alvarado.

The very latest report at Vera Cruz was that Santa Anna would dispute the passage of our troops to Mexico with an army of 20,000 men.

COL. BENTON.—The last Commercial Bulletin, published in Booneville, contains the following important letter from Col. Benton:

WASHINGTON CITY, March 21, 1847.

Mr. QUESENBURY—Sir: I see that you have put up my name for the Presidency, at the head of your editorial column: and while I thank you

CANAL TRUSTEES.

The Trustees of the Canal, in behalf of the Foreign Bond holders, Capt. Swift and Mr. Leavitt, arrived, last night, and will proceed to *Lockport, to-day*. They express a determination to complete the work within the year 1847; and with this our people will be satisfied, and this much they expect.

DELEGATES.

We notice in town, the present week, *Wm McClure Esq., of Will, and D. H. Whitney Esq.*, of Boone.

We find both of these gentlemen opposed to all incorporations and exclusive privileges whatever, and for inserting in the constitution a positive prohibition against making any difference between a man as a banker, a merchant, a doctor, or any thing else. They would have a banker brought before a magistrate, for his bills, in the same way as for his notes of hand. And, if one banks, they want all to have the privilege who can so secure the public that the Governor, with the security in the Treasury of the State, will put his name on the bills. Thus all the stockholders can be sued individually at any time, the same as on their notes of hand, and then the Governor has the security in par stocks, dollar for dollar, besides.

We believe every bank-man in this State will oppose any such just restrictions.

VIRGINIA ELECTION.

6th District—Returns from Richmond city, Powhatan and Chesterfield counties, and part of Hanover county, gives Botts, (whig) 620 majority.—He is undoubtedly elected.

8th District—Newton, (whig) supposed to be elected over Willoughby.

9th District—John J. Pendleton, (whig) was re-elected.

BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA.

The numbers of killed, wounded and missing, according to Gen. Taylor's tables, are as follows:

Killed.—Commissioned officers, 28; non-commissioned officers, musicians, artificers and privates, 239;—total 267.

Wounded.—Commissioned officers, 41; non-commissioned, &c.. 415;—total 456.

Missing.—Non-commissioned officers, musicians, artificers and privates, 23.

Grand total of killed, wounded and missing, 746.

The number of troops engaged in the action was: Commissioned officers, 334; non-commissioned officers, musicians, artificers and privates, 4,425.—total, 4,759.

MOVEMENTS OF THE PEOPLE.

A copy of the poll books of Caledonia precinct, Boone Co., has been forwarded us with sixty-three names attached. The questions were put and decided viva voce at the polls, as follows:

For the Wilmot Proviso, ayes 63, noes 00.—For a tea and coffee tax, ayes 00, noes 63. Improvement of harbors, ayes 63, noes 00.

Keep the ball in motion! There will be a chance for other precincts to speak in August.

VERMILLION AND CHAMPAIGNE COUNTIES.—We are gratified to learn that T. R. Webber, Esq., has succeeded in Champaigne Co.; and regret very much that Mr. Davis was beaten in Vermillion, as will all the democrats who know him. He had all the wealth, talents and popularity of the two strongest men in the county, with their host of friends to oppose him, and yet he gave them a hard run.

LAKE CO. OFFICIAL.

Dear Sir.—The following is an abstract of the votes cast in Lake County for delegates to the Convention to amend the Constitution of this State. Yours Respectfully,

A. PATTERSON, Co. Clk.

BY AUTHORITY.

Laws of the United States passed at the second session of the Twenty-ninth Congress.

JAMES K. POLK, President. GEORGE M. DALLAS, Vice President. JOHN W. DAVIS, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHAP. 32—AN ACT to establish a land office in the northern part of Michigan, and to provide for the sale of mineral lands in the State of Michigan.

[SEC. 1.] Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all that portion of the public lands in the State of Michigan lying north of the boundaries of the Saginaw and Grand river land districts in said State, commonly called the northern peninsula of the State of Michigan, with the islands in Lakes Superior, Huron and Michigan, and in Green Bay, the straits of Michilimackinac, and the river St. Mary's, within the jurisdiction of said State, be, and the same are hereby, included in a land district there shall be a land office established at such point therein as the President of the United States may select.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause a geological examination and survey of the lands embraced in said district to be made and reported to the Commissioner of the General Land Office. And the President is hereby authorized to cause such of said lands as may contain copper, lead, or other valuable ores to be exposed to sale, giving six months' notice of the times and places of sales in such newspapers of general circulation in the several States as he may deem expedient, with a brief description of the lands to be offered; showing the number and localities of the mines known, the probability of discovering others, the quality of the ores, the facilities of working the mines, and the means and expense of transporting their products to the principal markets in the United States. And all the lands embraced in said district, not reported as aforesaid, shall be sold in the same manner as other lands under the laws now in force for the sale of the public lands, excepting and reserving from such sales section sixteen in each township for the use of schools, and such reservations as the President shall deem necessary for public uses.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That all those persons who are in possession, by actual occupancy, of any portion of the district described in the first section of this act, under authority of a lease from the Secretary of War, for the purpose of mining thereon, and who have fully complied with all the conditions and stipulations of said lease, may enter and purchase the same at any time during the continuance of such lease, and no less, by paying to the United States therefor at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents per acre: *Provided*, That said entry and purchase shall be made to include the original survey of such lease, as near as may be conforming to the lines of the public surveys of sections and subdivisions thereof. And all those persons who are in possession, by actual occupancy, of any of said lands, for mining purposes, under authority of a written permit from the Secretary of War, and who have visible landmarks and monuments as boundaries thereon, and who have, in all other respects, complied with the conditions and stipulations contained in such permit, may enter and purchase the same, to the extent of the tract selected by them and reported to the Secretary of War, as required by said permit, and no less, in the same manner as those who hold under leases, and at the same price: *Provided*, such entry and purchase be made before the day said lands shall be offered for sale by order of the President.—And all those persons who shall be in possession, by actual occupancy, of a mine or mines actually discovered before the passage of this act, and who shall pay the same per centum of rents as those who hold under leases, as aforesaid, shall be permitted to enter and purchase one section of land, and not less, to include such mine or mines discovered and occupied as aforesaid, by them, by paying to the United States the same price, and at the same time, as required of those who hold under permits aforesaid, and all rents accruing from such lessees or occupants shall be paid and delivered to such officers of the Government as the Secretary of the Treasury shall direct: *Provided*, That prior to any such purchase being made under the provisions of this section, proof of possession and occupancy, as aforesaid, of the mine or mines claimed, shall be made to the register and receiver of the land district, together with the evidence of the payment of all rents due the United States, agreeably to such rules as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury for that purpose, which register and receiver shall be entitled to receive one dollar for his services therein: *Provided*, That an appeal from the decision of the register and receiver to the Secretary of the Treasury may be had under such regulations as the said Secretary may prescribe. And if two or more persons are in possession of the same section, the first occupant shall be entitled to a preference, unless the same can be so divided by legal subdivisions as to give each the discovery claimed by him.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That the said mineral lands shall be offered for sale in quarter sections, and no bid shall be received at a less rate than five dollars per acre; and if such lands shall not be sold at public sale at such price, they shall thereafter be entered at private sale at that price: *Provided*, That no legal division or subdivision of any of said lands upon which there may be an outstanding lease or leases from the Secretary of War unexpired or undetermined, and which is actually occupied for mining purposes, and the occupants of which have complied with all the requisites of such lease or leases, and continue to perform the same, shall be sold until after the determination of such lease or leases by efflux of time, voluntary surrender, or other legal extinguishment thereof, except in such cases as are provided for in the third section of this act, and the lessees respectively shall be entitled to the privileges secured by said section upon the voluntary surrender of the lease or leases held by them.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That the management and control of the mineral lands shall be transferred from the War Department, and placed under the jurisdiction and control of the Treasury Department; and all books, maps, papers, instruments, and other property, heretofore used and employed in the management, survey, exploring or conducting of said mineral lands by the War Department, shall be delivered over and made subject to the disposition of the Secretary of the Treasury.

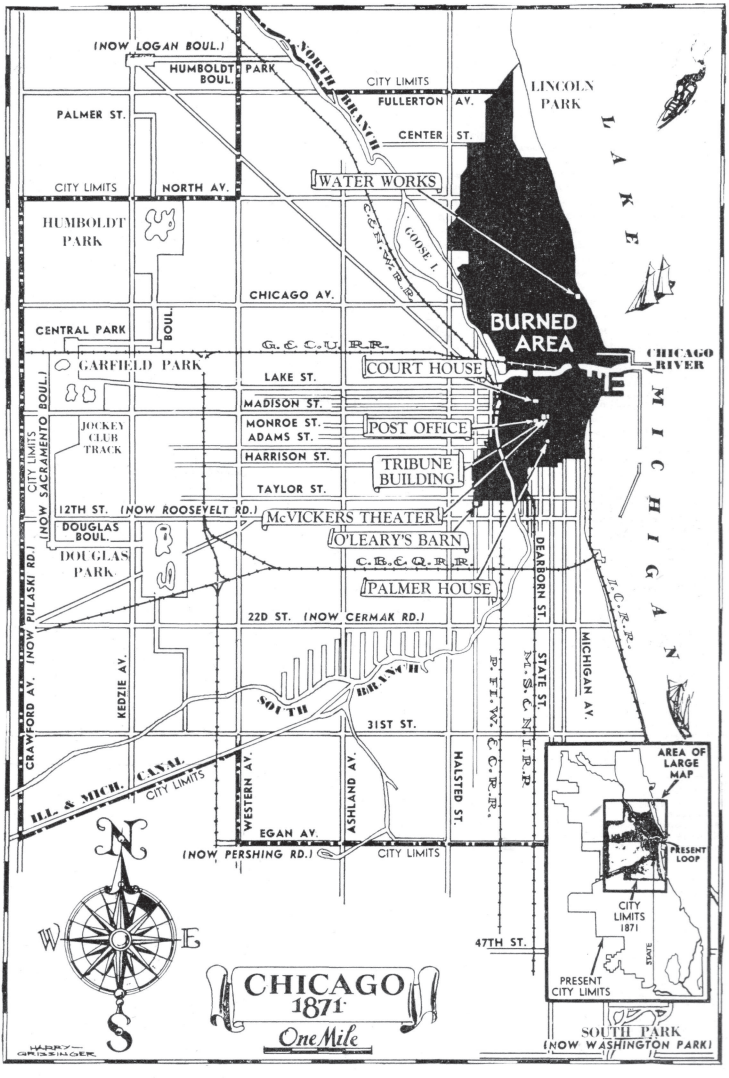
SEC. 6. And be it further enacted, That the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, so soon as a sufficient number of townships are surveyed, and returns thereof made to the General Land Office, to authorize the commencement of the sales in said district, shall appoint one register and one receiver for the land office in said district, who shall reside at the place designated by the President for the land office, receive each compensation, give security, and discharge all duties pertaining to such office as are prescribed by law.

Approved, March 1, 1847.

CHAP. 31.—AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An Act to regulate the carriage of passengers in merchant vessels," and to determine the time when ... take effect.

[SEC. 1.] Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act to regulate the carriage of passengers in merchant vessels, approved the twenty-second day of February, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, shall, in regard to all vessels arriving from ports on this side of the capes of Good Hope and Horn, take effect and be in force from and after the thirty-first day of May next ensuing; and in regard to all vessels arriving from

PLATE III


(NOW LOGAN BOUL.)
HUMBOLDT BOUL.
PARK
CITY LIMITS
NORTH BRANCH
FULLERTON AV.
CENTER ST.
LINCOLN PARK
LAKE
PALMER ST.
CITY LIMITS
NORTH AV.
WATER WORKS
C. & N. W. R. R.
GOOSE I.
HUMBOLDT PARK
CHICAGO AV.
BURNED AREA
CENTRAL PARK BOUL.
G. C. & C. U. R. R.
CHICAGO RIVER
GARFIELD PARK
LAKE ST.
COURT HOUSE
MADISON ST.
MONROE ST.
ADAMS ST.
POST OFFICE
JOCKEY CLUB TRACK
HARRISON ST.
TRIBUNE BUILDING
CITY LIMITS (NOW SACRAMENTO BOUL.)
TAYLOR ST.
12TH ST. (NOW ROOSEVELT RD.)
McVICKERS THEATER
DOUGLAS BOUL.
O'LEARY'S BARN
C. B. & Q. R. R.
DOUGLAS PARK
DEARBORN ST.
P. C. C. & St. L. R. R.
PALMER HOUSE
(NOW PULASKI RD.)
22D ST. (NOW CERMAK RD.)
KEDZIE AV.
MICHIGAN AV.
P. FT. W. & C. R. R.
STATE ST.
M. S. & N. I. R. R.
SOUTH BRANCH
31ST ST.
CRAWFORD AV.
ILL. & MICH. CANAL
CITY LIMITS
WESTERN AV.
ASHLAND AV.
HALSTED ST.
EGAN AV.
(NOW PERSHING RD.)
CITY LIMITS
47TH ST.
AREA OF LARGE MAP
PRESENT LOOP
CITY LIMITS 1871
STATE
PRESENT CITY LIMITS
SOUTH PARK (NOW WASHINGTON PARK)
N
W
E
S
CHICAGO 1871
One Mile
HARRY GRUNINGER

bore the inscription, in German: "Fuerchtet Gott und gebet ihm die Ehre!" ("Fear God, and give glory to Him.")

No attempt will be made here to give a detailed description of this appalling catastrophe. However, a few paragraphs will not lead to boredom.

"The burning of Moscow, in 1812, caused a loss amounting to £30,000,000; but the loss at Chicago was in excess of this amount. The Great Fire of London, in 1666, devastated a tract of 436 acres and destroyed 13,000 buildings; but that of Chicago swept over 1,900 acres and burned more than 17,000 buildings." A. T. Andreas writes: "The following is the statement of the area burned over and of property destroyed, made by the Chicago Relief and Aid Society, and which is probably authoritative: 'The total area burned over the city, including streets, was 2,124 acres, or nearly three and one-third square miles. This area contained about 73 miles of streets, 18,000 buildings, and the homes of 100,000 people.' " Some of us remember the story as it was printed in the *Lesebuch fuer Oberklassen evangelisch-lutherischer Schulen,* in which the author refers to the Great Fire of Chicago as an "unprecedented picture of the transitoriness of earthly things." By others it was called "a grand but awful spectacle"; by still others, an "appalling calamity." "A fellow standing on a piano declared that the fire was the friend of the poor man. He wanted everybody to help himself to the best liquor he could get and continued to yell until someone as drunk as himself flung a bottle at him and knocked him off." J. Pat Maloney, writing in "The Voice of the People" of the *Chicago Tribune,* made the following statement concerning the cause of the great conflagration: "The fire was started by four hobos who were rushing the 'beer can' and sleeping in the hay over the cow barn. One of the four dropped a lighted match in the hay." Mr. Maloney says he got that information from Frank T. Scanlan, who lived two blocks from Saint Patrick's Church on Des Plaines Street. He

was sixteen years old at the time and knew the O'Leary family well. On State Street was the fine row of five-story marble-front buildings known as "Booksellers' Row." These magnificent buildings were . . . filled with books and stationery. . . . An exploration of the ruins failed to discover a single book—or a sheet or a quire of paper. "The only legible thing found was a single leaf, badly scorched, of a Bible, and this is said to have contained that part of the first chapter of Jeremiah, which opens: 'How doth the city set solitary that was full of people, how she became as a widow. She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks.'" Robert Collyer tells this story: "I well remember in our great fire in Chicago a slender young man who undertook to carry a lady and her little child in a light buggy out of the burning city. He was going down Michigan Avenue, the street was crowded to a jam, and he had to stop and wait for the jam to get loose. All at once there came along behind him a great fellow driving a furniture-wagon, who yelled to him, with an oath, to get out of the way or he would run into him. 'I cannot stir,' the man said quietly, "and this lady is sick and has a little babe with her not a week old. Now, you must be quiet and stay where you are, and we will all come out together very soon.' Then the brute swore a great oath that he would come down and pull him out of that and twist the thing out of his way. He jumped out of his wagon to do it. The young man jumped too. They were both on the ground at the same instant, but before the giant had time to strike him or clutch him, the young man had sent his fist about where the brute's dinner would go if he could get any that day, and that brought him down. But as he was coming down, he caught him with the other fist right under the chin, and that brought him up. 'Now,' he said, 'you get onto that wagon and do just as I tell you, or I will give you the greatest licking you ever had since you were born.' The fellow swore horribly, mounted the

wagon, and drove down the avenue at the back of the buggy when the jam gave way. But the best of the story is this, and I vouch for its truth, that this young man was a minister in our city, in good standing, a mighty man in preaching and prayer, as I know, a man who wouldn't hurt a mouse and in every way a gentlemen." Unfortunately, the identity of that minister is hidden from us.

One year after the conflagration, James T. Fields, in the course of a lecture, said: "Instead of ruin I found such a grandeur of restoration and strength of enterprise, such an overwhelming result of indomitable will, unfailing industry and courage, that I almost doubted the evidence of my senses and could scarcely believe that any such conflagration as we had heard of, read of, had occurred at all."

Possibly very few people, as they travel by auto on the present beautiful Lake Shore Drive, realize that the greatest portion of the "foundation" for the area between the Illinois Central Railroad tracks and the Lake, which now constitutes a part of Chicago's "front yard," is composed of rocks and debris hauled out there soon after the Great Fire.

As that exciting decade closed, it was reported that Thomas Alva Edison had solved the problem of the electric light.

On August 26, 1896, the Rev. John Baumgaertner, Pastor Wunder's son-in-law, was called as assistant at First Saint Paul's. Following the death of Dr. Wunder* at the age of eighty-three on December 22, 1913, the assistant was installed as full-time pastor.

Toward the close of the first decade of the twentieth century, the congregation became increasingly aware of the fact that it could not much longer remain in the neighborhood, because the entire region was rapidly becoming dotted with factories of various kinds; also, the elevated raidroad (Rapid

* Pastor Wunder received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of his ordination to the ministry, in 1909.

Transit—"L"), erected on the east side of the church edifice, created intolerable disturbances during the services and meetings. These considerations led to the purchase of the present building at the northeast corner of Goethe and North La Salle Streets for $45,000 from a Hebrew congregation. This church was dedicated on August 28, 1910. Less than eight years later, on January 19, 1918, Pastor Baumgaertner, First Saint Paul's third "regular" pastor, died at the age of forty-four. His successor was the Rev. Henry G. W. Kowert, a native of New Zealand, who, before coming to Chicago, had served congregations in Cordelia, Calif., and in Chicago Heights, Ill. Pastor Kowert came to Saint Paul's in 1916. He was installed on September 16, 1917, and served the congregation during Pastor Baumgaertner's last illness.

In 1931 the day school, established in 1846, was closed because there were "too few children to continue." A Sunday school had been started in the fall of 1910. In 1937 the Rev. Louis W. Grother was called as Pastor Kowert's assistant for one year and in 1938 as associate pastor. Pastor Kowert died on August 18, 1944, at the Lutheran Sanatorium, Wheat Ridge, Colo., and shortly afterward the associate pastor became full-time pastor. Pastor Grother accepted a call to Kalamazoo, Mich., and left Chicago soon after Easter, 1949. His successor, the Rev. James G. Manz, assistant pastor of Grace Congregation, River Forest, Ill., since January, 1946, was installed at First Saint Paul's on October 9, 1949.

The following teachers served First Saint Paul's day school: George Henry Fischer, Christian Luecke, Charles Laufer, Christian Schumm, John Nickolaus Haase, G. Koebel, John Doerfler, Louis C. E. Doering, Arthur H. Eggers, Miss M. Koplien, and Gustav A. Niethammer.[20] Eduard Bartling, formerly at Bethlehem in Colehour, served for about four months, 1876-1877. He died February 8, 1877, at the age of 22.