

KILBOURN DAM IN 1859.

An Interesting Incident of Early Rafting Days.

"In the spring of 1859, after a winter of heavy, deep snow and a rainy spring, the water in the Wisconsin river was quite high, the lumber business was prosperous and the river was full of lumber. Every mill in the valley from Jenny to the mouth of Yellow river had been crowded to its full capacity and the product was being rafted to the Mississippi valley markets. During the previous fall the people at Kilbourn had built a dam across the river there, thinking it would be no obstacle to the passing of the rafts. The river there is very narrow and the flood raised the gorged water to such an extent that it was running ten to fifteen feet deep over the dam, falling sheer for about twelve feet and forming a big eddy and whirlpool in which were great holes and stones. When the rafts went over the dam they plunged into the big eddy, then the whirlpool would catch them and they would be smashed on the rocky shores and ground to pieces. All efforts to find a safe passage by the best pilots were useless and then the cry went up that no lumber could pass the Kilbourn dam and that the fleets were tied up.

There was a rush of every man interested to Kilbourn to learn the exact condition, and a fine crowd there was of us—Miner, Weston and Kingston from Necedah, Arnold from Germantown, George Hiles from Yellow River, Clinton, Hurley and Burns, Garrison and Reeves from Grand Rapids, Hugh McGraw from Plover, McIndoe, Clarke and Barnes from Big Bull Falls, the whole Eau Claire crowd and the Jenny crowd. The river was full of rafts tied along each bank from the head of Big Dalles to the dam, about eight miles, where the water was backed up and quiet as a pond. The crowd of lumbermen determined to tear out the dam or make an opening to cause a cross current and break up the eddy. After a desperate effort this was found impossible as the dam was too deeply covered with rushing water. Then an attack was made upon a 40-foot bulkhead at the east side of the dam. This was demolished to the water's edge when a young fellow from Plover, called Jack Clarke, slipped, fell into the seething waters and was seen no more. When the cry went out that "Jack Clarke" was drowned all supposed it was your humble servant. During the excitement a couple of barrels of whiskey and a supply of tin cups were secured. The heads of the barrels were knocked in and in about half an hour there was a howling mob of wild lumbermen, swearing and yelling, and threatening to burn every house in Kilbourn. The crowd, led by Hiles and two or three others, started to carry out the threat, but were met half way between the river and the town by a cool, brave and determined citizen, Bailey by name, who called them to a halt. Then he addressed himself to Hiles and the other leaders, warning them that another step forward meant death, and he showed that he meant business, by pulling his gun and dared them to go ahead. The crowd moved back with alacrity.

The action of Mr. Bailey was the bravest I ever saw. He was the man who later rescued General Banks and his men on Red River during the civil war by building wing dams and floating his fleet over the shoals.

To make the story short, the bulkhead was gotten out, the water fell very fast and the lumber was rafted through and taken on to market.

The next winter Francis Baron tore out the dam and it was never rebuilt while lumber was run on the river.—JOHN C. CLARK in Wausau Record.

Beats the Music Cure.

"To keep the body in tune," writes Mrs. Mary Brown, 20 Lafayette Place, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. "I take Dr. King's New Life Pills. They are the most reliable and pleasant laxative I have found." Best for the Stomach, Liver and Bowels. Guaranteed by Sexton Bros. druggists. 25c.

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Lively Day's Travel.

Before the Northwestern railway changed its timetable to its present schedule, Frank Tice, traveling salesman for the Sprague-Warner Co., Chicago, used to make about as novel a day's trip in covering a piece of his territory as one could well imagine. Without leaving the limits of Wood county, Mr. Tice would, by the route he had figured out, leave here at 9:05 in the morning and return at 6:05 in the evening and was able to say when he returned home in the evening that he had called upon his customers in five different cities and towns and that he had ridden over four different railroads that had no connection whatever as far as ownership was concerned. At the time of which we speak the Northwestern road had a train leaving this station at 9:05 in the morning which Mr. Tice would take to Vesper. At 10:30 he would leave Vesper for Pittsville over the St. Paul road at which city he would get his dinner and then drive across country to Dexterville where he had ample time to call upon the trade and catch the Green Bay and Western for Grand Rapids, leaving Dexterville at 2:30 p. m. Arriving at Grand Rapids the afternoon sun was still high enough not to cast long shadows and he found time enough to call upon his many customers there and then catch the Central train for Marshfield, arriving here just in time to catch the last echo of whistles from the mills and factories telling him that supper was waiting for him at home and that he had circumnavigated Wood county in p. d. q. time.

Fortnightly Musical Club.

The Fortnightly Musical Club and their friends enjoyed a delightful evening last Friday at the residence of E. E. Finney. Owing to the bad roads, the sleigh ride planned has been postponed for a time. The next regular meeting will be held Friday, Jan. 26, at the home of Mrs. Pulling. The subject will be, "The Piano Players—Liszt, Thalberg, von Bulow, Tausig." The program follows: Duet, Rhapsodi Hongroise No. 2, Liszt—Mrs. Reynolds and Miss Mason; Solo, Amid the Greenwood, Thalberg—Miss Forest; Love's Dream, Liszt—Mrs. Reynolds; Paper, The Piano, Mrs. Wheeler; Solo, Du bist wie eine Blume, Liszt—Miss Glassner; Tarantelle in C Minor, Thalberg—Mrs. R. Williams.

A Lake That Stores Heat.

There is a lake that stores the sun's heat at Meleve, in northeastern Transylvania. Thick beds of rock salt underlie the district, and a similar formation appears upon the surface in mounds, some of them over 100 feet in height. Among these the lake rests at fully 1,500 feet above sea level. Upon the surface its water is almost sweet, four inches below there is a twentieth of salt, at two feet there is one-fifth, and at five feet the water is practically saturated with salt. In September, after a summer's sunshine, the thermometer showed the lake's waters to be 150 degrees four feet down. Even by April, after a whole season of wintry weather, it had only been reduced to 80 degrees. Experiments have proved that this is due to absorption and retention of the sun's heat by the salt saturated solution.

Grace Knives.

There is a curious class of knives of the sixteenth century the blades of which have engraved on one side the musical notes to the benediction of the table, or grace before meat, and on the other the grace after meat. These knives usually went in sets of four, representing a four part harmony of bass, tenor, alto and treble. They were kept in an upright case of stamped leather and were placed before the singers according to the adaptation of each one to his particular part. As may be supposed, the inscription was usually in Latin. The following specimen is taken from actual knives of the period: "Pro tuis beneficiis Deus, gratias agimus tibi" (For thy good gifts, O God, we thank thee).

Mares and Fillies.

A song of bygone generation reproached the French with calling their mothers "mares" and all their daughters "fillies," and it is easy to imagine that "filly" is connected with "fillic." As a matter of fact, the word "filly" is of Scandinavian origin and is really a diminutive of "foal." Shakespeare makes Puck disguise himself in "likeness of a filly foal." "Mare" is the Anglo-Saxon "mere," feminine of "mearh," a horse, a trace of which remains in "marshal," which properly signifies master of the horse.

The Most Accurate Frontier.

As an instance of the jealousy existing in the relations between Norway and Sweden it may be noted that the boundary line between the two countries is the most minutely exact in Europe. In every parish touched by the line there is deposited an elaborate plan which is renewed every ten years, the whole of the work of surveying, etc., being carefully repeated each time.—Pearson's Magazine.

Fifty Years the Standard

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER
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Singing out of Tune.

The prosecution of a "strict member of the church and of most exemplary deportment" for disturbing the congregation while engaged in divine worship, by his unmusical singing, was the subject with which the court had to wrestle in the case of State v. Linkhaw, 69 N. C. 214. The report shows that the effect of the singing "was to make one part of the congregation laugh and the other mad; that the irreligious and frivolous, enjoyed it as fun, while the serious and devout were indignant." It was shown that the disturbance was so great that the preacher in one instance declined to sing the hymn announced, that the presiding elder had refused to preach in the church on account of such disturbance, and that, after a sermon of especial solemnity, a leading member of the church had on one occasion gone to the defendant and specially requested him not to sing at that time, and in this instance he refrained. But that, although the church members and authorities had on many occasions expostulated with him, he persisted in singing, and declared that "he would worship his God, and that as a part of his worship it was his duty to sing." He was found guilty. But the case went to the supreme court of the state, where it was held that, as he had no intention or purpose to disturb the congregation, but was conscientiously taking part in the religious services, he was not guilty, notwithstanding the fact that a disturbance resulted. Thus, again, was religious freedom established.—Case and Comment.

Pastor Resign.

Rev. A. J. Anderson, for 7 years pastor of the Norwegian Lutheran church in Marshfield and vicinity, having resigned, the charge being too small to support his large family, a meeting of committees from all the congregations at Auburn-dale, Richfield and Neillsville together with the presiding elder of the eastern district of the Norwegian Synod, was held at Richfield last Tuesday for the purpose of issuing and sending a call for a new pastor. But being informed that none at present could be had to take the charge, the congregations left it with the presiding elder to appoint their new pastor out of the '06 graduating class from the Theol. Seminary at Hamlin, Minn. Rev. Anderson agreed to serve the congregation as long as he stayed at Marshfield, or until he had installed his successor.

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