

Primer  
of  
Michigan  
History

Wm. J. Cox.

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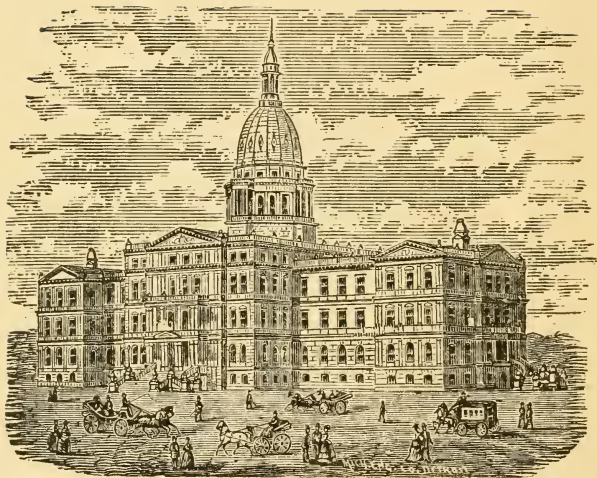
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Home of my heart, I sing of thee,  
Michigan, my Michigan.  
Thy lake-bound shores I long to see,  
Michigan, my Michigan.  
From Saginaw's tall whispering pines  
To Lake Superior's farthest mines,  
Fair in the light of memory shines,  
Michigan, my Michigan.

WAR SONG—*Mrs. Jane W. Brent.*



Michigan State Capitol.

A PRIMER  
OF  
MICHIGAN HISTORY;  
WITH A  
BRIEF SKETCH  
OF THE  
MATERIAL RESOURCES OF THE STATE.

COMPILED BY  
WM. J. COX.



HENRY R. PATTENGILL, PUBLISHER,  
LANSING, MICHIGAN.  
1886.

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## PREFACE.

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It is believed that the youth who attend our public schools should acquire some knowledge of the chief facts in the history of the State which provides for their education, and of which they are the future guardians and citizens. That the pupils of the average school have received sufficient and systematic instruction in Michigan history, will scarcely be claimed by any one whose observation of the matter has been both wide and careful.

The standard text-books of American history are necessarily silent upon many points of local interest and importance; while, on the other hand, the several histories of the State are too lengthy and too expensive for general class use. Owing to various causes, the place of a text-book on this subject is rarely supplied by oral instruction. The attempt has been made, therefore, to present some of the salient points of Michigan history in a form sufficiently concise and inexpensive to meet the needs of the class-room, and of the busy private student.

## PREFACE.

It is believed that the PRIMER can be used without encroaching upon the time properly given to the general study of American history. As this little work is designed to be used as a supplement to the ordinary text-book, subjects commonly treated in the latter are considered only in their local relations.

The natural resources of Michigan are so many, and the industrial pursuits of the various sections are so different, that children reared in one part of the State have often little or no conception of the conditions existing elsewhere. It has seemed proper, therefore, to include a chapter on this subject.

For favors received during the preparation of the PRIMER, the compiler desires to acknowledge his obligations to the Hon. Varnum B. Cochran, former Superintendent of Public Instruction in Michigan; to the Rev. J. H. Pitezel, author of "Lights and Shades of Missionary Life" and other works; to Supt. E. T. Curtis of Calumet; and to Henry R. Pattengill, the publisher. For the Map showing the location of the chief Material Resources of the State, the PRIMER is indebted to Principal F. E. Wood of this place.

For the beautiful illustrations which adorn its

## PREFACE.

pages the PRIMER is indebted to the Detroit & Cleveland Steam Navigation Company, who, through the courtesy of their agent, Mr. C. D. Whitcomb, of Detroit, contributed the use of the plates.

In preparing the following pages, the works of Francis Parkman, Judge Campbell, Judge Cooley, Mrs. E. M. Sheldon, and the Lanmans, and the Transactions of the Old Historical Society of Michigan, have been freely used, with proper credits for direct quotations.

W. J. C.

*Hancock, Mich., July, 1886.*

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# A PRIMER OF MICHIGAN HISTORY.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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As the territory which forms the present State of Michigan was first explored, settled and controlled by Frenchmen, its earliest history is inseparably connected with that of the province of New France.

During the first quarter of the century which followed the discovery of America, while Spain and England were deeply interested in projects of exploration and excited by dreams of gold and glory, the kings of France were too deeply involved in Italian wars to give much attention to the Western World. But after the defeat of 1521, King Francis I of France found time to observe, in a spirit of envy, that his rival, Charles V of Spain and Germany, was reaping profit and renown from explorations in America. Accordingly King Francis I fitted out an expedition under John Verrazzano, a Florentine navigator whom he had enlisted in the service of France.

**1524**—This expedition crossed the ocean in the early part of the year 1524, making the voyage

from Madeira Island to the coast of North Carolina in fifty days. Verrazzano examined the coast from Carolina to Nova Scotia in the hope of finding a passage to Cathay—as China was then called—which had been one of the chief objects of the expedition. By the time they reached Newfoundland, provisions began to grow short and they set sail for France.

Verrazzano's voyage is interesting to us for two reasons: First, he named the country New France; and secondly, he wrote the first description of its coast.

**1534**—The next French movements of importance in this connection were the voyages of Jacques Cartier—a bold seaman of St. Malo. On his first trip to New France (1534) Cartier entered the Gulf of St. Lawrence and sailed up as far as Anticosti Island, supposing all the time that he had found the long-sought passage to Cathay. But the weather was becoming cold and stormy, and the explorers returned to France for the winter. The next spring (1535) Cartier came back with three vessels and ascended the St. Lawrence River to the present site of Montreal. After visiting the Indians of the neighboring village and making the ascent of the mountain—which he named *Mont Royal*—Cartier and his comrades sailed down to the spot now occupied by the city of Quebec, where they went into winter quarters. Before spring the scurvy broke out, and not less than twenty-six of the company

found graves under the deep Canadian snows. In the early summer (1536) Cartier, with the rest of the survivors, returned to France.

**1541**—Not dismayed by the hardships through which he had passed, the courageous navigator of St. Malo made another voyage to the New World, this time for the purpose of planting a colony on the banks of the St. Lawrence. Roberval, who was to have followed him shortly, failed to reach New France until the following spring (1542), when he found Cartier just on the point of leaving for France. Roberval tried to prevent the old navigator from deserting the enterprise, but in vain, as Cartier stole away under cover of night.

The attempts of Roberval, La Roche, Pontgravé and Chauvin to found colonies in New France ended in speedy failures.

**1605**—The first effort to plant an agricultural settlement on the shores of Acadia was made by De Monts, at Port Royal (now Annapolis), Nova Scotia. After a struggling existence of two years, the enterprise was abandoned.

**1608**—The next year after the planting of the English colony at Jamestown witnessed the founding of Quebec—where Cartier had spent the winter of 1535-36—by Samuel Champlain. “Five years before, he had explored the St. Lawrence as far as the rapids above Montreal. On its banks, as he thought, was the true site for a settlement, a fortified post,

whence, as from a secure basis, the waters of the vast interior might be traced back toward their sources, and a western route discovered to China and the East. For the fur trade, too, the innumerable streams that descended to the great river might all be closed against foreign intrusion by a single fort at some commanding point, and made tributary to a rich and permanent commerce; while—and this was nearer to his heart, for he had often been heard to say that the saving of a soul was worth more than the conquest of an empire—countless savage tribes, in the bondage of Satan, might by the same avenues be reached and redeemed.

“De Monts embraced his views; and, fitting out two ships, gave command of one to the elder Pontgravé, of the other to Champlain. The former was to trade with the Indians and bring back the cargo of furs which, it was hoped, would meet the expense of the voyage. To the latter fell the harder task of settlement and exploration\*.”

Champlain and his party began their work at Quebec early in July (1608), and after weeks of vigorous exertion they were comfortably housed in wooden buildings surrounded by a strong wall. Twenty-eight persons went into winter quarters, but the scurvy broke out before spring, and only eight of the founders of Quebec were alive at the close of the gloomy winter.

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\* Parkman's "Pioneers of France in the New World."



During the next few years Champlain devoted his time and energies to the strengthening of the colony and to the exploration of the great interior. He discovered the lake which bears his name in 1611, and visited Lake Huron in 1615. In 1620 he brought his wife over to New France, "and entered with renewed vigor upon all the enterprises connected with colonial life. The colonists were greatly encouraged to find their governor willing thus to unite all his interests with theirs, and pursued the arduous labors, and endured the privations of their lot with an energy and fortitude hitherto unknown\*."

Meanwhile other settlements were planted, of which Montreal was the most important; but, as the fur trade was the chief occupation of the colonists as well as the chief concern of the companies that supported the enterprises, the growth and prosperity of New France by no means fulfilled the expectations of its founders.

**1626**—About this time the company of New France, consisting of one hundred associates with the French minister,—Cardinal Richelieu,—at the head, was organized, with a capital of three hundred thousand livres, and with many privileges from the French crown.

**1629**—In 1629 Quebec was surrendered to the English, who espoused the cause of the Huguenots in their revolt then in progress. Champlain and

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\* Sheldon's "Early History of Michigan."

his people were distressed by famine, and he deemed it best to comply at once with the demand of the English commander, and surrendered the post without resistance. Some of the colonists remained at Quebec, and three years later (1632), by the treaty of St. Germain, the territory was returned to the French crown.

In 1635 New France suffered a severe loss in the death of Champlain, who for a third of a century had devoted the best energies of a strong mind and a warm heart to the French interests in the New World.

Other governors came and went with the busy years, but, as it is not the purpose of this little narrative to follow the historic fortunes of New France further than seems necessary for a starting point in Michigan history, their names and deeds must be left to the goodly volumes which discuss the subject at length.

## CHAPTER I.

## French Period—1634 to 1760.

## THE FIRST EXPLORER.

**1634**--It is believed that the first white man who visited any part of the territory embraced in the present State of Michigan was Jean Nicolet—who was in the service of Governor Champlain—and that he first set foot upon the soil at the spot now occupied by the town of Sault de Ste. Marie. Nicolet ascended the Ottawa and Mattawan rivers, passed through Lake Nipissing, descended French River, coasted the northern shore of Lake Huron and ascended the strait to the falls, where he probably arrived in the summer of 1634. After a few days of rest and some friendly interviews with the natives, Nicolet descended the strait, made a brief visit at Michilimackinac—the Mo-che-ne-mok-e-nung of the Indians—and passed on to other fields of exploration not immediately connected with this narrative.

## FRENCH MISSIONARIES.

**1641**—The next Europeans that came to this region were the Jesuit missionaries, Raymbault and Jougues, who arrived at the Sault in 1641. They found about two thousand Indians there, who gave

them a warm welcome and urged them to remain; but this they could not do, and after suitable religious ceremonies, the priests returned to the eastern missions.

**1660**—In 1660, Pere René Menard resolved to found a mission on Lake Superior, and after a long and tiresome voyage he reached the head of Keweenaw Bay, in October. He spent the winter with the Indians in that vicinity, and in the spring resumed his travels, intending, it is supposed, to visit La Point, on Madeline Island. He was accompanied by a single Indian guide, and was either lost or murdered near the modern waterway known as the Portage Lake Ship-canal.

**1665**—Five years later, Pere Claude Allouez reached La Point, established a mission and erected a chapel—which was the first church edifice west of Lake Huron.

**1668**—The second mission on Lake Superior (called by the Indians *Gitchee Gomi*, and by the French *Lac de Tracy*) was founded at the Sault de Ste. Marie, by Pere Marquette,\* in 1668. Inhabited

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\*Jacques Marquette was born at Laon, France, in 1637, and died at the mouth of the Pere Marquette River, on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan, May 18, 1675. He joined the order of Jesuits at the age of 17, and was sent to Canada as a missionary in 1666.

Having a natural aptitude for learning languages, he acquired six Indian dialects in the next two years, and was ready to engage in missionary work in 1668. The establishment of the mission at the Sault de Ste. Marie was one of his first public acts.

In scholarship, intellectual vigor and religious devotion, Father Marquette was the peer of the best men of his time, and his name is revered by all who know and appreciate the sterling qualities which make men good and great.

by Europeans from that time forth, the Sault is the oldest settlement in the State.

**1669**—In 1669 Marquette was joined at the Sault by Pere Dablon, Superior of the mission, and they are described as “established in a square fort of cedar pickets \* \* \* \* \* enclosing a chapel and a house,”\* with growing crops of wheat, maize, peas, etc.

In the fall of the same year, Marquette took charge of the mission at La Point, Allouez went to Green Bay, and Dablon remained at the Sault.

**1671**—For the purpose of gaining a better foothold in the region of the great lakes, and in order to foster and perpetuate the spirit of friendship in which the Ottawas had received the early missionaries and explorers, M. Talon, Intendant of New France, sent messengers to call a great council of the Indians at the Sault, in the spring of 1671. Fourteen tribes of the northwest sent representatives to meet the French officers, who, with due ceremonies, took formal possession of the country. After raising the cross and the lilies of France, Pere Allouez, who acted as interpreter on the occasion, made a speech, in the course of which he pronounced a glowing panegyric on his king, Louis XIV, representing him as “the chief of chiefs,” who had not “his equal in the world.”

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\* Parkman's “La Salle and the Discovery of the Great West.”

During this year (1671) Marquette lost the greater portion of his La Point people through removal, and himself accompanied a band of Hurons to the Straits of Mackinac, where he founded the mission of St. Ignatius.

For the next nine years (1671–1680) Pere Druilletes was the leading spirit at the Sault. On several occasions his little chapel was burned to the ground, but the aged missionary was full of energy, and continued to work until, “broken by age, hardships and infirmities,” he found it necessary to return to Quebec, where he died in 1680.

The achievements of the French missionaries in the wilds of this distant region in those early days added not a little to the geographical knowledge of the country; their religious instruction, gentle manners and Christian character no doubt did much to soften the savage nature of the Indians whom they taught, and thereby removed some of the difficulties from the way of other explorers; and although the visible results of their attempt to Christianize the natives were few and discouraging, the zeal and heroism of the men who braved danger without flinching and endured suffering without complaining entitle them to warm places in the hearts of all who love the good and admire the brave.

#### FUR TRADERS.

As the first settlements in New France were made

under the auspices of companies organized for the carrying on of the fur trade, the enterprising followers of this traffic were early and frequent visitors in the region of the great lakes. Induced by the prospect of gain, and having perhaps a keen relish for adventure, the trader embarked with his merchandise in birch canoes, coasted the shores of the lakes, followed the winding courses of the rivers, and penetrated the secluded retreats of the vast wilderness.

This trade gave employment to a large number of boatmen and woodsmen known as *coureurs des bois*.\*

“A wild looking set were these rangers of the woods and waters! \* \* They had a genuine love for the occupation, and muscles that seemed never to tire at the paddle and oar. From dawn to sunset, with only a short interval, and sometimes no mid-day rest, they would ply these implements, causing the canoe or barge to fly through the water like a thing of life; and again they contended with head winds and gained but little progress in a day’s rowing. The labor of the oar was relieved by songs, to which each stroke kept time with added vigor.”†

But owing to too great freedom from the restraints of law and civilized society, many of the *coureurs des bois* became so reckless and dissolute as to endanger the interests of their employers, to say

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\* Literally *runners of the woods*.

† Bela Hubbard, “Michigan Pioneer Collections.”

nothing of the corrupting influences which they exerted upon the Indians. Fortified posts were therefore established for the protection of the companies.

#### AN EARLY MAP OF THE GREAT LAKES.

**1669**—Two of the Jesuit missionaries—probably Allouez and Marquette—made a map of this region about 1669. This map, which was published in 1672, was remarkably accurate for that age. And when we remember that its authors were not engineers by profession, and that the map of the country was only an incidental part of their work, we can hardly understand how the task was so well done.

#### LA SALLE AND THE VOYAGE OF THE GRIFFIN.

**1679**—Soon after his appointment to the governor-generalship of New France, Count Frontenac directed his attention to the extension of the French power and interests in the New World. And among the strong men who assisted in the exploration of the interior, La Salle acted a prominent part. After establishing a trading post called Fort Frontenac, La Salle decided to build a vessel suitable for the navigation of the great lakes, for the purpose of conducting an exploring expedition to the Mississippi River. He resigned his command at Fort Frontenac and went to a point two leagues above Niagara Falls, where he began the construction of the vessel,



late in the autumn of 1678. The schooner, which was called the *Griffin*, was of sixty tons burden, armed with five guns. On the 7th of August, 1679, she set sail for the first voyage ever made by a vessel on the great lakes. The *Griffin* was commanded by La Salle,—who was accompanied by Hennepin, the missionary,—and manned by a crew of fur-traders. They were ignorant of the depth of the water, and felt their way cautiously. They reached the mouth of the Detroit River on the 10th of August, and sailing northward passed the Indian village of *Teuchsagrondie*, on the site now occupied by the city of Detroit. The place had been visited by the French missionaries and traders, but no settlement had been attempted.

They passed on through Lake St. Clair,\* ascended the St. Clair River, and experienced a severe storm on Lake Huron.

At length the tempest-tossed *Griffin* reached the harbor of St. Ignace. “Before her rose the house and chapel of the Jesuits, enclosed with palisades; on the right, the Huron village, with its bark cabins and its fence of tall pickets; on the left, the square, compact houses of the French traders; and, not far off, the clustered wigwams of an Ottawa village. Here was a centre of the Jesuit missions, and a centre of the Indian trade; and here, under

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\*“They named it Sainte Claire, of which the present name is a perversion.”—*Parkman*.

the shadow of the cross, was much sharp practice in the service of Mammon.”\*

Early in September, La Salle resumed his voyage, crossed Lake Michigan and cast anchor at some point on Green Bay.

The *Griffin* was loaded with furs, and sailed for Niagara, with orders to return to the mouth of the St. Joseph River as soon as possible, but was never heard of more. It is probable that she foundered the night of her departure, as at that time a violent storm swept over the lake.

La Salle, with a few men, coasted Lake Michigan to the mouth of the St. Joseph—the site of the modern village of the same name—and built a rude fort. After spending nearly a month at Fort St. Joseph, where they were joined by a party from Mackinac under Tonty, La Salle’s trusted agent, they lost nearly all hope of the return of the *Griffin* with needed supplies. The near approach of winter made further delay dangerous, and the explorers at once began the ascent of the St. Joseph River. Near the site of South Bend, Indiana, they made the portage, and descended the Illinois to the point where they built Fort Crevecoeur.†

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\* Parkman’s “La Salle, and the Discovery of the Great West.”

† In 1682—having made a trip to Montreal, returned and built a suitable vessel in the meantime—La Salle embarked at Fort Crevecoeur and descended the Mississippi to its mouth. About five years later (1687), while engaged in the effort to plant French colonies at such points on the Mississippi as to give his nation control of the naviga-

## FOUNDING OF DETROIT.

**1701**—On the 24th of July, 1701, Antoine de la Motte Cadillac founded the first European settlement at Detroit. He brought fifty soldiers and fifty traders and artisans. "A stockade fort was immediately constructed, which \* \* \* \* \* was named Fort Pontchartrain, and log houses thatched with grass soon went up, in which the settlers found shelter and a home."\*

Cadillac and the officers of the French fur company quarreled from time to time, and on one occasion, when he was at Montreal on business, in the fall of 1704, he was arrested and detained from his post for about a year. He remained in charge at Detroit until called away from the colony by private interests, in 1710. Detroit continued to exist, but did not grow much during the period of French control.

## THE FRENCH WAR.

**1754 to 1760**—Meanwhile the rival claims of France and England to the same territory, in the valley of the Ohio and elsewhere, led to quarrels which finally culminated in war. During the struggle, the French lost the forts of Niagara, Ticonder-

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tion of the Great River, La Salle was assassinated by a treacherous employé.

For a full and interesting account of the life and services of this explorer, the student is referred to Francis Parkman's fascinating history, entitled, "*La Salle and the Discovery of the Great West.*"

\* Judge Cooley's "Michigan."

oga and Crown Point; and the surrender of Quebec in the fall of 1759 practically decided the contest. In September, 1760, the vast territory was abandoned to the English, and Nouvelle France became a British province.

#### GENERAL NOTE ON THE FRENCH PERIOD.

The most prominent feature of the French management, or rather *mismanagement*, of the territory was the neglect to develop the agricultural and other resources of the country. Very little land was cleared, few permanent improvements were made, and the settlements were small and weak. The fur trade, which was the chief occupation of the people, was not calculated to build up and sustain large and thriving settlements. And at the close of the French war, the little trading posts of Sault de Ste. Marie, Michilimackinac and Detroit were the meagre results of two hundred years of French colonization and control in the future State of Michigan.

## CHAPTER II.

## English Period—1760 to 1796.

## TAKING POSSESSION.

**1760**—Shortly after the surrender of the territory to the English, Major Robert Rogers was sent, with a military force, to take possession of the post at Detroit. While journeying along the southern shore of Lake Erie, the English were met by messengers from Pontiac,\* who forbade them to advance further without the consent of the chief. Pontiac, who was not far distant, soon appeared in person and demanded why they had presumed to enter his dominions without asking permission. Major Rogers explained that the sole object of the expedition was the removal of the French, who, he said, had been the means of preventing friendly intercourse between the Indians and the English. After sleeping over the subject, Pontiac gave his consent and the British soldiers moved on to Detroit.

After reading the articles of capitulation signed by his superior officers, M. Bellestre, the French commandant, surrendered Fort Pontchartrain (De-

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\*This celebrated Indian chief, the originator and manager of the Conspiracy, lived at that time on Pechee island, about eight miles above Detroit.

troit), in November, 1760, and the English took quiet possession of the post. The population of Detroit and vicinity was estimated at 2,500 persons at that time.

The forts at Michilimackinac, Sault de Ste. Marie, and St. Joseph were not occupied by the English until the fall of 1761.

#### PONTIAC'S CONSPIRACY.

**1763**—Although the French had surrendered the territory, and their chief military leaders had returned to France, the English were not long permitted to possess the land before a dangerous and secret foe sought their destruction. We have had occasion to notice the attitude of Pontiac, who regarded the French as friends and their conquerors as enemies of his people. Less than three years of intercourse served to deepen the hostility of the Indians. With brusque manners, the English failed to make themselves popular in the wigwams of the natives; as a rule their tastes did not lead them to marry the Indian women—which was one of the ways by which the French had woven ties of friendship between the two races—and in their dealings with the red men, the English traders were not only unjust but too often arrogant and provoking. When the French traders cheated them, it was done in a graceful and pleasant manner; and, rude children of the forest as they were, they could

not appreciate the pleasure or propriety of being cheated and abused at the same time. Many of the French inhabitants remained in the settlements, and as no effort had been made to win their favor they had little attachment for the new government, but — in common with the Indians — hoped for its speedy overthrow. “The fires of discontent were smouldering everywhere, and nothing was needed but the breath of a bold and daring spirit to blow them into flame.” \*

#### THE LEADER.

Pontiac, the originator and leader of the Conspiracy, was an Ottawa chief. He was well fitted for the daring enterprise. An effective speaker; a bold and crafty warrior, who had won the first place among the Indians of his day; and, more than all, he was a thoughtful and far-seeing general who could originate and manage complicated plans. In the latter qualification, he was probably the greatest chief that his race has produced. But his plans were founded upon treachery and assassination, he could violate a truce without shame, and in the chief elements of true manhood, like most of the savages, he was anything but a hero.

#### THE PLAN.

Pontiac's plan was to attack all of the English

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\* Judge Cooley's "Michigan."

posts west of the Alleghany Mountains at about the same time. The Indians were to massacre the soldiers of the garrisons, and thus, at a single stroke, they hoped and planned to rid themselves of the presence of a people whom they hated and looked upon as intruders in the valleys of the west. The plan of operations included a line of posts scattered from Niagara to Chicago, twelve forts in all, three of which—St. Joseph, Michilimackinac and Detroit—were in Michigan. Pontiac's ambassadors visited the various Indian tribes between the Ottawa and the lower Mississippi, and succeeded in enlisting all of the Algonquins, most of the Wyandots and some of the southern tribes in the enterprise. "Each tribe was to dispose of the garrison of the nearest fort, and then all were to turn upon the settlements." \*

A great council was held at a point on the River Ecorces, near Detroit, April 27, 1763. Pontiac made a long speech in which he described the wrongs that the English had done to the Indians, and assured the latter that *these dogs dressed in red had come to rob them of their hunting grounds and drive away the game.*

Arrangements were made to attack the posts in May.

#### THE ATTACK—1763.

DETROIT—The attack on the fort in Detroit was

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\* Bryant's "History of the United States."



led by Pontiac in person. The crafty chief sought an interview with Major Gladwyn, commander of the post, on the 7th of May, and was admitted. He was accompanied by a band of sixty warriors, who to all appearance were unarmed, as their weapons were carefully concealed under their blankets. It had been arranged that Pontiac should make a speech to the commander of the fort, and at the point where he should present a belt of wampum wrong end foremost the Indians were to strike down the officers, and the massacre was to be continued by the hosts of savages in waiting outside. Happily for the garrison, however, the plot had been revealed to Major Gladwyn, by an Ojibwa girl, the evening before the proposed attack,\* and he was prepared for it. When the Indians entered

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\* NOTE.—The Indians had cut off their rifles so that they could conceal them under their blankets. A few days before the time set for the massacre, a French lady happened to be at the Ottawa village where she saw several Indians engaged in filing their gun barrels. Upon her return she related the matter to her friends, and the blacksmith said that the natives had recently borrowed a number of files and old saws without explaining what they wished to do with them. These facts were known to Major Gladwyn, and perhaps helped to put him on his guard. But he was not fully convinced of the threatened danger until the plot was revealed to him by an Indian. Tradition has it that his informant was a beautiful Ojibwa girl, and imaginative writers relate several romantic stories in connection with this incident: One is that the Indian girl had made some pretty moccasins for Major Gladwyn, and brought them to him on the day before the threatened attack. He was much pleased with her skill and rewarded her handsomely, asking her at the same time to take with her a fine deerskin belonging to him for the purpose of making some more moccasins for himself and friends. The girl hesitated, and upon being questioned replied that he had been good to her and she *could not take away the deerskin, as she would never be able to bring it back*. After being assured that she would be safe in telling him what was the matter, she explained the plot which was to be attempted on the morrow, and thereby saved the garrison. Other writers think that the disclosure was prompted by a more tender feeling than gratitude.

the fort they found the soldiers in arms and ready for duty at a moment's notice. Feeling sure that his treacherous purpose was known, and that there was no chance to surprise the English, Pontiac scarcely knew what to do or say, and made his speech very brief. Major Gladwyn told the Indians that they should have the friendship of the English "so long as they deserved it," but "that instant vengeance would be taken for any hostile act."

On the 9th of May the crafty chief tried to gain an entrance with a larger party of his followers, but was promptly refused. The Indians then set up the war-whoop and proceeded to murder several defenseless English persons who were outside of the stockade, and after these fiendish acts they began the attack on the fort.

A re-enforcement, with provisions and ammunition was expected about the last of May; "and, on the 30th, the sentinel on duty announced that a fleet of boats was coming round the point, at the Huron church. The whole garrison flocked to the bastions, eagerly anticipating the arrival of their friends. But they were greeted with no sounds of joy. The death-cry of the Indians, that harbinger of misery,

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NOTE.—The garrison at this time consisted of about one hundred sixty men, three-fourths of whom were regular soldiers. The Indian force has been estimated at not less than six hundred warriors. "The English fort, of which Gladwyn was commander, was a large stockade, about twenty-five feet high, and twelve hundred yards in circumference, including perhaps eighty houses. It stood within the limits of the present city, on the river bank, commanding a wide prospect for nine miles above and below the city." Bancroft's "History of the United States."

alone broke upon the ear. The fate of the detachment was at once known. The Indians had ascertained their approach and had stationed a party of warriors at Point Pelée. Twenty-three batteaux, laden with all the stores necessary for the defense of the town and the subsistence of the garrison, and manned by a detachment of troops, landed at this place in the evening, ignorant of danger and unsuspecting of attack. The enemy watched all their movements, and, about the dawn of day, rushed upon them. An officer, with thirty men, threw himself into a boat and crossed the lake to Sandusky Bay. All the others were killed or taken. The line of barges ascended the river on the opposite shore, escorted by the Indians upon the bank, and guarded by detachments in each boat, in full view of the garrison and of the whole French settlement. The prisoners were compelled to navigate the boats. As the first batteaux arrived opposite to the town, four British soldiers determined to effect their liberation, or to perish in the attempt. They suddenly changed the course of the boat, and by loud cries made known their intention to the crew of the vessel. The Indians in the other boats, and the escort upon the bank, fired upon the fugitives, but they were soon driven from their positions by a cannonade from the armed schooner. The guard on board this boat leaped overboard, and one of them dragged a soldier with him into the water, where

both were drowned. The others escaped to the shore, and the boat reached the vessel, with another soldier wounded. Lest the other prisoners might escape, they were immediately landed and marched up the shore to the lower point of Hog Island, where they crossed the river, and were immediately put to death with all the horrible accompaniments of savage cruelty.”\*

One of the most note-worthy episodes in the siege of Detroit was the massacre at Bloody Run. Captain Dalzell, who arrived at the post in July with re-enforcements and supplies, foolishly imagined that he could surprise the Indians in their camp by a night attack, and against the better judgment of Major Gladwyn, the attempt was made. “At two o’clock in the morning of July 31, 1763, 250 men marched out of the fort and up the River Road, protected in part on the river by two large boats with swivels. Two miles above the fort the road crossed a bridge at the mouth of a stream then known as Parent’s Creek, but since as Bloody Run.”† By some means Pontiac had learned of their movements and had prepared an ambush for them. “As soon as the troops reached the bridge they were assailed by a murderous fire, and the ravine became a scene of carnage. The darkness

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\* General Lewis Cass in “Historical and Scientific Sketches of Michigan.”

† Judge Campbell’s “Outlines of the Political History of Michigan.”

bewildered them and they were compelled to retreat, fighting against ambuscades all the way, until they reached the fort again at eight o'clock, after six hours of marching and fighting in that short road. Dalzell was killed while gallantly striving to save a wounded sergeant."\* In this engagement seventy Englishmen were killed and forty wounded.

The siege lasted from early May until late October, but the battle of Bloody Run was the only one fought outside of the stockade. Within the fort the watchful garrison had little to fear from Indian arms or valor. The chief danger was that the siege might be continued until their provisions were exhausted; and this fear came near being realized when scarcity of food in the Indian camp made it necessary for the natives to raise the siege and go on their annual hunt. Major Gladwyn at once laid in a good supply of provisions for the winter, in anticipation of a possible renewal of hostilities, but the Indians made no further demonstrations until spring, when "the negotiations of Sir William Johnson and the approach of General Bradstreet \* \* \* induced them to relinquish their vengeful purpose." †

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\* Judge Campbell's "Outlines of the Political History of Michigan."

† Sheldon's "Early History of Michigan."

## ST. JOSEPH.

Fort St. Joseph was held by Ensign Schlosser and fourteen men. On the 25th of May (1763) a band of Pottawotamies gained admission to the fort through pretended friendship, suddenly fell upon the unsuspecting garrison and massacred all except the commander and three men who were taken to Detroit and afterwards exchanged.

## MICHILIMACKINAC.

This fort,—situated on the south side of the strait, about one-half mile southwest of the present site of Mackinaw City,—was occupied by Major Etherington, ninety-two soldiers, and four English traders.

The commander had full and timely warning of the designs of the Indians, but foolishly disbelieved the reports and neglected all precautions. On the 2d of June (1763), the King's birthday, the savages were engaged in a game of ball near the gates of the fort. The officers and soldiers, unsuspecting of

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NOTE,—“ At that time the fort of Michilimackinac enclosed an area of two acres. It was surrounded by pickets of cedar, was situated near the water, and when the wind was at the west the waves broke against the foot of the stockade. On the bastions there were two small pieces of brass cannon, taken some years before by a party of Canadians in an expedition against the trading posts of Hudson's Bay. The stockade contained about thirty houses of commodious form, and \* a chapel in which mass was regularly said by a Jesuit missionary. The inhabitants at that time derived their principal support from the Indian traders, who congregated at that point in their voyages to and from Montreal. Here the furs were collected for transportation from the upper lakes, and the outfits were prepared for Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, the Mississippi and the remote north-west. It contained, in 1763, about thirty families.”

\* James H. Lanman's "History of Michigan."

danger, were idle spectators of the sport. About noon the ball was thrown into the fort and the dark-skinned players rushed after it through the open gate. A party of squaws standing near furnished the assassins with tomahawks which had been concealed beneath their blankets, and the massacre began. "The amazed English had no time to think or act. \* \* \* Some of the Indians assailed the spectators without, while others rushed into the fort, and all was carnage and confusion."\* Lieutenant Jamette and seventy men were killed. Major Etherington, three of the English traders, and twenty-three soldiers were taken prisoners and afterwards released.

After appropriating the goods of the traders and burning Fort Michilimackinac, the savages sought greater security from the deserved vengeance of the English by encamping on Mackinac Island.

#### GENERAL NOTE ON THE STRUGGLE.

Eight out of the twelve posts attacked by the Indians, during the execution of Pontiac's plans, were captured, hundreds of Englishmen were killed, and a reign of terror prevailed throughout the valleys of the west. But in the chief object at which

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\*Parkman's "Conspiracy of Pontiac."

NOTE.—For a full and interesting account of "Pontiac's Conspiracy," the student is referred to the excellent work of Francis Parkman. In the "Travels" of Alex. Henry, one of the English traders who survived the massacre at Fort Michilimackinac, there is a vivid description of that tragedy.



it was aimed—the removal of the English from the great interior—the scheme failed.

In the summer of 1764, General Bradstreet arrived at Detroit with an army of three thousand men. “The Indians, perceiving that they could no longer contend against so powerful a foe, laid down their arms, and thus the war was brought to a close.”\*

#### CONCLUSION OF THE ENGLISH PERIOD.

Few noteworthy events took place during the remainder of the English Period. Settlements grew slowly. The influence of the fur companies, and of the Quebec Act,† alike prevented the development of the country.

During the American Revolution the scene of conflict was too far distant from this region to permit the inhabitants taking an active part in the war; but the posts of Michilimackinac and Detroit were still occupied by British garrisons, and the officers, by every means in their power, employed the savages in the fiendish work of assassinating and robbing defenseless American colonists in Ohio and other frontier settlements.

Although the treaty of Paris, 1783, provided for the surrender of all these posts to the United States,

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\* Charles Lanman's “Red Book of Michigan.”

† Passed in 1774 by the British Parliament, and severely condemned in the Declaration of Independence.

NOTE.—Pontiac was assassinated at Cahokia, Illinois, in 1767, by a Kaskaskia Indian, who was bribed by an English trader to commit the deed for a barrel of whisky.



Great Britain retained possession of Detroit and Michilimackinac until July, 1796, when "Michigan, for the first time, became an American possession."\*

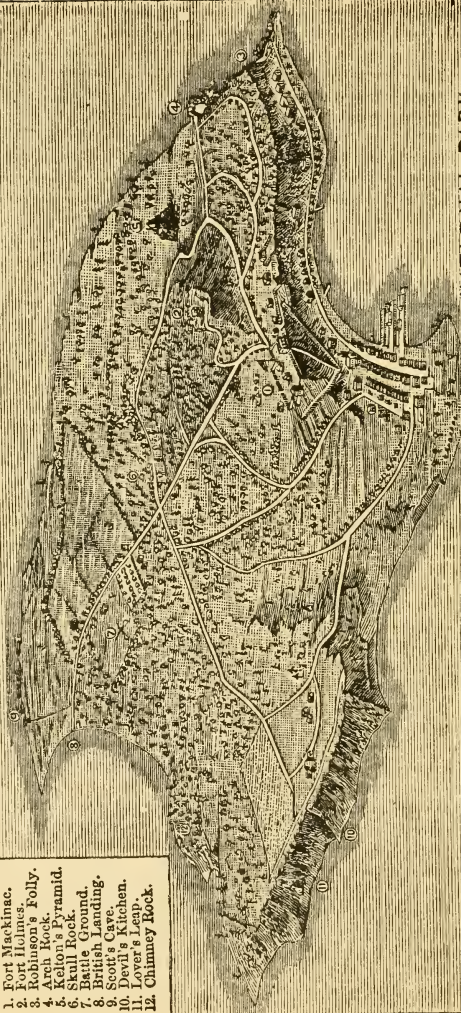
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\* Judge Campbell's "Outlines of the Political History of Michigan."

NOTE.—Captain Porter of General Wayne's army had the honor of first unfurling the stars and stripes in Michigan.

# REFERENCES.

1. Fort Mackinac.
2. Fort Holmes.
3. Robinson's Folly.
4. Arch Rock.
5. Kellogg's Pyramid.
6. Skull Rock.
7. Battle Ground.
8. British Camp.
9. Scott's Cabin.
10. Devil's Leap.
11. Lover's Leap.
12. Chimney Rock.



MACKINAC ISLAND

NATIONAL PARK

## CHAPTER III.

## Territorial Period—1796 to 1837.

## MICHIGAN AS PART OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

Although the ordinance creating the Northwest Territory was passed by Congress in 1787, the retention of Michigan posts by the British until 1796 made the latter date the practical beginning of the American Territorial Period. This ordinance, providing for the government of the vast territory lying between the Ohio River and Lake Superior, was framed with such wisdom that it has received high praise from an eminent modern jurist. "No charter has so completely withstood the tests of time and experience; it had not a temporary adaptation to a particular emergency, but its principles were for all time, and worthy of acceptance under all circumstances. It has been the fitting model for all subsequent territorial governments in America."\*

This ordinance contained six articles of compact between the original States and the people and States of the territory, and it provides that these articles shall forever remain unalterable except by common consent. Provision was made for each of the following important objects:

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\* Judge Cooley's "Michigan."

I. Freedom of worship.

II. A bill of rights, with a provision making contracts inviolable.

III. "*Religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.*"

IV. The States to be formed out of this territory were bound to remain in the Union and help to bear the expenses and obligations of the general government, and all navigable waters should be free to commerce.

V. The fifth article provided that not less than three nor more than five States should be formed from the Northwest Territory, and that these, as they attained a population of sixty thousand, should be admitted to the Union under republican constitutions.\*

VI. The sixth article declared that *neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in punishment for crime, should ever be allowed in this territory or in the States to be erected therefrom.*

Thus at the very dawn of its political existence under the United States, this vast region was pledged to education, freedom,† and equal rights for all.

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\* Judge Cooley's "Michigan."

† NOTE.—"The ordinance was the beginning of the end of American slavery. It checked at the banks of the Ohio the advance of a system fruitful of countless evils, social and political; and the opponents of the system found in its mandate of uncompromising prohibition an inspiration and a prophecy of final triumph in their subsequent warfare."—Judge Cooley's "Michigan."

In the fall of 1787 Congress appointed General Arthur St. Clair governor of the Northwest Territory.

Owing to the failure of the British to surrender the posts in this section until 1796, however, the first pages of territorial history have slight connection with Michigan. After the Americans gained actual possession of the country, the Lower Peninsula formed the single county of Wayne in the Northwest Territory, and was entitled to one representative in the territorial legislature.

#### INDIANA TERRITORY.

Indiana Territory was organized by act of Congress in 1800, and two years later (1802) the Lower Peninsula of the present State of Michigan was made a part of the new territory, and so remained until 1805. Nothing of importance to Michigan history occurred during the brief union with Indiana, except the passage of an act of Congress (1804) "providing for the disposal of the public lands within the territory, to which the Indian title had been extinguished. \* \* By this act, section 16 in each township was reserved for the use of schools within the same, and an entire township was to be located in each of the districts afterwards forming Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois, for a seminary of learning. This was the germ of the university fund in Michigan, and of the primary school fund." \*

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\* Judge Campbell's "Outlines of the Political History of Michigan."

## MICHIGAN TERRITORY.

On the 11th of January, 1805, Congress passed an act for the organization of Michigan Territory. "It was to embrace all that portion of Indiana Territory lying north of a line drawn east from the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan, until it intersected Lake Erie, and lying east of a line drawn from the same southerly bend through the middle of Lake Michigan to its northern extremity, and thence due north to the northern boundary of the United States."\* General William Hull was appointed governor of Michigan Territory, and arrived in Detroit in July, 1805. A few weeks before the arrival of the governor the town had been destroyed by fire, and he found the people encamped in the fields, with scanty food and little shelter. But they were not discouraged by misfortune, and at once began to rebuild on the site now occupied by the metropolis of Michigan.† The population of the territory at that time did not exceed four thousand persons, and unfortunately there seemed to be little

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\* Judge Cooley's "Michigan."

† NOTE.—The plan of the city was drawn by Judge Woodward, an eccentric character, who was chief justice of the territorial court at that time. "He regarded it as one that combined all the excellencies which could be culled from previous plans, from that of Constantinople to that of Washington city. It was upon a magnificent scale, and unfolded an outline which, he often declared, would require eight centuries to fill up. This was assigning an ample period for the consummation of almost any human project. But the plan, however admirable in theory, has proved inconvenient in practice. It has entailed embarrassment on the place, which will probably perpetuate the projector's name through a long posterity, but without those encomiums which were, perhaps, anticipated."—Major Henry Whiting, "Historical and Scientific Sketches of Michigan."

inducement for emigration from the eastern States. Detroit was made the territorial capital.

About two years after the arrival of Governor Hull in Michigan, the Indians, instigated by the English fur traders, began to show signs of evil intentions concerning the frontier settlements. Tecumseh and his brother, generally known as the Prophet, were the leaders. The plan, which resembled the scheme of Pontiac, was not ready for execution for several years, but well-founded rumors of ill-feeling and evil designs reached the governor and people from time to time, which caused anxiety and retarded the settlement of the territory.

Governor Hull had made a fair record in the Revolutionary War, but he was poorly fitted to manage discontented and crafty natives, or to guide the destinies of struggling pioneer settlements. Weak, vacillating, and timid, his administration was equally unfortunate for his own reputation and for the interests of the people of Michigan.

Judge Woodward, chief justice of the territory at that time, did much to bring the governor into disrepute; and General Hull contributed to this end by foolishly allowing himself to be drawn into frequent and undignified quarrels with the eccentric and testy justice.\*

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\*NOTE.—Judge Woodward was a queer genius. He was characterized by one of his associates as "a theorist, fit only to extract sunbeams from cucumbers." But with all his oddities he rendered good service to the people of Detroit during the dangerous period which followed Hull's surrender.



## THE SECOND WAR WITH ENGLAND.

Such was the condition of territorial affairs, and such the leader, when the impressment of American seamen and other British insults, furnished occasion for another struggle with England.

The Indians were encouraged by the gathering war-clouds long before the breaking of the tempest, and, in 1811, they assembled in considerable numbers on the banks of the Wabash River. Fortunately for Indiana and the whole northwest, General Harrison, the governor of that territory, was a brave and energetic officer, and lost no time in taking vigorous measures against the redskins. With an army of about nine hundred men he marched to the Indian camp, called the Prophet's Town. He was met by some of the chiefs who professed surprise at his warlike movements, assured him that they had no thought of fighting, and asked for a conference on the morrow. General Harrison replied that he would be glad to give them an opportunity to disperse in peace, and would grant the desired council. In selecting an encampment and in making arrangements for the night, however, every precaution was wisely taken to prevent surprise in case of a treacherous attack. True to their nature, the wily savages had only requested a conference for the purpose of throwing the soldiers off their guard and gaining an easy victory by a night attack. The Indians fell



upon the camp about four o'clock in the morning, but, contrary to their expectations, they found the army ready for action at a moment's notice. The engagement, which is known in history as the battle of Tippecanoe, took place on the 7th of November, 1811, and resulted in the total defeat of the Indians, who dispersed and made no more trouble for the time.

Governor Hull spent the winter of 1811-12 in Washington. He expressed deep anxiety concerning the exposed and defenseless condition of Michigan in the event of the threatened war with England, and urged the war department to place a strong naval force on Lake Erie. This advice was not heeded. Governor Hull was offered the command of a military force for the protection of the frontier, and the invasion of Canada if war should be declared. The command was first declined but afterwards accepted. With an army of about fifteen hundred men, General Hull started from Dayton, Ohio, and after a tedious march of three weeks reached Detroit on the 6th of July (1812). War was declared on the 18th of June, but through some neglect General Hull was not notified of the fact until the 2d of July.

#### CAPTURE OF FORT MACKINAC.\*

Fort Mackinac was garrisoned by a little band of

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\* NOTE.—This fort was removed from the mainland to Mackinac Island, by the English, in 1780. The new fort—which has been familiar to tourists for more than a century—was completed about 1783.

fifty-seven men, under command of Lieutenant Porter Hanks. Situated in the heart of the Indian country, this post was of great importance, and we can hardly understand why the war department and the commanding general were so stupid as to make no effort to send reinforcements. The British commandant on St. Joseph's Island learned of the declaration of war about the middle of July, and at once started for Mackinac with a force of nearly a thousand men. The British landed in the night time, on the northwest side of the island,\* and proceeded to a commanding position above the fort, where they planted their cannon and awaited the light of day. The sharp report of a hostile sunrise gun announced to the garrison the presence of the enemy, "and before the distant forests had ceased to re-echo the sound, \* \* a British officer, with flag in hand, appeared and demanded a surrender, emphasizing the demand by a statement of the overwhelming numbers of the invading army and a threat of indiscriminate slaughter by the savages at the first motion toward resistance." †

As he was apparently at the mercy of the foe, Lieutenant Hanks was obliged to surrender, and himself and his men were paroled and sent to Detroit.

Thus Fort Mackinac fell into the hands of the British, on the 17th of July, 1812.

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\* At the place since known as the "British Landing."

† Rev. J. A. Van Fleet's "Old and New Mackinac."

## GENERAL HULL'S CANADIAN CAMPAIGN—1812.

General Hull had orders to cross the Detroit River, take possession of Canada, and dislodge the British at Fort Malden.\* His officers and men were impatient to go at once, but the slow-going commander was not ready to move until the 12th of July. At that time every hour of delay enabled the enemy to gather additional strength and lessened the chances of American success. The garrison at Malden was small, and would probably have surrendered at once if General Hull had moved forward in a vigorous manner. But there was nothing of a vigorous or rapid nature in Hull's movements. "Under pretext that heavy artillery was necessary to an attack on the fort at Malden, the army lay inactive at Sandwich from the 12th of July to the 8th of August. One or two detachments were sent out in the meantime, one of which, under the command of Colonel Cass, soon after the army crossed, drove in a picket stationed on the bridge over the river Canard, only a few miles from Malden, and took possession of it, advising General Hull of the movement, and recommending an immediate attack on that place. The recommendation was slighted, and the detachment ordered to return, leaving the enemy to re-occupy a situation highly important to either party, in the event of a future attack."†

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\* Near the present town of Amherstburg.

† Major Henry Whiting, "Historical and Scientific Sketches of Michigan."

While General Hull, Micawber like, was waiting at Sandwich for "something to turn up," General Brock moved toward Fort Malden with a considerable military force. On the 9th of August Hull recrossed the river, entered the fort at Detroit, and abandoned Canada after less than a month of inglorious occupation.

The next day after his arrival at Malden, General Brock moved up to Sandwich and summoned General Hull to surrender. On the refusal of the latter, the British at once began a cannonade on the American fort, and the fire was returned, with little damage to either side.\*

#### HULL'S SURRENDER OF DETROIT AND MICHIGAN—1812.

On the morning of July 16th General Brock crossed the river in plain sight and without resistance, and at once repeated his demand for the surrender of the fort. Brock had about thirteen hundred men and Hull not less than a thousand. Without consulting his officers, and without waiting to make any stipulations or terms, General Hull

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\*NOTE.—During the cannonading it was noticed that a large pear tree which stood at the corner of Woodbridge and Griswold streets was serving as a mark to direct the fire of the British guns. An order was therefore given to cut it down, and a soldier by the name of Miller was sent to perform the task. The tree was tough, and the blows of the ax made but little impression. A shot from an English gun struck the tree at the spot where the soldier was chopping and cut off two-thirds of the trunk. Miller stopped a moment and exclaimed: "Fire away, John Bull! You cut a great deal faster than I can!" He then went on and finished the work as if nothing had happened.—From Silas Farmer's "History of Detroit."

hoisted a white flag\* and sent word to the British commander that he would surrender.

The American officers and soldiers were provoked beyond measure at the cowardly action of the commander. Complaints were both loud and deep, and these criticisms "found an answering echo in every part of the country."

Hull was accused of treason, cowardice, and criminal neglect of duty; and although acquitted of the first charge, he was convicted by court-martial of the second and third, and sentenced to be shot. The President of the United States pardoned him in consideration of his services in the Revolutionary War.

#### BRITISH POSSESSION OF MICHIGAN FOR A TIME.

On taking possession of Detroit, General Brock placed Colonel Proctor, with a small force, in command of the fort and Territory. Proctor soon proceeded to organize the civil government. He assumed the title of Governor, and appointed Judge Woodward Secretary. In this position the former chief justice had some influence with the cruel Briton, and won the gratitude of the people whose interests he tried to protect.

During the fall and winter following Hull's surrender, General Harrison collected an army and started northward for the recovery of the frontier

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\* A table cloth.

posts. While at Sandusky, he sent General Winchester in advance to the Maumee. A few days later General Winchester moved forward and encamped on the River Raisin. On the 22d of January (1813) the camp was attacked by the British and Indians, under Proctor. The Americans were surprised and obliged to surrender, and during the following night the savages butchered the wounded soldiers and defenseless inhabitants of Frenchtown without mercy. For this and other cruelties for which Proctor was in a measure responsible, his name is held in deserved contempt.

#### PERRY'S VICTORY AND THE RECAPTURE OF MICHIGAN.

Commodore Perry's victory at Put-in-Bay, Sept. 10, 1813, by which the entire naval force of Commodore Barclay was surrendered to the Americans, was a fortunate and decisive stroke. "The engagement began a quarter before noon. At three o'clock the British fleet surrendered, after one of the closest engagements known in naval history. No entire British fleet had ever been captured before. The utmost bravery was shown on both sides. The American loss was 27 killed and 96 wounded; the British, 41 killed and 94 wounded. \* \* The brave victor was as humane as he was valiant, and the dead of both fleets were buried together, with the same honors and the same solemn services, while the wounded were all tenderly cared for, and the

unfortunate British commander, who was severely crippled, was treated with the generous kindness which he deserved.” \*

Immediately after the surrender, Commodore Perry wrote his immortal dispatch, “ *We have met the enemy and they are ours,*” and sent it to General Harrison, who was on the lake shore about thirty miles distant.

This victory prepared the way for the recapture of Michigan and the entire northwest. General Harrison used the captured vessels to transport his army across Lake Erie, and prepared to clinch the advantage gained by a vigorous campaign in Canada. Malden and Detroit were evacuated by the British and Proctor made a speedy retreat, much to the disgust of Tecumseh, but was overtaken and thoroughly defeated at Moravian Town.† Tecumseh was killed in the engagement, and Proctor fled.

On the 29th of September (1813) the Americans again took possession of Detroit, and Colonel Lewis Cass was placed in command.

#### MICHIGAN TERRITORY UNDER GOVERNOR CASS—1813 TO 1831.

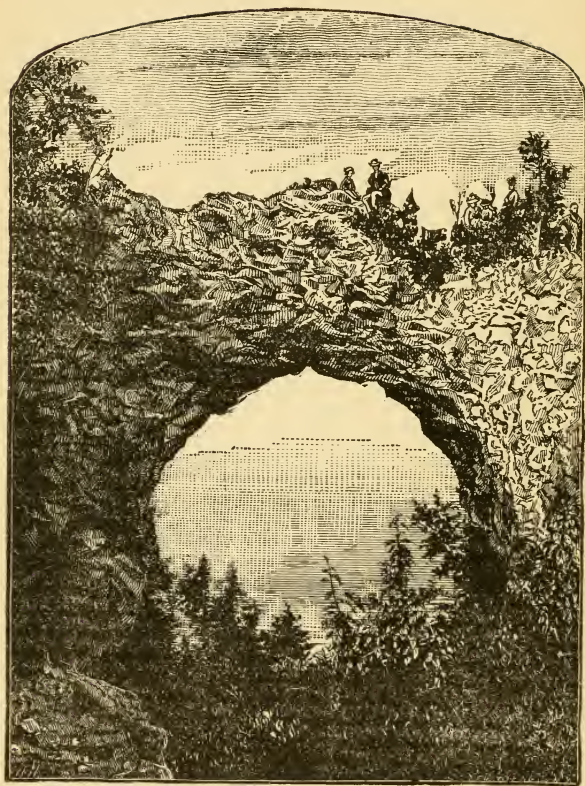
On the 9th of October, 1813, Lewis Cass was made Governor of Michigan territory, by appointment of the President.

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\* Judge Campbell's “*Outlines of the Political History of Michigan.*”

† Usually called “*Battle of the Thames.*”





Arch Rock, Mackinac Island.



## FORT MACKINAC.

In the mid-summer of 1814 an attempt was made to recover Mackinac Island, still held by the British. Lieutenant Croghan was sent to effect the recapture, but delayed the attack so long that the English commander had an opportunity to strengthen his position and increase his force, and the expedition ended in failure. During the engagement, Major Holmes, a brave and accomplished American officer, was mortally wounded. The island remained in the possession of the British until the year after the close of the war. The post was evacuated in the spring of 1815, and the fort was again occupied by American soldiers.

## THE GOVERNOR.

The appointment of General Cass to the office of Governor was a fortunate event for Michigan. No better choice could have been made. The office at that time was one little to be coveted by any one who was afraid of difficulties, or unwilling to do hard and patient work. A man of strong character—thoroughly alive to the interests of the people, energetic, persevering, with large experience of pioneer life, and endowed with excellent judgment—such was the man who guided the destinies of Michigan through the better part of her territorial existence.

## CONDITION OF AFFAIRS.

At the beginning of his term of office, Governor Cass found a small population, confined to a few settlements on the eastern border, while the great interior was not only an uninhabited, but an unknown wilderness.

Worse yet, it was often regarded as an impenetrable swamp, and people in the eastern states had no desire to gain a closer acquaintance with the country. Some of the civil engineers sent out by the United States Government to survey lands for the bounty claims of soldiers, soon after the war of 1812, were responsible for false reports of this kind which helped to injure the territory. Governor Cass took pains to correct these wrong impressions, made treaties with the Indians, and secured the titles to their lands for the United States Government—

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NOTE.—In 1820 Governor Cass conducted an expedition to the Lake Superior region and the upper Mississippi, for the purpose of exploring the Territory and examining the natural resources of the country. An incidental object was the selection of a site for a military post at the foot of Lake Superior. The Indians of the upper lakes were not very friendly to the United States, and during the council at the Sault they were disposed to question the right of the authorities to plant a garrison among them, notwithstanding the fact that the land had been ceded to the government of the United States by the treaty of Greenville (1795). General Cass told them that *as sure as the rising sun should set in the west there would be an American garrison established at that place*. One insolent chief kicked away the presents which had been offered him, and the council broke up in anger; a few minutes later the same chief hoisted a British flag in the Indian encampment. The plucky Governor, accompanied only by his interpreter, went at once to the spot, took down the insulting emblem and carried it away, telling the Indians that *only the American flag would be permitted to float over this soil*, and that if they presumed to offer any further insults to our government the United States would set a strong foot upon their necks and crush them to the earth.

The courage and spirit of Governor Cass gained the day, and the matter was soon settled without bloodshed.

always treating them fairly and honorably. And after the necessary treaties had been made the lands were surveyed and opened for settlement.

#### SURVEY AND SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS.

The survey of public lands was begun in 1816, and, two years later, had progressed sufficiently to permit the authorities to begin the sale. "This is the most important era in the history of Michigan, and from it may be dated the commencement of her march in the career of improvement."\* Farmers would not come in large numbers until there was a chance to procure lands, and little growth or prosperity could be expected without the tillers of the soil. But with the settlement of the interior, which practically began in 1818, came substantial growth and prosperity.

#### THE PRINTING PRESS.

The first printing press in Michigan was brought from Baltimore by the Rev. Gabriel Richard—a public-spirited man, who did much for the education and enlightenment of the people. A printing office was fitted up at Detroit, and a weekly newspaper, called "*The Michigan Essay or Impartial Observer*," was started in 1809, with James M. Miller as publisher. The price of the paper was "\$5 a year to city subscribers, \$4.50 by mail to resi-

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\*Major John Biddle, "Historical and Scientific Sketches of Michigan."

dents of Upper Canada and Michigan, and \$4 to more distant subscribers" (!) So far as can be ascertained this paper perished after an existence of one week.

The second Michigan newspaper, started in 1817, was called "*The Detroit Gazette*," and was published for a number of years, by Sheldon & Reed. "It was a Democratic paper" and was "established at the suggestion and under the patronage of Governor Cass."\* That the publishers of the "*Gazette*" did not grow suddenly rich, may be readily accounted for, as the total number of subscribers in 1820 was 152, and the proprietors complained that only 90 of these were prompt in paying the annual subscription.

#### THE STEAMBOAT—1818.

The first steamboat on the great lakes—the *Walk-in-the-Water*—reached Detroit in the summer of 1818. From that time forth westward-bound settlers found fewer difficulties in coming to Michigan. For, although the *Walk-in-the-Water* was wrecked in 1821, the *Superior* and other steamers soon took her place, and steam navigation contributed not a little to the commercial prosperity of the growing Territory.

#### PUBLIC ROADS.

"Another matter of immediate and pressing importance was that of roads. Immigrants could not come

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\* Silas Farmer's "History of Detroit."

into the Territory in any considerable numbers so long as they must find their way through the woods by trails, or by roads cut out but never worked, and which in a little while by use became nearly impassable.”\* Roads around the west end of Lake Erie to Detroit, and from the latter place to Chicago, and other highways of importance were built as soon as possible, through the energetic and wise management of Governor Cass and his efficient assistant, Secretary Woodbridge.

#### THE ERIE CANAL—1825.

The opening of the Erie Canal, in 1825, was an event of great importance to Michigan.

Steamers and sailing craft became abundant on the lakes, and it was estimated that not less than 300 passengers a week were landed at Detroit during the fall of 1825.

#### PROMOTION OF GENERAL CASS AND CONDITION OF THE TERRITORY IN 1831.

In 1831 General Cass accepted the office of Secretary of War under President Jackson.

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\* Judge Cooley's "Michigan."

NOTE.—In 1822 Henry Rowe Schoolcraft was appointed Indian agent and took up his residence at the Sault de Ste. Marie. For nearly twenty years Mr. Schoolcraft continued to be one of the distinguished citizens of Michigan. He lived at the Sault the greater part of the time, and afterwards at Mackinac Island. His writings, "Thirty Years With the Indian Tribes," "Narrative Journal of Travels from Detroit Northwest Through the Great Chain of American Lakes to the Sources of the Mississippi River," etc., are interesting to students of Michigan history. Mr. Schoolcraft took a great interest in the study of the Indian languages and character, and published several works on the subject.

For eighteen years he had managed the affairs of Michigan Territory with satisfaction to the people and honor to himself. He found the Territory suffering from the ravages of war, with a population of perhaps five thousand persons; he left it in prosperity, with more than thirty thousand inhabitants, with developing resources and a bright future.

#### CLOSE OF THE TERRITORIAL PERIOD.

Geo. B. Porter of Pennsylvania was then appointed Governor of Michigan Territory, and Stevens T. Mason, Secretary. As Governor Porter was absent a considerable portion of the time, the Secretary—who was a beardless youth at the time of his appointment—was acting Governor; and after the death of the chief executive, in 1834,\* no change was made, and Mr. Mason continued to manage the duties of the office until the close of the Territorial Period.

Meanwhile the population of Michigan Territory had reached and passed the number fixed by the Ordinance of 1787—60,000—as necessary to admission as a State, and the people desired to be admitted into the Union.

#### THE TOLEDO WAR.

About this time a dispute arose concerning the boundary between Michigan and Ohio. Careless management had admitted Ohio, in 1802, with an in-

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\* NOTE.—Governor Porter fell a victim to the cholera which visited Detroit in 1832 and 1834.

definite northern boundary. The act of 1805, organizing Michigan Territory, fixed the boundary at a line running due east from the most southern bend of Lake Michigan. This included Toledo and a considerable strip of land which Ohio tried to claim. In 1835 Governor Lucas of Ohio issued a proclamation assuming control, and the State Legislature passed an act to organize the county of Lucas. Acting Governor Mason of Michigan Territory called out the militia and proceeded to Toledo to prevent the Ohio officers from exercising control of the disputed land. Several shots were exchanged, but no blood was shed.

Anxious to settle the dispute without giving offense to Ohio and Indiana—as a presidential election was soon to take place, and votes were valuable—Congress endeavored to satisfy both parties by giving to Michigan the extensive territory known as the Upper Peninsula. Michigan reluctantly accepted the terms, permitted Ohio to fix the boundary as it is shown on our maps, and herself acquired the title to the rich and valuable mineral districts of the Lake Superior region.

#### STATE CONVENTIONS.

The first State Convention for the adoption of a Constitution was held at Detroit, in May, 1835. An election for the adoption of the Constitution, and for the election of State officers, was held on the first Monday of the following October. The Consti-

tution was adopted by vote of the people, and Stevens T. Mason was elected Governor, Edward Mundy, Lieutenant Governor, and Isaac E. Crary, Representative in Congress. The Legislature met in November (1835), and elected John Norvell and Lucius Lyon United States Senators for Michigan. Everything was ready for admission into the Union, but the unfortunate boundary dispute with Ohio prevented the favorable action of Congress. Several conventions were held in 1836, and in December of that year a body of men, mostly politicians, held a convention at Ann Arbor and decided to accept the terms proposed by Congress. This was called the "frost-bitten convention," but in spite of public ridicule, the action of this body was accepted by Congress, and Michigan was admitted into the Union, January 27, 1837.

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## CHAPTER IV.

### Michigan as a State—1837 to 1886.

#### FIRST CONSTITUTION OF MICHIGAN.

The State Constitution under which Michigan was admitted into the Federal Union contained several peculiar features, which deserve brief mention. The Secretary of State, Auditor General and Attorney General were appointed by the Governor, with the



advice and consent of the State Senate. The Superintendent of Public Instruction was appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Legislature, in joint vote. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor were elected, and all State officers above mentioned were chosen for a term of two years, as at present. Judges of the Supreme Court were appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, for a term of seven years.

The Constitution contained the following provision, which had a considerable influence on the early history of the State: "Internal improvements shall be encouraged by the Government of this State; and it shall be the duty of the Legislature, as soon as may be, to make provision by law for ascertaining the proper objects of improvement in relation to roads, canals and navigable waters," etc.

#### INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

It so happened that the Hon. Stevens T. Mason—"the boy Governor of Michigan"—who was the first chief executive of the young State, was in hearty sympathy with the plan of internal improvements for which provision was made in the Constitution. With his approval, the Legislature speedily passed the necessary laws, and the scheme was put into execution. Arrangements were made to borrow five millions of dollars on bonds issued by the State, and Governor Mason was authorized to negotiate the loan. The Morris Canal and Banking Company

bought a portion of the bonds, and as agents, disposed of the remainder to the Pennsylvania United States Bank. About half of the purchase money had been paid into the State treasury when both of the buyers failed, and the Michigan bonds—which were all in their possession—were turned over to their creditors. Here was a dilemma. It was highly important that the credit of the State should be maintained; and it was equally important to avoid the payment of several millions of dollars for which the State had received nothing. After due deliberation, Michigan statesmen decided to redeem the bonds that had been bought, and to refuse to pay the bonds that had been seized before they had been paid for. This decision, founded upon principles of equity, was received with respect by the business world, and the terms offered were soon accepted by the holders of the bonds.

Among the various internal improvements which were begun and carried on for several years by the State, two of the most important were the Michigan Central and Southern railroads. The first-named road was to begin at Detroit and extend to the mouth of the St. Joseph River, on Lake Michigan. The second was to extend from Monroe to New Buffalo. After an experience of four or five years in prosecuting these enterprises, and others of lesser note, it became evident to careful observers that it would be better for the State to dispose of the railroads to private corporations; and accordingly, the

Michigan Central and Southern railroads, which were only partially completed, were sold, in 1846, for the sum of two and a half millions of dollars. This was less than they had cost the State, but nevertheless the sale was considered a good bargain. Under the management of their new owners the roads were speedily pushed forward to completion, with some changes in the western portions of their routes. The rising city of Chicago, like a great magnet, drew the iron bands to the southward, and St. Joseph was left as a quiet monument of what "might have been."

#### "WILD-CAT" BANKING.

When Michigan became the twenty-sixth member of the Union, there were fifteen banks doing business within her borders. But among other fanciful theories of that time was the notion that banking, like farming and store-keeping, should be free to all. Accordingly, in the spring of 1837, a general banking law was passed by the Legislature. Under this act "any ten or more freeholders" might engage in banking with a capital of not less than fifty thousand nor more than three hundred thousand dollars. The provisions for the security of the public were loosely framed, and proved utterly worthless in practice. Among other things, it was provided that thirty per cent. of the entire capital should be paid in, in specie, before commencing business; that debts and bills issued should be secured by mortgages on

real estate, etc. The banks were subject to examination and supervision by commissioners. But all provisions of safety were successfully evaded by shrewd rascals in one way or another. Banks were started by persons who were mere adventurers, alike destitute of capital and credit. When the bank commissioners started upon their rounds of inspection, bags of coin were secretly and swiftly carried by messengers from one bank to another, so that they were constantly deceived. The requisite amount of coin would be found in the vaults, the commissioners could discover nothing wrong, and the inspection was over. During the following night the coin would be spirited away to the next bank, and counted again as before. Meanwhile these fraudulent banks were issuing bills and getting them into circulation as fast as possible.

The year 1837 is memorable as the time of a great financial panic in the United States. In June of that year, the Legislature of Michigan, in the hope of relieving the financial difficulties for the time being, passed a law authorizing the suspension of specie payment until May 16, 1838. But the general banking law remained in force, banks were organized, and bills were issued as fast as possible during the period of suspension. The fraudulent banker waxed fat with his ill-gotten gains, and the irredeemable paper currency—generally known as “wild-cat” notes—became almost as worthless as the paper upon which it was printed. Banks were located

anywhere and everywhere. One was found flourishing in an old saw-mill; and it was humorously asserted that "a hollow stump, to serve as a vault," was all that was needed for a bank in those days.\*

The commissioners proceeded to close all banks that they could discover to be in an unsound condition. And many of these fraudulent concerns only wished to operate long enough to put their worthless bills upon the market. So, with those which were closed by the officers, and those which were closed voluntarily, the greater number of the "wild-cat" banks had suspended operations by the end of the year 1839. But more than a million dollars of their worthless bills had been put in circulation, and whatever had been received in return was practically stolen from the people. In 1844 the general banking law was declared unconstitutional, and "wild-cat" banks caused no further trouble.

#### EDUCATION.

By the Ordinance of 1787—creating the Northwest Territory—and subsequent legislation, Congress made provision for the support of public schools in

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\*NOTE.—THE BANK OF SINGAPORE. "No school-boy ever saw the name of Singapore on his map of Michigan. It was one of the magnificent cities of the days of which we write, and was located in Allegan county. Its bank enjoyed an extensive circulation and considerable popularity, from the fact that most people supposed it to be in Asia. That was a happy thought, in christening this particular wild-cat, to give it a name with an East India flavor. It inspired respect. The bank would not, by any means, have smelled so sweet by any other name. A gentleman, who took the bills because of the mellifluous title of the bank, relates a mournful story of how the aforesaid bank bursted while he was traveling about in the western part of the State looking for Singapore."—H. M. Utley, in "Michigan Pioneer Collections."

this part of the Union. The sixteenth section of every organized township\* was set apart for the creation of a permanent school fund, of which the interest only is used from year to year. Since 1858, the "primary school fund," as it is called, has been increased by the addition of one-half of the yearly cash receipts from the sale of swamp lands belonging to the State. It is estimated that when all the lands are sold, the primary school fund will reach the sum of four and a-half millions of dollars, and earn an annual income of three hundred thousand dollars for the support of schools. So much for the financial foundation of the Michigan school system.†

After the State was admitted into the Union, one of the first steps of interest in this connection was the appointment of a Superintendent of Public Instruction. By the advice of General Isaac E. Crary, Governor Mason selected for this important office the Rev. John D. Pierce, a Congregational clergyman, who was engaged in missionary work among the pioneers of central Michigan. The first State Superintendent of Public Instruction was a man of sound culture, broad views, and good judg-

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\* NOTE.—One thirty-sixth of the total area, or about a million acres of land in Michigan.

† NOTE.—Since the State has been practically out of debt, a portion of the specific tax received from corporations—which formerly went into the sinking fund—has been devoted to the support of schools. In some years this has exceeded \$300,000—making, with the interest on the permanent fund, about two-thirds of a million per annum. But the larger part of the sum required to support the best schools is generously levied and raised as a direct tax, by vote of the people at the annual school meeting.



Hon. John D. Pierce,

"Founder of the Michigan School System."



ment. He had studied the school system of Prussia with care, and in mapping out a plan for Michigan he availed himself of whatever good things he could discover anywhere. Under his careful guidance, laws were devised and plans perfected for an educational system that has been a permanent blessing to the people of the State.

Father Pierce—as the founder of the Michigan school system is reverently called—wished (1) to place the primary school within the reach of every child in the State; and (2) to establish a State University\* for the higher culture of advanced students.

The plan which was drawn up by Superintendent Pierce, and passed by act of the Legislature in 1837, contained most of the essential features of the present school system. And when it is remembered that Father Pierce was the first State Superintendent of Public Instruction in the United States, we are the better prepared to appreciate the wisdom and foresight of the founder of Michigan schools.

After five years of hard work in the educational field, the worthy State Superintendent resigned his office to other hands, and resumed the work of the Christian ministry.

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\* NOTE.—The State University had been a favorite project of Judge Woodward, away back in the Territorial days. With the approval of Governor Cass, the eccentric jurist drew up a plan for an institution which he called the "Catholepistemiad, or University of Michigan." which was established by act of the Territorial Legislature, in 1817. But little progress had been made, however, in the realization of the university proper, when Father Pierce took charge of the educational affairs of the State.



Other educational institutions were provided from time to time. The State Normal School—at Ypsilanti—was chartered in 1849; the Agricultural College—at Lansing—in 1855. The latter was the first agricultural college established in the United States. In providing for general education, the unfortunate have not been forgotten. There are (1) the School for the Blind—at Lansing; (2) the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb—at Flint; (3) the State Public School for Dependent Children—at Coldwater.\* Youthful criminals and unmanageable children may be sent to the Reform School for Boys—at Lansing—or the State Industrial Home for Girls—at Adrian—where they receive sound training, and often become good members of society.

Meanwhile, one department after another has been added to the State University, eminent teachers have been employed, and it has become one of the leading educational institutions in America.

The public schools have grown from the modest beginnings of pioneer days,† until their good influ-

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NOTE.—The Hon. John D. Pierce passed the greater part of his life in Michigan, and filled various positions of responsibility with credit to himself and satisfaction to the people. Full of years, and crowned with the rich blessings earned by a well-spent life, he died in 1882. His remains rest in the cemetery at Marshall.

\* NOTE.—In establishing this school for the maintenance and education of dependent children, in 1871, Michigan was again the pioneer State, not only of the American Union, but of the world.

† NOTE.—The walls of the pioneer school-house were made of logs, the roof of "shakes," and the floor of "puncheons." Slabs with legs in them were used for seats, and the desks were formed by fastening rough boards upon pins driven into large auger-holes in the wall. Chimneys, constructed of sticks and mortar, were used in place of stoves. Sometimes amusing incidents happened at these fireplaces: "A certain teacher had carefully impressed upon the minds of his pupils the importance of thinking three times before they spoke once. Coming

ence, in some measure at least, has reached every nook and corner of the State. The high schools of the cities and villages have done excellent service as connecting links between the primary schools and the higher institutions of learning, and in providing the means of fair culture to large numbers of students who could not or would not secure it otherwise.

It is to be hoped that this educational system, established by the founders of Michigan, and nurtured by several generations of patriotic citizens, may be cherished in the future as in the past, for education is the chief safeguard of a free State.

#### PIONEERS.

Most of the early settlers of interior Michigan came from New England, New York, and Ohio. Reared in the enjoyment of many of the blessings of American citizenship, they were alive to the value of the refining and ennobling influences of intellectual, moral, and religious training. Hence, they were the firm friends of the school and the church. Some of them came from the birth-place of the "town meeting," and they took an active interest in the

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into the house one cold morning, he pulled off his boots, and placed them before the fire to thaw. Soon they began to scorch and fry before the intense heat of the fire. A thoughtful scholar, standing by, drawled out, *'Schoolmaster, I think—I think—I think—your boots are burning.'* By this time the boots had burned to a crisp."\* and the boy learned that circumstances alter cases.

\* J. S. Tibbits, in "Michigan Pioneer Collections."

NOTE.—The following denominational institutions should be mentioned as educational factors in Michigan: Adrian College, Albion College, Battle Creek College, Detroit College, Hillsdale College, Hope College (Holland City), Kalamazoo College, Olivet College.

wise and honest government of their adopted State. Intelligent and public spirited, but prudent as well, they were good and safe citizens.

The style of living was necessarily plain. For clothing, "cheap, coarse cloth answered the purpose, and the wives and daughters made it up for use. The pioneers could not be particular about other qualities of their cloth than those of wear and comfort, and nobody would criticise the style or the fit. Silks for the woman and broadcloth for the man were rare extravagances; many a bridegroom, destined to become an important personage in business and political circles, went to the altar in Kentucky jean, and received his bride in calico; and the wedding journey, from the bride's home to the husband's, was made with an ox-team. \* \* There was little sentimentality in this, but there was New England hard sense, and good promise of domestic virtues and contentment."\*

The first houses were log cabins, and the food of the pioneers, like the clothing, was plain and substantial. Hard work was the order of the day. Village loungers and corner loafers were scarce among the people who converted the forests and "oak-openings" of the past into the fine farms and fruitful orchards of the present.

Hospitality and genuine friendship are usual characteristics of pioneers, and the "pathfinders" of the

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\* Judge Cooley's "Michigan."

Michigan wilderness were bright examples of the general rule. One who knew them says, they "were a band of brothers in those times that tried men's souls. If one had a barrel of flour, it was divided with the others. No one was allowed to want for what another had."\*

#### MORMONS IN MICHIGAN.

In 1847, a colony of Mormons, under the leadership of James J. Strang, located on Beaver Island. Their settlement was on the shore of the beautiful bay still occupied by the little hamlet of St. James—which they founded and named after their leader. Strang styled himself "King," and monopolized the offices of "apostle, prophet, seer, revelator, and translator." At first the Mormon colony consisted of only five families, but a system of vigorous proselyting increased their numbers to nearly two thousand persons within the few years of their stay on the island. But internal dissensions arose, and Strang was assassinated in 1856. Soon after the death of the leader, the colony was dispersed by an armed band of fishermen from the neighboring shores, and

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\* Hon. Charles D. Little, in "Michigan Pioneer Collections."

NOTE.—After trains had been running for several years on the Michigan Central Railroad, the pioneers were startled one day by a strange noise. "It came through the woods as swift as lightning and its shrill and piercing voice was more startling than thunder. \* \* \* What on earth could it be?"† One of the pioneers thought it was a bear, and took his rifle and searched for hours for the animal with the big voice, but no bear was visible; and he soon discovered what was doing the screaming. It was the steam whistle of the locomotive engine, then a new invention.

† William Nowlin, "Michigan Pioneer Collections."

the Mormons were given only twenty-four hours to "emigrate," which they lost no time in doing.

#### REMOVAL OF THE STATE CAPITAL—1847.

From the time of Cadillac's occupancy of Fort Pontchartrain (1701) until 1847, the seat of government was at Detroit, but in the latter year the Legislature decided to locate the permanent capital of Michigan at Lansing—then covered by a dense forest, and forty miles distant from a railroad. The project was greeted with both ridicule and severe denunciation at first, but the decision was made and the location—on the banks of the Grand River—proved to be pleasant and generally satisfactory.

#### SECOND CONSTITUTION OF MICHIGAN—1850.

After an experience of more than a dozen years with the State Constitution under which Michigan came into the Union, the people wished to make some changes in the supreme law of the Commonwealth, and a convention for that purpose met at Lansing in June, 1850. After careful preparation, a new Constitution was submitted to the people, by whom it was adopted in due time.

Among other changes, the second Constitution provides for the election, by the people, of all heads of State Departments and Judges of the Supreme Court, thereby lessening the power formerly given to the Governor, and placing the selection of the principal State officers—where it properly belongs—with the people.

Suitable restrictions are placed upon the Legislature to prevent the recurrence of any of the reckless financial management that involved the State in debt and loss in the early days.

In their desire to be economical, the framers of the new Constitution fixed the salaries of State officers at low rates, and named the respective sums in an instrument which cannot be changed without the consent of a majority of the legal voters. The salaries of the Governor, State Treasurer, Auditor General, and Superintendent of Public Instruction were fixed at \$1,000 each, per annum; the Secretary of State, Commissioner of the Land Office, and Attorney General at \$800 each. These salaries were low at the time, and, with the changed conditions of the labor market and cost of living, they have long been regarded as entirely out of keeping with the value of the services required, and not at all creditable to the great State of Michigan. Attempts have accordingly been made to amend this clause of the Constitution so as to offer a reasonable compensation for services that at present are only rendered by men of ability at a constant personal loss.\*

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\* NOTE.—The poor policy of paying such low salaries has been frequently noticeable in the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Men of ability, who might have wielded great influence for good in the educational interests of the State, have felt unable to hold the office for many years in succession, and frequent changes have naturally followed. Thus the office has lost the services of such men as Superintendents John M. Gregory, LL. D., Horace S. Tarbell, Cornelius A. Gower, and Varnum B. Cochran.

During the Civil War, Governor Blair rendered excellent service to the Union by devoting his whole time to the duties of his office, "almost entirely at his own expense. The salary of \$1,000—a miserable pittance at any time—was made by war prices and the depreciation of currency

Strange to say, however, thus far (1886) the amendment has failed to pass.

## POLITICAL MATTERS.

When Michigan was admitted into the Union, the Democratic party was in power and the Governor of the State was a member of that party. Dissatisfaction with the financial mismanagement of 1837 and 1838 caused a change in the political control of the State, which was secured by the Whig party—headed by William Woodbridge—for a single term. From 1841 to 1854 the Democrats were again in power. In the latter year the newly organized Republican\* party elected its candidates, and, with the exception of a single term—1883-85—has continued in political control of the State to the present time (1886).

REFERENCE LISTS OF PROMINENT OFFICERS OF  
MICHIGAN.*Governors of the State.*

Stevens T. Mason.....	1837 to 1840
William Woodbridge.....	1840 “ 1841
J. Wright Gordon (acting).....	1841 “ 1842
John S. Barry.....	1842 “ 1846
Alpheus Felch.....	1846 “ 1847
Wm. L. Greenly (acting).....	1847 “ 1848

but a mere fraction of its ordinary value. The policy which prevents men of modest means from filling the offices of State is not only poor economy, but contrary to the cardinal principles of representative government.”

Judge Campbell's “Outlines of the Political History of Michigan.”

\* NOTE.—In the summer of 1854 a convention of Whigs, anti-Nebraska Democrats, and Free Soilers met at Jackson and organized the Republican party.



Epaphroditus Ransom.....	1848	“	1850
John S. Barry.....	1850	“	1852
Robert McClelland.....	1852	“	1853
Andrew Parsons (acting).....	1853	“	1855
Kinsley S. Bingham.....	1855	“	1859
Moses Wisner.....	1859	“	1861
Austin Blair.....	1861	“	1865
Henry H. Crapo.....	1865	“	1869
Henry P. Baldwin.....	1869	“	1873
John J. Bagley.....	1873	“	1877
Charles M. Croswell.....	1877	“	1881
David H. Jerome.....	1881	“	1883
Josiah W. Begole.....	1883	“	1885
Russell A. Alger.....	1885	“	1887

*Superintendents of Public Instruction.*

Rev. John D. Pierce.....	1837	to	1841
Franklin Sawyer.....	1841	“	1843
Oliver G. Comstock.....	1843	“	1845
Ira Mayhew.....	1845	“	1849
Francis W. Shearman.....	1849	“	1855
Ira Mayhew.....	1855	“	1859
John M. Gregory.....	1859	“	1865
Oramel Hosford.....	1865	“	1873
Daniel B. Briggs.....	1873	“	1877
Horace S. Tarbell.....	1877	“	1878
Cornelius A. Gower.....	1878	“	1881
Varnum B. Cochran.....	1881	“	1883
Herschel R. Gass.....	1883	“	1885
Rev. Theodore Nelson.....	1885	“	1887



*U. S. Senators from Michigan.*

Lucius Lyon.....	1836 to 1840
John Norvell.....	1836 “ 1841
Augustus S. Porter.....	1840 “ 1845
William Woodbridge.....	1841 “ 1847
Lewis Cass.....	1845 “ 1848
Alpheus Felch.....	1847 “ 1853
Charles E. Stuart.....	1853 “ 1859
Zachariah Chandler.....	1857 “ 1875
Kinsley S. Bingham.....	1859 “ 1861
Jacob M. Howard.....	1862 “ 1871
Thomas W. Ferry.....	1871 “ 1883
Isaac P. Christiancy.....	1875 “ 1879
Zachariah Chandler.....	1879 “ ———
Henry P. Baldwin.....	1879 “ 1881
Omar D. Conger.....	1881 “ 1887
Thomas W. Palmer.....	1883 “ 1889

*Michigan Members of Presidents' Cabinets.*

General LEWIS CASS, Secretary of State under President Buchanan.

ROBERT McCLELLAND, Secretary of the Interior under President Pierce.

ZACHARIAH CHANDLER, Secretary of the Interior under President Grant.

## MICHIGAN IN THE CIVIL WAR—1861-65.

During the four years of the Civil War, Michigan was fortunate in having Austin Blair as her chief executive. Every effort was made to lend all possible

support to the United States government in its struggle for existence. Few States were more prompt, and none sent braver soldiers to the front. All told, Michigan furnished 90,747 men, of whom 14,855 died in the service of the Nation. The "war Governor" devoted his entire time and energy to the performance of his public duties, and earned the respect and gratitude of all patriotic citizens.

The veteran General Cass,\* who had recently been a member of President Buchanan's cabinet, was present at the first "war meeting" held in Detroit and lifted his voice in support of the federal union.

At that time, Zachariah Chandler was a member of the United States Senate, and no man exerted a more vigorous influence in opposition to the Rebellion than the brave and outspoken "war Senator of Michigan." On the floor of the Senate, in public speeches, in his intercourse with the people and with the officials of the Nation—everywhere, Senator Chandler was an active and influential supporter of the Constitution and an unflinching foe to treason and disunion. He was the champion of whatever he believed to be right, and no threats or dangers were sufficient to turn him from the path of honor or the performance of duty. As the friend of the soldier, he rendered unnumbered services of kindness. "A blue uniform gained for its wearer prompt admit-

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\* NOTE.—General Cass died at his home in Detroit, June 17, 1866.

tance to his room and a careful hearing for any request." \*

With prudent and fearless leaders, and brave soldiers, Michigan made a good record in the war.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

In 1852, Congress granted 750,000 acres of land to the State of Michigan for the construction of a ship-canal around the rapids of the St. Mary's River. The contract was let to a private company and the canal and lock were completed in 1855. This opened Lake Superior to the navigators of the lower lakes and exerted a great influence upon the development of the Upper Peninsula. A new lock, with a single "lift" instead of the two used in the old lock, was completed by the United States government in 1881, and has proved of great convenience to the shipping of the lakes.

The new State Capitol building was begun in 1873, and has been completed at a cost of about one and one-half millions of dollars.

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\* "Life of Zachariah Chandler," by The Post and Tribune.

NOTE.—Mr. Chandler served three terms (18 years) in the Senate. He was made Secretary of the Interior in President Grant's cabinet (1875-1877). For the fourth time he was elected to the United States Senate—February, 1879, upon the resignation of Senator Christiancy. During the spring and early summer, Senator Chandler was engaged in the political canvass with his usual zeal, although his health was somewhat impaired. He died suddenly at the Grand Pacific hotel, Chicago, after having made a ringing speech the same night (Oct. 31, 1879) at McCormick Hall.

NOTE.—As a matter of local curiosity rather than of importance, it may be remembered that in the fall of 1864 some of the rebels who were then sojourning in Canada made an attempt to capture the U. S. revenue cutter "Michigan." The plot failed in execution, and the people of the lake ports were not called upon to witness the threatened destruction of their cities.

Under the present Constitution, the State Legislature consists of one hundred Representatives and thirty-two Senators, chosen at the general election—which is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of every even year. The Legislature holds one regular session every two years, beginning on the first Wednesday of January after the general election.

Under the apportionment based upon the census of 1880, Michigan is divided into eleven congressional districts.

By the revision of the criminal laws in 1846, the death penalty for murder in the first degree was changed to imprisonment for life.

From 1855 to 1875 the State had a prohibitory liquor law on her statute books. Since that time laws have been enacted for the taxation and restraint of this traffic.

#### REFERENCE LISTS OF STATE INSTITUTIONS.

##### *Educational.*

State University.....	Ann Arbor
“ Agricultural College.....	Lansing
“ Normal School.....	Ypsilanti
“ Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.....	Flint
“ Institution for the Blind.....	Lansing
“ Public School for Depend't Children, Coldwater	
Michigan Mining School.....	Houghton

##### *Educational and Reformatory.*

State Reform School for Boys.....	Lansing
“ Industrial Home for Girls.....	Adrian

*Charitable.*

Insane Asylums.....Kalamazoo, Pontiac, Traverse City  
 Soldiers' Home.....Grand Rapids

*Penal.*

State House of Correction.....Ionia  
 " Prison.....Jackson  
 " " .....Marquette

## CONCLUSION.

The first half century of State history has witnessed many wonderful changes. In 1837 the interior was sparsely settled, and the forests and prairies showed few signs of human industry. Wagon roads were scarce and poor, and there was no completed railroad. Postal arrangements were exceedingly inconvenient, and correspondence was an expensive luxury. The population of the State was 174,467. Cities there were none. Schools, churches, and newspapers were few, and the privations of pioneer life were many and severe.

Fifty years have changed the wilderness into more than a hundred thousand cultivated farms. Five thousand miles of railroads afford good market and travelling facilities to the people of almost every county in the State. The census gatherer reports a population of nearly two millions of people. Ten thousand schools afford instruction to about four hundred thousand pupils.\* Churches are numerous,

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\* NOTE.—In our gratitude for what has been accomplished, we should not forget that only about three-fourths of the youth of school age are

and religious influences should be felt in every community. Postal facilities have improved a hundred fold, and the newspaper is abroad in the land.

Times have changed, and the people of the present are enjoying numberless blessings gained by the toils and trials of the past. What are our duties to the future?

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## CHAPTER V.

### A Brief Sketch of the Material Resources of the State.

#### LOCATION AND SIZE.

Michigan lies between  $48^{\circ} 20'$  and  $41^{\circ} 42'$  north latitude, and between  $90^{\circ} 32'$  and  $82^{\circ} 25'$  longitude west from Greenwich. Bounded on three sides by the great lakes, it has a coast line of 1,620 miles. According to the geographer of the tenth census, the area of Michigan is 58,915 square miles. In addition to the mainlands of the two peninsulas, the political limits of the State include 179 islands, from one acre in area upwards. Michigan consists of 82 counties, including the island counties of Isle Royal and Manitou.

#### SURFACE.

In the Lower Peninsula the surface is generally

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yet enrolled in the schools, while the average daily attendance is considerably less. This is not as it should be, and it is the duty of all good citizens to improve this state of affairs by all possible means.





level or gently rolling. The average elevation is estimated at about 500 feet above the level of Lake Michigan. The highest point of the most elevated plateau of this peninsula—in Otsego county—is 1,200 feet above the same level. Although there are no mountains and few hills of considerable height in this portion of the State, the surface is sufficiently rolling to be well drained in most places by the numerous streams which flow toward the surrounding lakes. So that, notwithstanding the false reports of some of the early surveyors, central Michigan contains comparatively few swamps.

The eastern portion of the Upper Peninsula is generally low and level, while the western portion is rocky, hilly, and even mountainous in some places. The highest knob of the Porcupine Mountains has an altitude of 1,380 feet above the level of Lake Superior.

The State contains 5,173 inland lakes.

The Saginaw, Grand, and Muskegon rivers are the most important streams. In places the water-shed is so narrow that several streams flowing in opposite directions originate within a radius of three or four miles.\*

Many of the rivers and creeks flowing through the pine forests are used as “logging” streams by the lumbermen.

That portion of the Lower Peninsula which lies

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\* NOTE.—The Kalamazoo, Grand, St. Joseph, Raisin, and Maumee rivers rise on Hillsdale Summit.



south of a line\* drawn from Grand Haven to the mouth of the Saginaw River is the region chiefly devoted to agriculture.

This section originally consisted of "oak openings," prairies, and extensive forests of hard-wood timber.

Between the first line and a line drawn from the northwest corner of Manistee county to the northeast corner of Alpena county lie the vast pine forests of central Michigan.

The remaining counties—north of the last mentioned line—consist chiefly of hard-wood lands, and are adapted to agriculture.

The eastern portion of the Upper Peninsula consists of forests of pine and hard-wood timber, with some swamps and barren plains.

The western portion contains valuable mineral deposits, and extensive forests of pine and hard-wood timber.

The shores of Lake Superior are bold and picturesque in many places. The fantastic forms of the "Pictured Rocks"—carved out of the precipitous sandstone coast by the action of the waves—are alike interesting to the geologist and to the unscientific traveler. Low sand hills or *dunes* have been thrown up by the winds at various places on the shores of

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\* NOTE.—It should be clearly understood that these divisions are only approximately correct, and made simply for the purpose of description. There is some pine south of the first line, and there are considerable tracts of hard-wood timber in some of the counties of the pine belt. But for a rough generalization these divisions are believed to be as nearly correct as can be made by straight lines.

the great lakes, and are particularly noticeable on the Michigan shore of Lake Michigan.

#### SOIL.

The soil varies so much in different localities, and so many varieties are often found in the same neighborhood or even on the same farm, that anything like a careful and accurate statement of the subject would far exceed the limits of this work.

It may be stated, in general terms, that the soil varies from a sandy loam to a strong clay on the one hand, and to a light sand, in some places, on the other. In those sections covered exclusively with pine, the soil is usually light and poor. But the hard-wood lands, prairies, and oak openings of the Lower Peninsula are generally fertile and adapted to the ordinary field, garden, and orchard crops. The eastern portion of the Upper Peninsula has some good soil; in the western portion the greater part of the soil is light, and loses its strength after a few crops of vegetables.

#### CLIMATE.

The climate of Michigan is considerably modified by the large bodies of water on three sides of the State. Owing to the fact that water parts with its heat very slowly, the great lakes serve as reservoirs, storing up the heat rays of the sun through the long summer days and giving up their warmth to the atmosphere during the autumn and early winter.

This accounts, to a considerable degree at least, for the late falls of this section. The vapor and warmth arising from the lakes serve to protect the crops of the neighboring shores from destructive frosts. And as the prevailing winds are from the west, the eastern shore of Lake Michigan is more fully protected than other parts, and is therefore a natural fruit region.\*

The mean annual rain-fall of the State is about 31 inches.†

The average annual temperature of the State is  $46\frac{71}{100}^{\circ}$  Fah.‡

#### FARM PRODUCTS.

Among the material resources of Michigan the products of the soil claim the place of first importance. It is estimated that half of the labor of the people is devoted to this industry. And owing to the fertility of the lands under cultivation, combined

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\* NOTE.—By reference to a map or chart showing the isothermal lines, it will be seen that the line which passes through Chicago bends northward and crosses through Leelanaw Peninsula at Northport. (1) What is the meaning of the change in direction? and (2) what is the cause which underlies the condition represented by the line?

† NOTE.—The severity and length of the winters, and the consequent depth of snow, gradually increase from the Indiana line to the extremity of Keweenaw Point. In the southern half of the Lower Peninsula, the snow seldom reaches an average depth of more than 12 or 15 inches at any time, and the ground is rarely covered with snow more than three months during the year. In the northern portion of the Lower Peninsula it is a common thing to see the snow 24 inches deep on the level, and the ground is usually covered for five months of the year. In the Lake Superior region an average depth of 48 inches of snow is a common experience, and the earth is usually covered during six months of the year. In the latter region the nights are usually quite cool during the summer, and overcoats and fires are sometimes needed in July and August.

‡ NOTE.—The mean annual temperature at Grand Haven is  $47\frac{2}{100}^{\circ}$ ; at Detroit,  $48\frac{28}{100}^{\circ}$ ; at the Agricultural College, Lansing,  $46\frac{64}{100}^{\circ}$ ; at Alpena,  $41\frac{60}{100}^{\circ}$ ; at Escanaba,  $40\frac{60}{100}^{\circ}$ ; at Marquette,  $41\frac{97}{100}^{\circ}$ .

with favorable climatic conditions and good market facilities, Michigan farms—according to reliable statistics for a term of years—have earned a greater average income per acre than those of most of the other States in the Mississippi valley.

Wheat is the leading crop and brings more money than all the other surplus field crops combined. In an average year, Michigan produces about twenty-five or thirty million bushels of wheat. Winter wheat—the kind principally raised—is usually sown in September and harvested in the following July. The market price is generally not far from one dollar per bushel.

Indian corn is an important crop in the southern portion of the State.

Oats, barley, clover-seed, hay, and garden vegetables are grown with profit.

Potatoes are raised in all parts of the State, but reach greatest perfection and yield most abundantly when grown on the newly cleared lands of the northern counties.

Stock-raising is carried on to a considerable extent.

#### FRUITS.

Since the time when it was found that peaches of fine quality could be profitably raised on the western border of the State—about the year 1840—fruit

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NOTES.—The corn crop of 1884 was more than 23,000,000 bushels. The oat crop was over 25,000,000 bushels. The potato crop was about 14,000,000 bushels. The hay crop was over 1,600,000 tons. The wool "clip" exceeded 13,000,000 pounds. Large quantities of celery are raised near Kalamazoo which is sometimes called "Celeryville."

culture has rapidly increased until Michigan is the leading fruit producer of the Mississippi Valley.

Apples grow in all sections and are raised in large quantities in many of the counties of the Lower Peninsula. A good crop yields four or five millions of bushels. The average crop is a little less than three millions.

Peaches are grown now in considerable quantities in some of the interior counties of southern Michigan, but the crop is considered more reliable near the western shore. The average yield for seven years (1878 to 1885) was about two hundred thousand bushels per annum.

Small fruits—raspberries blackberries, strawberries, etc.—are raised in large quantities. Cherries, plums, and pears are grown.

#### VALUE OF THE PRODUCTS OF THE SOIL.

The total value of the agricultural products of the State for an average year has been estimated at about eighty-eight millions of dollars.

#### FOREST PRODUCTS.

The forest products of Michigan are second only in importance to the fruits of the soil. During the past thirty years, the lumbering business has been a valuable source of wealth. It is stated that the total receipts from this industry have exceeded one billion

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NOTE.—In 1885 the apple orchards of Michigan covered an area of 237,702 acres, and the peach orchards 11,327 acres.

of dollars, or more than the lumber products of any other State.

In 1854 there were 61 mills, many of them small, and the "cut" of that year was estimated at 108,000,000 feet of lumber. The number of mills in operation had increased twenty-five fold in 1872. The average yearly cut for several years has been about three billions of feet.

In the various branches of the lumber manufacture from fifteen to twenty thousand men find employment.

This industry follows the courses of the streams, which serve to carry the pine logs from the forests to the mills.\* On the eastern side of the State the Saginaw River is the most important stream. Its various tributaries, the Tittabawassee, the Cass, the Flint, the Shiawassee, the Bad, the Pine, the Chippewa, the Tobacco, and others, penetrate finely timbered regions, and as the Saginaw is navigable for large vessels, the shipping facilities are excellent. It is not strange, therefore, that this river should be lined with saw-mills and other wood-working establishments, some of them among the finest in the world. The Au Sable, Thunder Bay, and numerous other rivers flowing into Lake Huron are also alive with this important industry.

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NOTE.—The lumber cut of an average year would load a train of cars about two thousand miles long, with 10,000 feet to the car. It would build substantial frame dwellings for a million of people.

\*NOTE.—Railroads have been constructed in some places where valuable timber is situated at a distance from any good "logging stream," and the logs are carried to the mills on cars.

On the western side of the State, Muskegon is the center of greatest importance—cutting, it is said, more lumber annually “than any other single city in the world.” The Manistee, Grand, and other streams flowing into Lake Michigan, carry large numbers of logs to the great saw and shingle mills of that region.

The Upper Peninsula lumbering interests have not been developed yet to the extent warranted by the rich forests, but the annual product is an important source of wealth, and the industry furnishes employment to a considerable number of men.

Although the cutting of pine lumber has received chief attention in Michigan, the forests of hard-wood trees cover a much greater area now than the standing pine.\* The hard-wood forests yield supplies of the several varieties of the maple—including a limited quantity of the beautiful “bird’s-eye”—white ash, rock elm, oak, etc., all of which are valuable in various ways. The beech, used chiefly for fuel, is found in large quantities. The arbor vitæ, which is valuable for fence posts and telegraph poles, grows in the swamps. The hemlock is prized more for its bark than for its lumber. The bark is sold in large quantities to leather manufacturers.

The maple sugar product of Michigan, in a good season, amounts to four or five millions of pounds.

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\* NOTE.—According to a recent forestry bulletin, the merchantable pine of Michigan is distributed over about 7,000,000 acres of land; the hard-wood timber covers about 30,000,000 acres.



Some intelligent observers think that before many years the products of the hard-wood forests will equal in value the present returns of the pine. "Certainly the time is not far distant when hard-wood saw-mills must become common, and the innumerable industries into which such timber enters must rapidly multiply. For years to come Michigan will keep its rank as the great timber-producing State, and this interest will continue to furnish profitable investments for capital, remunerative employment for the laborer, and a sure home market for the produce of the farmer."

#### VALUE OF THE FOREST PRODUCTS.

The total value of the forest products of Michigan is estimated at not less than sixty millions of dollars per annum.

#### MINERAL PRODUCTS.

The observations of the early missionaries and traders,\* and the more accurate explorations of Governor Cass, Mr. Schoolcraft, Dr. Houghton, Colonel Long and others, furnished good grounds for general belief in the mineral wealth of the Upper Peninsula before Michigan became a member of the Federal Union. Immediately after the organization of the State, the Legislature made a liberal appropriation for the purpose of beginning a thorough geological

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\*NOTE.—An English mining company was organized about 1770, with Mr. Alexander Henry as superintendent, and an attempt was made to start a mine near the mouth of the Ontonagon River, but the enterprise was soon abandoned. For a full account, see Henry's "Travels."



survey. Dr. Douglas Houghton became the first State Geologist of Michigan, and made "such careful exploration of the south shore of Lake Superior as to clear up the mists of tradition, illuminate the subject, and attract the attention of the people of the United States and of Europe to the new mineral fields of North America."\* Dr. Houghton was engaged on the surveys until the time of his death, in the fall of 1845.† His first Geological Report was made to the Legislature in 1841, and created great interest in the mineral possibilities of Michigan.

#### COPPER.

By a treaty with the Chippewa Indians, made in 1842, the lands of the Lake Superior region lying east of Fond du Lac were ceded to the United States. This opened the way for the prosecution of explorations, and the government was soon in receipt of requests for mining "permits." Public interest waxed greater from time to time as new evidences of the metallic wealth were discovered, and the years 1844, 1845, and 1846 witnessed no little excitement on Lake Superior. The beautiful and "rock-bound haven" of Copper Harbor became the first centre of

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\*"Mineral Resources of Lake Superior," by A. P. Swineford.

†NOTE.—"In the autumn of 1845, while on his last expedition for the season, when approaching Eagle River in a small boat a sudden storm arose, and before his frail bark could find a safe landing place \* \* \* it was capsized, and all on board perished save one man. The whole country was shocked at this tragical event, and science mourned for one of its brightest ornaments. Aside from personal considerations, his death was to be deplored; many of his field-notes were lost with him, and the treasures of his well stored mind were irreparably beyond recall."  
—[A. P. Swineford.]

The body was found in the following spring and buried at Detroit.

mining operations, and presented a lively and picturesque appearance during the few summers of its prosperity.

The Trap Range is a belt of dark-colored rock, from one to seven miles in width, and extending from the Porcupine Mountains to the extremity of Keweenaw Point—about one hundred forty miles in length. In this trap rock the deposits of native\* copper are found.

The most important mines of the early days were the *Cliff*,<sup>1</sup> of Keweenaw county, and the *Minnesota*,<sup>1</sup> of Ontonagon. The former was opened in 1845 and the latter in 1848. "The first general mining law of the State was made in 1853."<sup>2</sup>

Other mines were opened from time to time, and the copper product was rapidly increased. The most important event in the history of copper mining on Lake Superior was the discovery of the deposit at the Calumet and Hecla location, in 1865. This has proved to be the most valuable copper mine in the world and produces the lion's share of Michigan copper.

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\* NOTE.—*Native* copper is *pure* copper, as distinguished from the *ores* of the metal. It should be noted that the copper mined on Lake Superior is not an *ore* at all, but the *pure metal*. There *are* small beds of copper *ore*, but they are unimportant and have not been worked for years. This explanation seems the more necessary for the reason that writers unacquainted with the subject are continually making the error, and one of the texts of "Michigan Geography" makes the same blunder.

<sup>1</sup> NOTE.—During their prosperous days, the *Cliff* and *Minnesota* yielded more than \$2 000,000 each to their stockholders, and thereby contributed to the increase of public confidence in the profits of Lake Superior mining ventures at a time when the losses in other mines were exerting an opposite influence.

<sup>2</sup> "Annual Report of the Commissioner of Mineral Statistics" for 1882, by Chas. E. Wright.

About forty copper mines in Michigan have been worked more or less since 1845. The low prices of copper for the past few years have interfered with the prosperity of the poorer mines, and many of them have been "shut down." The number of working mines at the present time (1886) is about a dozen. The annual copper product is estimated to be worth not less than eight millions of dollars a year.

In quality, the native copper of Lake Superior is unequaled by the product of any copper ore, and therefore commands a more ready sale and a better price in the markets of the world. The supply shows no signs of exhaustion, and there is every reason to believe that this important industry will continue for many years to come.

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NOTE.—From the commencement of mining operations on Lake Superior to May 1, 1884, the total dividends paid by Michigan copper mines had reached the sum of \$37,140,000. The dividends for the year 1883 were as follows:

Atlantic Mine.....	\$80,000
Calumet and Hecla.....	2,000,000
Central.....	60,000
Osceola.....	200,000
Quincy.....	380,000
Total for the year.....	\$2,720,000

The Tamarack, a new mine near the Calumet and Hecla, and on the same lode, bids fair to become one of the profitable mines at once.

In the various operations connected with copper mining on Lake Superior, probably five thousand men find constant and remunerative employment. The work in the mines is dangerous, and many lives are lost every year through accidents of one kind or another.

NOTE.—During the 20 years of its active existence, the Calumet and Hecla has paid about \$25,000,000 in dividends. For a number of years the usual profit has been \$2,000,000 a year. Two thousand men are employed, and all the operations of the mine are carried on upon the most extensive scale. The machinery for hoisting the rock, pumping water from the mine, etc., is magnificent. The mine has reached a depth of about two-thirds of a mile, on a slant of 39°. Half a dozen railroads extend from top to bottom through the slanting tunnels or "shafts" which have been cut in the rock, and ponderous iron cars, called "skips," are

## IRON.

Although the presence of iron ore in some of the metamorphic rocks of the Upper Peninsula was not unknown to Dr. Houghton when he made his Geological Report, in 1841, it was supposed that the percentage of metal was not sufficiently high to pay for mining. In 1844, a party of U. S. surveyors running lines near the present site of Negaunee, observed great variations in the magnetic needle. After placing the instrument in various places and witnessing rapid and remarkable changes, Mr. Burt, who was in charge of the work, called out; "Boys, look around and see what you can find!"

They left the line, and after a brief search returned with a number of specimens of magnetic iron ore, which was found to be both rich and abundant in the neighborhood. "To the government surveyors, therefore, belongs the credit of having first given to the world information of the existence of iron in considerable quantities in the country bordering the south shore of Lake Superior."\*

In 1845 a company was organized at Jackson and explorers were sent to the Lake Superior region to locate some mineral lands. They selected the prop-

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drawn up by steel-wire ropes at a speed of ten or twelve hundred feet per minute. Each skip carries about two tons of rock at a load. The best rock yields about five per cent of copper. At the "stamp-mills" the rock is crushed fine by ponderous iron hammers, water is turned on and the powdered rock, being lighter than copper, is washed out and the copper, in fine grains, remains in the bottom of the trough. It is then sent to the "smelting furnace," where it is cast into "ingots," etc.

\* "Mineral Resources of Lake Superior," by A. P. Swineford.

erty afterwards known as the Jackson Mine. In the course of the next three or four years mining operations were begun on a small scale at the Jackson and other mines which were opened from time to time in the neighborhood, and some iron was smelted\* in the primitive forges or "bloomeries" of Lake Superior. But extensive and profitable mining was delayed until after the completion of the ship-canal and locks at the Sault de Ste. Marie, which opened Lake Superior to the vessels of the lower lakes, in 1855. The regular shipment of iron ore to lower lake ports began in 1856. The high price of iron during the Civil War stimulated the industry and made mines profitable that had not been self-supporting.

The iron mines of Michigan are located in three separate districts: (1) The Marquette; (2) the Menominee; (3) the Agogebic.

The mines in the Marquette district were first developed, and some of them have been and are very productive and valuable. Among the leading mines are the Republic, the Cleveland, the Lake Superior,† and the Jackson. The ore is carried by rail to Marquette or Escanaba—at both of which places may be seen a considerable fleet of ore vessels almost any time during the season of navigation—and thence

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\* NOTE.—The first iron smelted in this region was on Feb. 10, 1848, in a little forge erected by the Jackson Mining Company near the Carp River, ten miles from the present city of Marquette.

† NOTE.—"The yield of the Lake Superior Mine in 1882 was the largest ever produced in a single year by any iron mine on this continent."

by water to the great furnaces of the lower lake ports.

Active and extensive mining operations were not begun in the Menominee district until about 1877. Since that time, however, the development has been remarkably rapid. "It has advanced from an almost unbroken wilderness to a region of extraordinary activity and prosperity, containing many thriving villages and numerous rich and productive mines." \*

The Agogebic district was almost wholly undeveloped until 1885, when railroad advantages were secured. But the operations have been so vigorous and the returns so encouraging that the Agogebic country is rapidly assuming the importance of a prosperous mining region. "The deposits are, to all appearances, very extensive, and the history of the Menominee range is likely to be repeated in that of the Agogebic, the ores of the two being very similar in appearance as well as quality." †

In quantity of iron produced, Michigan ranks as the second State in the Union. In quality the iron manufactured from the best Lake Superior ores has no equal. About sixty mines are working and the average output for the past four or five years has exceeded two million tons per annum. The value

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\* "Annual Report of the Commissioner of Mineral Statistics" for 1882, by Chas. E. Wright.

† "Annual Report of the Commissioner of Mineral Statistics" for 1884, by A. P. Swineford.

of this product has been roughly estimated at ten millions of dollars a year.

#### GOLD AND SILVER.

Gold has been found in Marquette and other counties of the Upper Peninsula, and mining, on a small scale, has been carried on near Ishpeming. The Ropes mine has been worked for several years and has yielded some rich gold-bearing quartz, but unfortunately the quantity, thus far, has not been sufficient to enrich the stockholders or to justify the hope that gold mining is certain to become one of the important industries of the State. However, the discoveries of a day may change the whole face of the matter, and some good judges have not yet lost faith in the future of Michigan gold mines.

Silver is found in small quantities in most of the copper mines of Lake Superior. At some of the stamp-mills boys are employed to pick the little silver nuggets out of the copper, and the product thus obtained amounts to several thousand dollars a year.

#### SLATE.

Extensive and valuable deposits of slate are found near Huron Bay, Lake Superior. The quarries have been operated for only a few years and the work has not been pushed with much vigor, so that the product is yet small; but the excellent quality of

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NOTE.—Iron mining is, if possible, more dangerous than copper mining, as the iron mines are not so well "timbered-up" as a rule. Accidents are numerous and often fatal.



the slate, and the extent of the beds, warrant the belief that this will some day become an important industry.

#### SALT.

Owing to geological causes, a portion of the State is underlaid by porous rocks which contain brine of good quality in almost unlimited quantity. The manufacture of salt was not begun until about the year 1860, but the business increased so rapidly that Michigan has become the largest salt producing State in the Union.

Three-fourths of the product is manufactured in the "salt-blocks" along the banks of the Saginaw River. Smaller quantities are made at the shore towns from White Rock to Caseville, and, on the other side of Saginaw Bay, at Oscoda and Tawas City; also at St. Louis, Midland, and Manistee.

In the vicinity of the Saginaws, the average depth of the wells is about 900 feet. Steam is often used to heat the pans—in the evaporation—and a saving of fuel is effected by having the "blocks" connected with saw-mills.

The salt product of Michigan in 1884 was more than three million barrels. The average value of the product is estimated at about two millions of dollars a year.

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NOTE.—"A single well has yielded 26,000 barrels of salt in a season of eight months."—["Michigan and its Resources."]



## GYPSUM.

Extensive beds of gypsum are found in Kent and Iosco counties. In the first mentioned locality the beds have an area of ten to twelve square miles. In Iosco county the deposit is found in the bluffs on the lake shore, near Alabaster. Manufacturing establishments are in operation, converting the rock into "land plaster" and "plaster of Paris," and the yearly product has become an important source of wealth.

## COAL.

About one-fifth of the Lower Peninsula is underlaid by beds of bituminous coal. But although the deposits are large in area, the seams appear to lack sufficient thickness in most places to encourage mining on an extensive scale, and owing to the presence of a large percentage of sulphur and other objectionable ingredients the coal is unfit for the purposes of smelting and gas-making. Mining operations have been attempted at several places, but thus far the Jackson mines have yielded the principal share of the Michigan coal product.

## STONE.

Building stones are found in Calhoun, Eaton,

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NOTE.—In 1884, Michigan produced 27,412 tons of land plaster and 156,320 barrels of calcined plaster or "stucco."

NOTE.—The location of the coal fields of Michigan may be roughly indicated on a map as follows: Draw a line from Sebawaing through Holly, Jackson, Albion, Hastings, to Big Rapids; thence to the north-west corner of Clare county, and eastward to the northeast corner of Gladwin county; and thence to the mouth of the Rife River.

The Michigan coal product for 1882 was 110,336 tons.

Houghton, Ingham, Ionia, Jackson, Marquette, and Monroe counties.

Grindstones of good quality are cut from the quarries of Huron county.

Limestones are found in great abundance in several places, and quick-lime is manufactured in large quantities.

#### VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTS.

The value of the mineral products of Michigan is probably not less than twenty-five million dollars a year.

#### FISHERIES.

The fresh-water fisheries of Michigan are more valuable than those of any other State in the Union. Several thousand men are engaged in this industry, and the yearly "catch" is worth about a million dollars. Whitefish, Mackinac trout, lake herring, sturgeon and pickerel are the fishes commonly taken. Of these, the whitefish is the most valuable, and contributes largely to the profits of Michigan fishermen.

#### CONCLUSION.

As products and prices vary from year to year, the estimated values are presented merely for the purpose of indicating the magnitude of the material resources of the State, and not as exact figures.

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NOTE.—The fishes are caught in "gill-nets" or in "pound nets." As those caught in the latter are alive when the net is "lifted," they are preferred to the "drowned," and sometimes partially decayed, fishes caught in the gill-nets.

Gathering up the estimates placed on the crude products, we have the following summary:

Products of the soil.....	\$88,000,000
Products of the forest.....	60,000,000
Mineral products.....	25,000,000
Fish.....	1,000,000

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Total for an average year..... \$174,000,000

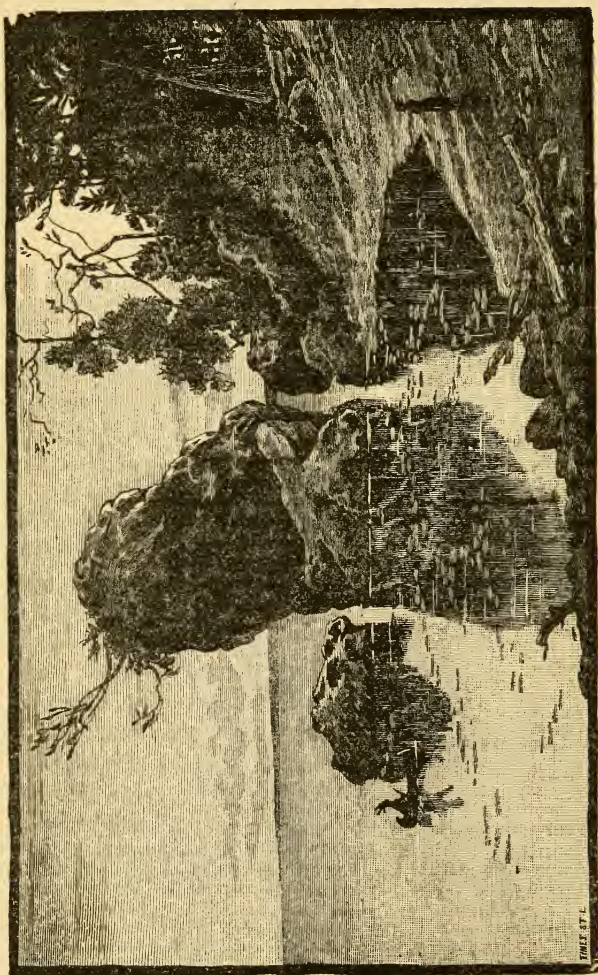
According to the census of 1880, there were nearly nine thousand manufacturing establishments in the State, and many of the crude materials are greatly increased in value before they are exported. These factories employ large numbers of men, and thus help to improve the local markets for labor and provisions.\*

With more than sixteen hundred miles of coast line on the great lakes, and upwards of five thousand miles of railroad, the commercial advantages of Michigan are excellent and freight rates are favorable.

Unsurpassed in richness and variety of material resources by any other State in the Union, with growing manufactures and good markets, Michigan completes her first half century of State existence in a thrifty condition, and all things promise a prosperous future.

---

\* NOTE.—In 1880 the number of manufacturing establishments was 8,873; number of employes, 77,591; capital invested in manufacturing, \$92,930,959; wages paid during one year, \$25,318,682; value of products, \$150,692,025 per annum.



Leaning Rock, Mackinac Island,

## Q U E R I E S .

---

1. When and by whom was the first French exploring expedition sent to America?
2. Who named New France and wrote the first description of its coast?
3. What was the principal object of the early expeditions?
4. Who first attempted to plant an agricultural colony in Acadia?
5. When and by whom was Quebec founded?
6. When and for what length of time was Quebec first under English control?
7. Who was the "Father of New France"?
8. Explain the purpose and give the date of the treaty of St. Germain.
9. Who was the first white man who visited Michigan? When and where?
10. Who founded the first mission and built the first church on Lake Superior?
11. Who founded the mission at the Sault de Ste. Marie?
12. For what purpose was the French and Indian council of 1671 held at the Sault?
13. When and by whom was the mission established at St. Ignace?
14. What is the oldest permanent settlement in the State?
15. What influence was exerted on the Indians by the Jesuits? By the *coureurs des bois*?
16. What part did the fur traders play in the early exploration of this region?
17. What was the name of the first schooner on the great lakes? By whom built? When was the first voyage made, and what became of the vessel?
18. What Indian village covered a portion of the present site of Detroit?
19. Where was Fort St. Joseph? When and by whom built?
20. Where, when, and how did La Salle lose his life?
21. When and by whom was Detroit founded?
22. What caused the French War? When did it begin and end? What battle decided the contest, and what was the final result of the struggle on the history of North America?
23. How long was Canada under French control?
24. What was the principal occupation of the people during the French Period?
25. By whom and to whom was Detroit surrendered after the fall of Quebec?
26. When did the English take possession of the other posts in Michigan?
27. What was the chief design of Pontiac's Conspiracy? Was it achieved?
28. How many posts were attacked? How many captured?
29. Who saved Detroit?
30. Where did the savages act the part of cannibals?
31. Why did the Indians abandon the siege of Detroit, and when?
32. What was the Quebec Act, and what does the Declaration of Independence say about it?
33. How did the British officers at Detroit and Mackinac make themselves odious to the people of America during the Revolutionary War?
34. What was the treaty of Paris, and when made?

35. When did Michigan become an American possession? Who first unfurled the stars and stripes at Detroit?
36. What was "the ordinance of 1787"?
37. State some of its chief provisions.
38. How many and what States have been formed from the Northwest Territory?
39. Which French explorer died and was buried near the present city of Ludington? Where are the remains now buried?
40. What Indian tribes lived in Michigan under French rule?
41. What Englishman superintended the first modern attempt at copper mining on Lake Superior?
42. Who were the *coureurs des bois*?
43. Who was the first Governor of the Northwest Territory?
44. When and how long was Michigan connected with Indiana Territory?
45. Describe the origin of the primary school fund.
46. When was Michigan Territory organized? What were its boundaries?
47. Who was the first Governor?
48. What judge was said to be "fit only to extract sunbeams from cucumbers"?
49. What was the immediate cause of the war of 1812?
50. When, where, and by whom was the battle of Tippecanoe fought? With what result?
51. When was the fort first established on Mackinac Island?
52. When and how was this post captured by the English?
53. Where was Malden?
54. When and where was a white tablecloth used as a sign of surrender?
55. Who said "*We have met the enemy and they are ours*"?
56. How was Michigan recaptured from the British?
57. Who was the second Governor of Michigan Territory and when was he appointed?
58. When was the survey of the public lands begun in Michigan?
59. Who brought the first printing press into the State?
60. When was the first permanent newspaper begun and what was it called?
61. What was the name of the first steamboat on the great lakes? When was the first voyage made? When was the steamer wrecked?
62. What was the early name given to Monroe City? What massacre took place there and what officer was responsible for the outrage?
63. What causes retarded the settlement of Michigan in the early days?
64. What was the cause of "the Toledo war"? The result?
65. When and where was the "frost bitten" convention held, and what action was taken?
66. What was the incident in connection with General Cass and the British flag at the Sault?
67. When was Michigan admitted into the Union?
68. Who was "the boy Governor" of Michigan?
69. What public improvements were undertaken by the young State?
70. What plague visited Detroit in 1832 and 1834?
71. What territorial executive lost his life with the disease?
72. Who was "the founder of the Michigan school system"?
73. Who were the first Michigan Representatives in Congress?
74. Who were the first U. S. Senators from this State?
75. Give a list of the educational institutions controlled and supported by the State.
76. What was the "Catholepistemiad"?
77. Name the two oldest railroads in the State.
78. What were the "wild cat" banks?
79. What were the "nail-keg reserves"?



80. What portion of the land was set apart for the support of primary schools, and when?
81. What Michigan institutions were the first of the kind in the Union?
82. From what portion of the United States did most of the pioneers of Michigan come?
83. When and where did the Mormons start a Michigan colony?
84. Where did the Quakers settle?
85. What were the leading characteristics of the pioneer settlers?
86. Where was the capital of the State during the early days? When was it removed to Lansing?
87. When was the second Constitution of the State framed?
88. State the essential differences between the first and second Constitutions of Michigan.
89. What legal difficulty prevents a poor man from serving as Governor of the State?
90. Who was the "war Governor of Michigan"?
91. Who was the "war Senator of Michigan"?
92. How many boys in blue did the State furnish during the Civil War?
93. When and how was Lake Superior opened to navigation?
94. When was the new lock finished?
95. How many Senators and Representatives constitute the Legislature of Michigan?
96. For what length of time are the State officers elected?
97. When and how often do the regular sessions of the Legislature occur?
98. How many congressional districts has Michigan under the apportionment based on the census of 1880?
99. When was the death penalty abolished in this State?
100. What laws have been made in regard to the liquor traffic?
101. What was the population when the State was admitted?
102. What is the population now?
103. How many schools in the State?
104. Where is the center of population in the State?
105. What is the average population to the square mile in the State?
- In your county?
106. How many miles of railroad?
107. Which is the longest railroad in the State?
108. What is the length of Michigan's coast line? Is it exceeded by any other State in the Union?
109. How many inland lakes in the State? How many counties?
110. Between what meridians and parallels is Michigan situated?
111. How many islands belong to the State?
112. What island counties?
113. Which is the largest island in the State?
114. What States east of the Mississippi River are larger than Michigan?
115. Which is farther north, Isle Royal or the city of Paris?
116. Name the most important rivers of Michigan.
117. Who drew the original plan of Detroit, and after what models?
118. What Michigan ball game ended in a massacre?
119. What five rivers rise on Hilsdale Summit?
120. What is the mean annual rain-fall of the State?
121. What is the mean annual temperature?
122. What is the most important field crop in Michigan?
123. When was fruit raising begun on a large scale in this State?
124. What portion of the State is best adapted to fruit growing, and why?
125. Name the chief "logging" streams.
126. What place makes the largest quantity of lumber of any single city in the world?
127. Name the most valuable copper mine on the globe.

128. What proportion of the labor of the State is employed in agriculture?
129. How many men are employed in the lumber manufacture?
130. Locate the agricultural, lumbering, and mining districts of Michigan.
131. What is the average yearly lumber "cut" of the State?
132. How does Michigan rank as a fruit producer? Lumber? Salt? Fish? Iron? Copper?
133. Who was the first State Geologist of Michigan?
134. What discovery followed the command, "*Look around boys and see what you can find,*" and who said it?
135. When was iron mining begun in Michigan, and where?
136. Name the earliest productive copper mines.
137. What is the difference between *native* copper and copper ore?
138. How many copper mines are in operation in Michigan?
139. How many iron mines?
140. Locate the iron districts of Michigan.
141. Where is gold mined in Michigan?
142. Locate the gypsum beds.
143. For what purposes is gypsum used?
144. Where are the slate quarries?
145. How does Michigan rank in the sale of fresh-water fish?
146. What Michigan men have filled places in the Presidents' Cabinets?
147. Where are grindstones quarried?
148. What effect had the opening of the Erie canal on Michigan history?
149. When and where did a Yankee soldier and a British cannon ball cut down a pear tree?
150. Who was Henry Rowe Schoolcraft? Where did he live and what did he write?
151. What elective State officer receives \$2,000 salary? How does it happen? (See note on page 103.)



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## ERRATUM.

On page 16, in the third line from the foot of the page, read "one hundred" instead of "two hundred."

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ADDENDUM.

The Auditor General's salary was fixed by an act of the Legislature, approved April 24, 1883, at \$2,000 per year. In amending Article IX of the State Constitution so as to give Circuit Judges \$2,500 salary, the office of Auditor General was accidentally omitted from the list of State offices, hence it was left to the Legislature to fix the salary.

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