

enlisted in Company K of the First Wisconsin regiment on the fourth day of September, 1861. He afterwards returned home to recruit a company for the Thirty-second Wisconsin regiment then forming in Oshkosh. In September of 1862 he was commissioned captain of Company C of the Thirty-second and in the spring of 1863 was promoted to major. In less than a year he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and in 1864 to colonel and took command of the regiment. In 1865 he was breveted brigadier general for faithful service, and mustered out, for the war was over. With health permanently impaired he took up a citizen's life again and because of the malady contracted in the service, was more or less handicapped all the rest of his days. Col. DeGroat died August 15, 1904, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.

GUSTAV DE NEVEU, one of the earliest settlers of Fond du Lac county, was born in Savigny, France, March 30, 1811. He came to Fond du Lac in 1838, where he purchased about 500 acres of land in the town of Empire. He built his first house and made a permanent settlement in 1839.

MADAM HARRIETT DE NEVEU was born on the Isle of Mackinac, December 16, 1818. In 1824 her parents moved to Green Bay where she lived until she was married in 1840 when she came to the Buena Vista farm in the town of Empire.

WILLIAM DE STEESE was born in Burlington, Racine county, Wis., April 14, 1850. He came to Lamartine, Fond du Lac county, with his parents in 1861. He enlisted in Co. D, Thirty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, March 17, 1864 at the age of thirteen years and eleven months, as private soldier and served through the war. Was in the battles of the Wilderness, and in the Siege of Petersburg, Va. At the close of the war he returned as corporal. He served the C. M. & St. P. Ry. Co. as conductor thirty-five years and in 1900 went into the real estate and insurance business.

JAMES D. DOTY, the ablest and one of the most comprehensive of our pioneer statesmen was born at Salem, Washington county, N. Y., Nov. 5, 1809; he was a delegate to the Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin in 1840. He built a house in the town of Empire in 1838 where he lived two years. He was president of the original Fond du Lac Land Co. and the site of the Village of Fond du Lac was chosen by him.

F. F. DUFFY, attorney-at-law, was born in Richmond, Va., Feb. 2, 1851, came to Fond du Lac in 1872. In 1884 he took in J. H. McCrory as law partner. He was city attorney in 1878, was district attorney in 1880-82-84.

MRS. RUMINA DYE was born in Alleghany county, N. Y., in 1820, came to Sheboygan county, Wis., in 1840; in 1852 to Fond du Lac county.

OSCAR HENRY ECKE, attorney-at-law, was born at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, Feb. 5, 1863; he graduated at the University of Wisconsin in 1887; he graduated from the University Law School in 1894. He was engaged for a period of two years as instructor in elocution at the university where he graduated and for one year was assistant state librarian at Madison, Wis. Since 1895 he has been engaged in the practice of law in the city of Fond du Lac, having been associated with Attorney H. E. Swett for ten years and later with Attorney W. W. Hughes. From 1880 to 1901 he was city attorney for the City of Fond du Lac. In 1906, Judge Fowler appointed Mr. Ecke assistant district attorney to assist in the investigation of the grand jury.

HIRAM EDGERTON was born in Rome, Oneida county, N. Y., Sept. 30, 1802; he came to the town of Fond du Lac in 1847 where he purchased 160 acres of land. Mr. Edgerton was of the hale and hearty type of man and lived to a ripe old age. On his eighty-seventh birthday he plowed a furrow two miles long, the equivalent of one-quarter of an acre, accomplishing this feat in forty-four minutes.

CHARLES F. EDGERTON was born in Rome, Oneida county, N. Y., and came to Fond du Lac in 1847; he enlisted in 1861 as a private in Co. "B," Wisconsin Cavalry. During the Battle of L'Anguille, Ferry, Ark., he was wounded. He carried the rebel lead until he died.

JAMES EWEN was born in New York City in 1806 and came to Fond du Lac in 1849, where he was landlord of the hotel known as the "Lewis House" for over ten years.