

THE WAUPACA REPUBLICAN

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WAUPACA

Its location – A nice little City with bright prospects before it.

On sections 19, 20, 29, and 30, in the Town of Waupaca and county of the same name, is nestled among the hills, on the banks of the north and south branches of the Waupaca river, the city of Waupaca. Right in the city limits are two lakes with bold shores, fringed with natural shade trees, planted by nature's own hand. The lakes are named Mirror and Shadow, and an outlet leads to the river on the south which flows eastward and converges with the north branch at the brick yard about a mile below the city. The wonderful Chain o' Lakes commences at Taylor's landing about two miles west of the city limits and after leading from one beautiful lake into another for four or five miles, a little stream branches out from the last lake and after doing duty for the mills in the suburban villages of Rural, Parfreyville and Crystal River, it comes into Waupaca and is the same stream before mentioned. Here it turns the wheels of the woolen mill. It is one of the finest of water powers and has the Chain of Lakes and our own lakes in the city for reservoirs and feeders.

The natural resources of the town are numerous. A ledge of solid granite from 40 to 80 rods wide passes through the city on a ridge that looks as though it might have been heaved up from the earth's crust by volcanic action in an early day. The stone serves good purposes for foundations for buildings, and it is strange a company is not formed for working it up into paving blocks for shipment.

One of the most extensive beds of clay in the state is owned by a company, and the manufacture of the "Waupaca Red Brick" is carried on quite extensively about a mile east of the center of town.

Waupaca county being accessible to the navigable Wolf river, received settlers long before a railroad ever penetrated the state, consequently for the most part it can be classed as one of the old counties. However in the northern portion there is much woodland and but little settlement. The county is diversified as to soils and timber. Several towns abound in what would be termed light sandy loam and oak openings with scattering pines. Other towns will abound in maple, ash, elm, etc., with heavy clay loam. The light sandy soils produce the finest potatoes and clover seed, corn, hops and sorghum, and since the farmer has commenced to understand the wants of the soil in the way of turning under clover sod, keeping more stock, using salt, plaster, etc., the wheat product has exceeded that raised on the new land years ago. The heavy clay soils are good grain and grass producing soils but take them one year with another the sandy soils with right treatment excel them in fertility.

The principle places in Waupaca county are New London, a thriving city on the east side of the county, on the Lake Shore and Western, and the Green Bay and Minnesota Railroad. The villages of the county range in the order named:

On or near the Central line, Weyauwega, Fremont, Baldwin's Mills, Rural, Crystal River, Parfreyville, and Sheridan. On or near the Green Bay Road running east and west through the county: New London city, Northport, Ostrandens, Royalton, Manawa, Symco, Little Wolf, Ogdensburg, Scandinavia, and Iola. On or near the Lake Shore and Western, north of New London: Bear Creek, Clintonville, Embarrass, Buckbee and Marion.

Many of the villages above mentioned are large and thriving, but we have not space at this time to particularize. The principal manufactures are lumber, staves, headings, handles, furniture, ties, posts, etc. Flour and feed has attention largely in most of the towns, and finds ready sale at good prices, at home and up the line.

Waupaca city has good schools, churches and societies, the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, United Workmen all being represented by flourishing lodges. The population embraces American, Danes and Norwegians, and a few Irish and German. As the foreign population are mostly old residents with the Americans, and all the children and families attend the same school a good social and business feeling predominates.

It is remarked by everybody visiting or living in the city that a more "social" place does not exist in the state.

The possibilities for the future of this city in a commercial and manufacturing point of view are on the side of a permanent and wonderful growth, if the resources at hand are taken advantage of. Our water power, nearness of timber, the clay and granite beds, the good agricultural and stock lands about us, the beautiful lakes, the healthy locality, should be a guide board to men of means to strike this place with their wealth and help develop the possibilities. Already several have sounded the key note. For example, see the substantial buildings that have been and are being erected. Witness the building and improvements going on our milling industries; see the taste displayed in improving our streets and lawns. Manufactures will surely command attention in the future if the spirit already begun is not permitted to wane. In the line of manufactures Waupaca has quite a variety, such as mills, woolen mil, brick making, tannery, wagon shops, foundry, machine shops, harness shops, etc., but there is room for enlargement. The city has quite a number of first-class dwellings and buildings. The court house, built of red brick in the Queen Anne style of architecture, on a good granite foundation, stands majestically on a beautiful square, shaded with the native elms right in the heart of the city. The building is finished and furnished in good taste and is supplied with steam heating apparatus. The whole cost of the building including fire proof vaults, furniture, etc., was about \$27,000.