

THE HISTORY  
OF  
ADAMS COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS.

CONTAINING

A DIRECTORY OF THE COUNTY—ITS CITIES, TOWNS, ETC.

*GRAPHICAL DIRECTORY OF ITS CITIZENS, WAR RECORD OF ITS  
VOLUNTEERS IN THE LATE REBELLION; GENERAL  
AND LOCAL STATISTICS.*

LISTS OF EARLY SETTLERS AND PROMINENT MEN.

HISTORY OF THE NORTHWEST, HISTORY OF ILLINOIS,  
ADAMS COUNTY, CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES,  
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS, ETC., ETC.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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CHICAGO:  
MURRAY, WILLIAMSON & PHELPS,  
85 WASHINGTON ST.  
1879.

This was the Rev. A. Bredweder, who came here almost direct from Germany in 1840, followed by a number of German families who had determined to take up an abode wherever he made his home. The colony arrived at St. Louis, and after remaining there only a few weeks, Father Bredweder was directed to take charge of the St. Boniface congregation, and they removed here with him.

It was owing to the efforts of this priest that the society, as poor as it was, was enabled to build the present St. Boniface Church. He collected a sum of money to start with, and all connected with the church assisted by means of gifts of brick and lumber in addition to the work, which was also done by them. It was commenced in 1846, but was not finished until three years afterward. In order to reach this conclusion, Father Bredweder made a journey to his home in Germany, and returned with money enough to accomplish his object, contributed by friends of the church in that country. This priest remained with the St. Boniface people several years, and after he left there were no regular services until the arrival of Father Kinstry in 1851. While connected with the congregation Father Kinstry died and was buried in the Catholic cemetery at this city. He was succeeded by Father Rice, who remained but a short time. Father Rothe was the next priest, and then the Rev. Father Schæfermeyer, whom we have already mentioned in connection with the Franciscan monks. In 1872 Father Ostrop arrived and continued in charge of the church until 1877, when the Rev. Father Jansen took his place. Father Jansen was for a number of years secretary of this diocese. It was under Father Ostrop's pastorate that the St. Boniface society was enabled to purchase the Browning property, on Seventh and Hampshire streets, at a cost of \$50,000, and erect thereon one of the largest school-houses in the State at an outlay of over \$40,000. The corner-stone for this building was laid by Bishop Baltes in 1873. It contains to-day several hundred scholars. This and the church property and school adjoining on Maine street are estimated to be worth at least \$200,000.

St. Mary's Church, an offspring of the St. Boniface, is rapidly becoming large and influential. It was formed in 1867, when the present handsome church edifice on the corner of Seventh and Adams streets was begun. It is built of brick, 119 feet long and 60 feet wide. The congregation, originally numbering only about 40 families, now counts 250—those living south of Ohio and east of Twenty-fourth streets. The first priest was the Rev. Theodore Bruner, who came to Quincy from Europe in 1868. In 1876 the present priest, the Rev. George Mirbach, came to the city. The St. Mary's has a fine school in connection with the church, at which 200 children attend. The church and school-house cost \$50,000.

In addition to these churches, there are chapels at St. Mary's school and St. Mary's hospital, which are used mainly by the students and the Sisters of Charity. The chapel at the convent is included in the statement of the property under control of the Franciscan monks.

#### QUINCY WATER-WORKS.

The history of the water-works, commencing with the first efforts to establish water-works in the city, may be briefly stated as follows:

At the session of the Illinois Legislature of 1868-69, a law was passed called the Water-Works Law, by which the city of Quincy could issue bonds, build works, create a board of water commissioners, etc. This

law, to be valid, had to be voted for by the city of Quincy, and this vote was taken in April, 1869, on said law and a proposed new city charter. The water-works law, among other things, provided for the issue of \$650,000, eight per cent. bonds, and, if necessary, an additional \$200,000; provided for the election of three water commissioners, with a salary each of \$2,000; a superintendent, with a salary not to exceed \$3,000 per annum; and further provided that the salary of any other officers should not exceed \$2,000 per annum each. Under this law, if it had been adopted, the city would have had to pay:

Eight per cent. interest on \$650,000, annually.....	\$52,000.00
Salaries three water commissioners, amount fixed by law.....	6,000.00
Superintendent, amount fixed by law.....	3,000.00
Total.....	\$61,000.00

For other officers and assistants usually employed about water-works, as follows:

One hydraulic engineer and assistants.....	\$4,000.00
One draughtsman.....	1,000.00
One secretary.....	1,500.00
Two engine drivers and assistants.....	4,000.00
Two sets firemen, four men.....	2,000.00
Coal, taking Peoria for illustration, when coal is 7 and 8 cts. per bu. ....	8,000.00
Oil and waste.....	200.00
Office rent.....	200.00
Gas.....	200.00
Incidentals, as stamps, printing, stationary.....	200.00
Total, per annum.....	\$32,300.00

The above law will be found in the private laws of Illinois, page 269. It is a historical fact that said law was the embodiment of the best effort up to that time, made in the city of Quincy, to procure a water supply; and it was not then supposed that water works could be built, which would meet the requirements, at a less cost than six to eight hundred thousand dollars.

The vote of the city was taken upon the above law, and carried by a very large majority, but the act of the Legislature, upon which the vote was taken, by some oversight, lacked an enacting clause, and thus the city escaped that heavy outlay. In view of subsequent events, this escape from bonds can only be accounted for as the direct interference of Providence.

In the latter part of the year A. D. 1871, a subscription paper was started, to secure subscribers to stock in a water-works company, to be organized Nov. 1, 1871, with a view to making a satisfactory contract with the city of Quincy to furnish water for public and private use.

On the 8th day of May, A. D. 1872, the "Quincy Water-Works Company" was organized, with the following directors: James D. Morgan, Edward Prince, Robert S. Benneson, H. F. J. Ricker, John Robertson, Lorenzo Bull, and Henry Root. The following were elected officers of the board: Jas. D. Morgan, President; Edward Prince, Secretary; H. F. J. Ricker, Treasurer. The certificate of the organization of the company was filed in the office of the Secretary of State, on the 9th day of May, A. D. 1872. The capital stock of the company was stated to be \$200,000. The license to carry on business was dated May 10, 1872. A new subscription paper was started, for subscription to stock in the company, and after the most earnest solicitations only \$42,100 subscription could be obtained. The members of the company soon failed to attend any meetings, and the company has long since ceased to exist. The secretary paid

the unpaid bills of the company, and the stockholders, although they received no dividends, never had to pay anything on stock account.

The winter of 1872 was one of great drouth, and a disease prevailed among horses, called epizootic, or epizooty. Fire and private cisterns became empty. Private persons were compelled to pay an enormous price for water, and danger of a general conflagration was imminent. In this condition, various plans were suggested by which to fill fire cisterns. The experiment was tried of using fire steamers at the river, and after two were disabled by the severity of the duty this plan was abandoned.

Finally the city council adopted a plan proposed by E Prince—located a small pump house, with boiler and engine, at the foot of Maine street, and the fire cisterns were filled and the danger of a general conflagration averted. In the Spring of A. D. 1872, the city laid a six inch main up Maine street, from the pump house, and set three fire hydrants, one at 3d, one at 4th, and one at 5th streets. This main, including machinery, was afterward bought and paid for by Edward Prince, for the sum of \$7,028.25.

On the 7th day of August, A. D. 1873, the city passed ordinance No. 187, under which a contract was made, for thirty years, with Edward Prince, to construct and operate the water-works. The contract is similar to that of Oswego, N. Y., with the exception that the city of Quincy has the right to purchase the water-works at cost, without interest, at any time after one year's notice, and the city of Oswego has not.

There are now ten miles of mains and seventy-six fire hydrants. The annual cost to the city is now only fifteen thousand two hundred dollars per annum.

The future reservoir site, of about six acres, generally known as Moore's Mound, has been purchased and paid for by the proprietors of the water-works. The elevation of this ground is 227 feet above low water. At the present time, for the purposes of regular pressure and storage, there are now in use two large tanks of a combined capacity of one hundred and ninety thousand gallons. The reservoir, when completed, will have a capacity of sixteen million U. S. gallons, at an average depth of fourteen feet. The plan for the permanent works, besides the reservoir above, contemplates the taking of the water from below the bridge in the main river, by twenty-four inch pipe, laid across and under the Quincy bay. By the terms of the contract the city can compel the construction of the permanent works only after the ordering of twenty-four more fire hydrants.

The present water-works may be considered a triumphant success, because they have so well fulfilled all that was promised or expected, and because they were constructed in a time of great depression, by the indomitable will and perseverance of Col. Prince, who never fails in anything which he undertakes, and lastly, because the works have cost the city very little, as compared with the cost to other cities of about the same population.

The names of the present owners of the Quincy Water-Works are Edward Prince, Lorenzo Bull, and William B. Bull.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The first mention of the present efficient Fire Department of Quincy was in the year 1837, at which time its inception was made by the town authorities making the purchase of four ladders and one dozen buckets. This action of the local authorities was made on the 20th of January, 1838, and from