My destination was West Bloomfield, Ontario County, New York, the home of my father, an older brother, Edgar, and a sister, Jane, younger than I. From that home I had gone three years before, in 1848. It had been my intention to make a visit at my father's home and then to go on west to Wisconsin. However, I changed my plan and remained in Bloomfield during the winter and returned to Palmyra, Wisconsin, in the spring of 1852. There I did not remain long, but took up my residence soon after in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The Historical Department recently received a copy of The Keosauqua Times, bearing date of March 28, 1846. This number has the name "Van Caldwell" endorsed on the top margin with pen and ink. Van Caldwell was the father of the late Judge H. C. Caldwell. This copy of the Times was given by Judge Caldwell to Hon. F. M. Epperson, of Eddyville, and since his death his son, Frank Epperson, in turn gave it to the Historical Department. Advertisements in it advise the reader of today of conditions then. Among them are the following:

"Trace chains for sale at Bridgman's."

"Window glass, 8x10, and 10x12. Also putty, for sale at Bridgman's."

"Plough slabs and plough wings, assorted sizes, for sale. F. Bridgman."

"10 bbls. old Cincinnati whiskey, 1 half pipe superior C brandy, ginger, cassia, nutmegs, starch, pepper, spice, cloves, and soap, for sale at Bridgman's."

"Three or four dozen riding bridles, martingales, &c, for sale at Games's Sadlery."

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listsery without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.