

A description of the work done in the shops—both repair and construction—would make still another story. And, the effects—political and social—of the coming of the shop employees to Oelwein would make an appropriate history. But for the economic effects, with which the Oelwein businessmen had been concerned primarily, let us return to Winder's Opera House, Saturday evening, June 2, 1894, where Stickney had declared: "As an element of permanent prosperity to a village or city, railway shops are superior . . . inasmuch as they continue to run as long as the railway runs, which is forever . . ." The business and professional men of '94 foresaw that their own interests would be furthered if they secured the C. G. W. shops for Oelwein. Their successors have since been vitally interested in the continued operation of the shops. Today, Oelwein businessmen depend upon the shops for their prosperity. Stickney concluded his remarks fifty years ago by picturing Oelwein as "a compactly built city with comfortable homes and beautiful parks; with a garden in the rear, a nicely-kept lawn in front extending to well-paved streets lined with shade trees, and inhabited by 10,000 happy men and women." And, isn't that just what Oelwein is today?<sup>80</sup>

### IOWA CAPITAL REMOVAL

The *Iowa Statesman* asks us if the law in relation to the relocation of the capital of the state is constitutional! We have not declared it to be otherwise; we merely stated as a matter of news that we understand the commissioners appointed by the Governor to locate the capital, would be enjoined, as we understood they would be, from proceeding to discharge the duties imposed upon them. We are far from throwing any obstacles in the way of having a relocation of capital made as is contemplated by law, and as was intended by a decided majority of the General Assembly. We are with you on the capital question Mr. *Statesman*.—Dubuque *Express and Herald*, May 2, 1855.

<sup>80</sup>The St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, June 3, 1894; The Oelwein *Register*, June 7, 1894; Belt, *op. cit.*; Oelberg, *op. cit.*; Smith, Thomas, *op. cit.*

The United States Census of 1900 gave Oelwein a population of 5,152. In 1940 Oelwein had 7,801 inhabitants. The Oelwein *Register*, Sept. 26, Nov. 1, 1900; Rand-McNally *Map of Iowa*, 1941.

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