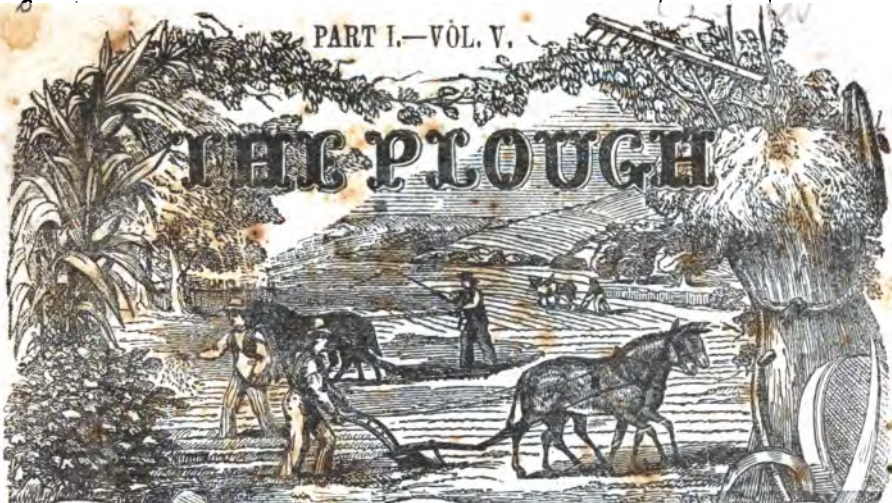


PART I.—VOL. V.

THE PLOUGH



THE LOOM AND THE ANVIL.



F. G. SKINNER AND MYRON FINCH, EDITORS.

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DEVOTED TO SCIENTIFIC AND PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE—MANUFACTURES—
MECHANICS—NEW INVENTIONS—A SOUND PROTECTIVE POLICY—FARM
BUILDINGS—COTTAGE DESIGNS—FRUIT TREES—FLOWERS—GAR-
DENING—BEES, CATTLE, HORSES, HOGS, SHEEP, POULTRY, &c.



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located between two small lakes. The newly erected State House, beautifully located among trees, is a noble building of stone, and has a good library of law books. There are convenient and spacious rooms in the building, well adapted for all employed in the business of the State. The land around this place is in the hands of speculators, who are willing to part with it only at exorbitant prices.

Here, a Jersey farmer, now a resident of this State, was haranguing upon politics, among a motley group of hearers, among whom was a prominent individual with a broken pipe in his mouth, who, we were afterwards informed, was a judge upon him and the rest of the auditors. I fear our friend's speech had but little effect, for many exclaimed, as they did of old, "He is mad, or hath a devil; why hear ye him?" This place numbers now, perhaps, from five to six thousand inhabitants; and when the railroad reaches it, it will doubtless grow rapidly.

July 8th.—On our return to Fulton, the next day, we visited the residence of a Jerseyman, a Western clergyman, who gave us a letter of introduction to his son. We were gratified at the improvements all around. Apple and other fruit trees were coming into bearing, and the beautiful display of flowers betrayed a taste which we do not often meet with in the West. A young racoon was running about the premises, like a tame cat. As we left this place, we came over what was called Liberty Prairie, where the scenery and views were more splendid, if possible, than any we had before seen. A great abundance of the hazel-nut was growing, which indicates the goodness of the land.

THE LEGISLATOR—TEMPERANCE LECTURE—JANESVILLE—FENCES—PRAIRIES—
INDIAN MOUNDS.

July 9th.—Left Fulton for Janesville, on our return homeward. Here we saw a man hoeing his corn in his check shirt, and with an old straw hat on, hardly worthy of that name, and his house, a log building, of the lowest description; yet this man had been sent to the Legislature, and doubtless knew his duty, and performed it more faithfully and usefully than others more learned, or who manifested by their exterior a higher grade in the scale of society.

We were again very much amused the evening we spent at Janesville, by our friend, whom we had heard at Madison, appearing here in the public thoroughfare, lecturing upon temperance. To give the people due notice, he had borrowed a bell, and rung it, that all might be apprised of the opportunity of listening to his powers of oratory, while he declaimed most vigorously against the tyranny of King Alcohol. He assured them of another visit at the assembling of the Legislature.

In this place considerable flour is manufactured. One mill, we were told, drove six pair of runners. The Court house is a noble-looking building. Here is also a ladies' seminary of considerable note. Stages run from this place to Belvidere, through which the cars pass on the way to Chicago. On the following morning, we took passage in one of these vehicles, passing through Beloit and Scotch Plains; the latter a settlement of the sons of Cambria, whose beautiful, well-cultivated farms and handsome residences proved that these sons of North Britain keep up their characteristic qualities of thrift and industry far away from their fatherland. On this route we saw some wire fences. Some fields are bordered by a ditch and bank, similar to

those seen in England, needing nothing, but the thorn planted on them to give the country a complete English appearance.

On the prairies in this section there is a great want of streams. The water is drawn from wells to supply the animals that graze upon the herbage, and the want of trees to defend them from a burning sun is a great drawback upon their thriving. This is an idea that buyers of western lands should always remember, particularly where grazing lands are sought after. The driver pointed out to us several circular burnt places in the grass which had been caused by lightning, and several telegraph posts close by had been shivered by the same means. We passed several Indian mounds, remnants of a race now extinct, whose history is unwritten, and must for ever, perhaps, remain in oblivion.

CHICAGO—THE METHODIST CLASS—AFRICAN MISSIONARY—THE TWO JERSEYMEN.

We arrived at Chicago about 8 P. M., and were happy to think the next day was a day of rest, as here we intended to spend the Sabbath. The next morning, as we were reconnoitring the city to find out the various churches, of which the many spires told us there was no lack, we heard the voice of singing in one, and the writer entered, and found himself present at a Methodist class-meeting, which to him was very interesting.

We attended the Presbyterian, the Baptist, and the Methodist churches during the day. In the afternoon, we listened to a sermon from a son of the ocean, who, by his earnestness and nautical phrases, as well as sailor-like action, produced some smiles from his hearers. We attended also a convocation of the Sabbath-school children, who nearly filled the body of the church. They were addressed by Rev. G. Thompson, a missionary from Africa, who greatly interested his juvenile auditory by his account of Africa, and of the manners and customs of the people, and showed them some of their idols and charms, and their implements of husbandry, and pieces of cloth spun and woven by the natives.

We were invited to take tea at a friend's house who was from Jersey, with whom and his brother we spent a very pleasant season. The one is conducting a large merchant's store, and the other is a builder. We came in contact also with two other individuals, who told us they were from our own State, and thought of returning. When we inquired their reason for this, one told us that there was scarcely any fruit here. The other said his religious advantages were not so abundant as at the East. These reasons, the writer must confess, to him appeared paltry, and not exactly true. As it regards fruit, as the State is growing older, that will soon be remedied. The latter reason, as we judged from our own personal observation, was not altogether correct, as there was every opportunity for means of spiritual improvement. After some further conversation, our Jersey friends thought they should delay their return from the West for the present at any rate.

Chicago has been of most rapid growth. Its location on this beautiful lake must insure it to become, perhaps, the Queen of the West. Fourteen years ago it numbered about four thousand souls; now its population is upwards of forty thousand. There is one little drawback upon it: the soil below the surface is like a piece of sponge saturated with water, owing to its contiguity to the lake, so that wells and cellars cannot be had, and the city is supplied with water from the lake.