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XXV. AN ENGLISH SETTLER IN PIONEER
WISCONSIN: THE LETTERS OF EDWIN
BOTTOMLEY 1842-1850

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EDWIN BOTTOMLEY

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EDWIN BOTTOMLEY 1842-1850





CAPTAIN THOMAS BOTTOMLEY, RECIPIENT OF THE LETTERS

Reproduced from a Contemporary Silhouette

PUBLICATIONS OF THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN

COLLECTIONS, VOLUME XXV

AN ENGLISH SETTLER IN PIONEER WISCONSIN

THE LETTERS OF EDWIN BOTTOMLEY 1842-1850

EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES BY
MILO M. QUAIFE
SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SOCIETY

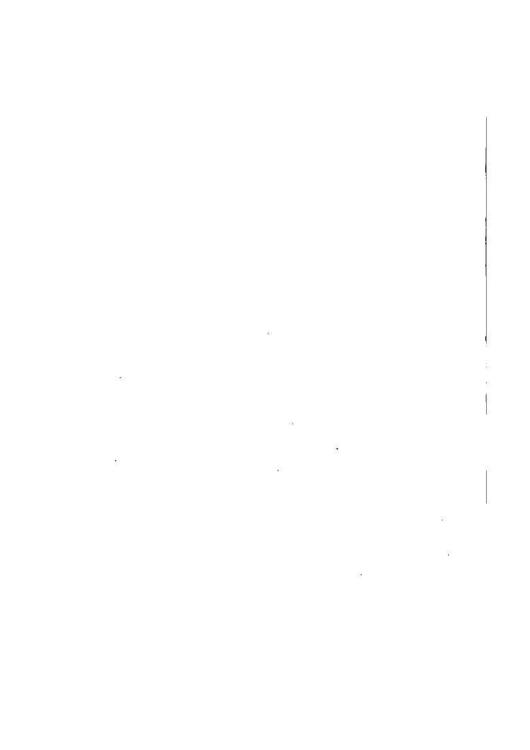


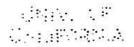
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PREFACE

For the greater part the preliminary information which should be put before the reader of this volume is included in the historical introduction. Here, it seems desirable to call attention to the editorial principles which have governed me in the preparation of the volume for the press. In general the original manuscript has been reproduced verbatim. In a few cases obviously inadvertent and meaningless errors of the writer have not been reproduced in print. Commonly, however, such errors have been reproduced, accompanied, where deemed advisable, by the editor's interpretation printed in brackets. The original letters are without paragraphing; for this feature of them as printed the editor is, therefore, responsible. With respect to capitalization and punctuation, the original manuscript has been carefully followed, with one important qualification. In the manuscript the sentences commonly run into one another without any indication of the close of one and the opening of a succeeding sentence. For the convenience of the reader, in such cases, the transition point between sentences has been indicated by the introduction of the spacing known to typesetters and proofreaders as the quad. To do this involved the frequent application of an editorial interpretation, not necessarily infallible, of the manuscript. However, the careful student who wishes to see the copy, with respect to this matter, just as it runs in the original manuscript, may do so by the simple process of ignoring these printers' quads. The great majority of readers, it is believed, will welcome the editorial assistance which is thus afforded them.

I desire in closing to express my appreciation of the public-spirited generosity of Miss Arminal Ann Bottomley, of Rochester (deceased in 1916), whose gift of her father's papers to the State Historical Society has insured their permanent preservation and rendered possible the preservation of the record here presented to the world of scholarship. The facts concerning the early life of Edwin Bottomley were largely supplied by her. I am under much obligation, also, to Mrs. I. W. Moyle, of Mukwonago, who first informed me of the existence of the Bottomley papers and has at all times displayed an active and sympathetic interest in the matter, first of their acquisition and later of their publication by the Society. For indispensable editorial assistance in the several processes of preparing the copy for the printer and seeing it through the press I am indebted to Annie A. Nunns and Marguerite Jenison of the Society's staff; and to Lydia Brauer, now of Greenwood, Nebraska, and Mary Farley, now of Chicago, formerly members of the Society's staff. The index is the work of Miss Jenison.

M. M. QUAIFE.

Madison, March 1, 1918.

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