

29/6.3.1

PAPERS FROM THE HISTORY SEMINAR OF
KALAMAZOO COLLEGE

No. 3 EARLY KALAMAZOO COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

by

Theodore E. Troff

January, 1948

KALAMAZOO COLLEGE
LIBRARY

CONTENT GUIDE

Early trading posts are established in the Kalamazoo area.....	p 1
Titus Bronson founds the village of Kalamazoo.....	p 1
Recollet - an early trader.....	pp 1-2
Col. Huston builds the first general store.....	p 2
United States Land Office moves to Kalamazoo.....	p 3
Wild land speculation.....	pp 3-4
Mercantile and manufacturing facilities as of 1836.....	p 4
Wildcat banking failures.....	p 5
Walbridge begins grain transportation by river boat.....	pp 6-7
Early industry is a matter of necessity.....	p 7
Early emphasis is on agriculture.....	p 8
Sugar beet farming.....	p 9
<u>Kalamazoo Gazette</u> starts paper mill promotion.....	pp 10-12
Flour milling facilities.....	pp 12-13
The first blast furnace.....	p 13
Machine shops and smelting furnaces.....	pp 14-15
The first fanning mill factory.....	p 15

The iron industry.....	pp 17-18
The carriage industry.....	pp 18-19
The leather industry.....	p 19
The building and lumber industry.....	pp 19-21
Later expansion of agricultural implement man- ufacturing.....	pp 21-22
Mercantile and manufacturing facilities as of 1856.....	pp 22-23
One main addition to the industrial assets - a flour mill.....	pp 23-24
Summary and conclusion.....	p 24

EARLY KALAMAZOO COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

The first indication we have of any business activity in the area of what is now Kalamazoo is from the reports of early traders who worked in that vicinity. Sometime after 1812, probably around 1823, a trading post was erected on the banks of the Kalamazoo River across from the future site of Kalamazoo, and this post was maintained until a few years after the establishment of the village.¹ When Titus Bronson erected his cabin there in June of 1829, thus founding the village of Kalamazoo,² he at first obtained his supplies at this same post, which was then being run by a French trader named Recollet.³ The early settlers fondly remembered the name of this early trader because of his fair deal-

1. Louis Campau, an early trader at Grand Rapids, stated that trading posts were established west of Detroit after 1812 and that one of them was at Kalamazoo. However, he could estimate no exact date. The trader's name, he thought, was either Lumaiville or Numaiville. Rix Robinson, another early trader, who was employed by the American Fur Co., said that Numaiville erected a post at Kalamazoo in 1823, and that he (Robinson) had enlarged and improved it in 1824. See Durant, The History of Kalamazoo County, Michigan, p. 209.

2. The village was known as Bronson until 1836 when its name was changed to Kalamazoo. See Fisher and Little, Compendium of History & Biography of Kalamazoo County, Michigan, p. 68.

3. Durant, op.cit. p. 210

ings in scarce commodities. In the early days of the village, when salt was scarce, several settlers attempted to take advantage of the shortage by purchasing a boat load of salt from Recollet to resell exorbitant prices. But Recollet refused to part with his scarce supply of salt and, instead, resold it at a just price. This display of business ethics established the name of Recollet in the early community.⁴

During the year 1830 several other families settled at Kalamazoo, and Col. Huston, who ran a general store at nearby Prairie Ronde, built a second store at Kalamazoo, thus cutting into the business of Recollet, the French trader across the river.⁵ On April 2, 1831, Governor Cass approved the choice of Kalamazoo as a county seat, which made the village a point of trade, and soon after this the population of the settlement began to increase rapidly. By the end of the year, fifteen heads of families had settled in Kalamazoo, and Col. Huston was forced to establish a new and larger general store to handle the increased trade.⁶ V. Hascall, later editor of the Kalamazoo Gazette, remembered Huston's store as "the place of

4. Fuller, Historic Michigan, Vol. III, p.148.

5. Durant, op. cit., p 212.

6. ibid, 213.

resort for the townsmen, who were fond of meeting there and talking over matters."⁷

In 1834 the United States Land Office for the surrounding district was moved from White Pigeon to Kalamazoo, and Kalamazoo was visited from far and near to enter land claims. The newspaper at White Pigeon, called the Michigan Statesman, soon followed the Land Office to Kalamazoo, and also, a branch of the State Bank of Detroit, was set up there to facilitate exchange.⁸ The new Land Office brought in many prominent men to settle at Kalamazoo, and the first year of a real business session resulted.⁹

The Land Office increased its business enormously during the next two years due to a wild land speculation. While in 1834 only 128,000 acres of land had been sold for a total of \$160,000, in 1836, 1,634,511 acres of land were sold for a total of \$2,043,866.87. The village was extremely over-

7. See the Ladies' Library Association's Quarter Centennial Celebration of The Settlement of Kalamazoo

8. Fuller, Economic & Social Beginnings of Michigan, p. 271

9. Added to the community were several new stores and tailors, a harness maker, a blacksmith, builders, carpenters, a mason, a baker, a furniture store and a tannery. Durant, op. cit., p. 218.

populated by land-lookers, and numerous families
lived in tents, which dotted the landscape. ¹⁰

Before the land speculation, Kalamazoo had been a "quiet and unambitious little hamlet, supporting itself by cultivation of the soil and production of a few of the mechanical arts." ¹¹
But in the wake of the land speculation, Kalamazoo experienced a wild growth of population and commerce. By 1836 Kalamazoo's mercantile and manufacturing facilities consisted of:

- 4 - Public houses
- 10 - Stores
- 1 - Printing office
- 1 - Land office
- 30-40 - Carpenters
- 4 - Masons
- 3 - Cabinet Makers
- 4 - Blacksmiths
- 1 - Painter
- 1 - Glazier
- 4 - Tailors
- 2 - Saddle and harness makers
- 1 - Silversmith
- 1 - Tanner
- 1 - Currier
- 5 - Saw-Mills
- 1 - Grist Mill
- 1 - Flouring Mill (being built) ¹²

10. ibid, p. 218

11. Thomas, Kalamazoo Directory and Business Advertiser for 1867-8 68. p. 29

12. Michigan Statesman, April 21, 1836; Durant, op. cit., p. 223.

By early 1837 the following businesses had been added to the above list:

- 4 - Taverns
- 3 - Grist and Saw Mills
- 1 - Distillery
- 1 - Brewery
- 11 - Dry Goods Stores
- 3 - Provisions Stores
- 1 - Sheet Iron Manufactory
- 1 - Chair Factory
- 1 - Plow Factory

And the population had grown to an estimated 1,000¹³ to 1,200.

In 1837 the wildcat banking failures began to occur, and trade and business became paralyzed in Kalamazoo, as it did in most of Michigan. Wheat dropped from \$1.00 to \$1.50 a bushel in 1836¹⁴ to \$.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ a bushel in 1837.¹⁵ Real estate sales stopped, and the growth of the village ceased as suddenly as it had begun. G. Torrey, editor of the Kalamazoo Telegraph, which came to Kalamazoo in 1844, stated that "the excitement which had been so beneficial to the growth and development of the village passed off, and we remained in a quiescent state. If any movement was made at all, it was retrograde. Business continued dull and dubious for several years,¹⁶ bankruptcy and failure were the order of the day."

13. Michigan Statesman, April 15, 1837 Durant, op. cit., p. 223.

14. Michigan Statesman, April 21, 1836

15. Durant, op. cit., p. 222.

16. Thomas, op. cit., p. 30.

During the slow years after the panic of 1837, the main successful commerce for the community was carried on by D. S. Walbridge, who came to Kalamazoo from Buffalo, New York, in 1841. Walbridge bought wheat from the nearby farmers for cash, and, by the use of a fleet of flatboats which he had built on the shores of the Kalamazoo River, transported the wheat to the mouth of the river where it could be transferred to Great Lakes vessels bound for Buffalo. In 1842 Walbridge leased a grist mill and began flouring wheat for eastern markets.¹⁷ A reminiscence article entitled "Pioneer Sketches-- Kalamazoo in '43 and '44," which was published in The Kalamazoo Telegraph in 1873, said, "That year '44 was a dull one . . . If it had not been for the political matters, a regular Sleepy Hollow atmosphere would have brooded over the town. Walbridge was the main spoke of the wheel . . . The money he extended for wheat and boats was about all the circulating medium there was. . . Where but little was done, there could be but little result, and it is questionable if anything could have been set down as of any historical value

17. Durant, op. cit., p. 225; Fuller, Centennial History of Michigan, p. 74; Thomas, op. cit., p. 32.

if D. S. Walbridge had not run his flatboats and caused wheat to have an appreciable value." ¹⁸ In 1846, when the railroad entered Kalamazoo, quicker and more economical transportation for wheat to the eastern market was the result, and Walbridge's flat-boat transportation was discontinued. ¹⁹

Although many of Kalamazoo's first settlers were tradesmen or professional men, all tilled the soil as the best means of subsistence. ²⁰ Along the river, rich alluvial lands extended for one-half to one mile on each side, and the richness of the soil near Kalamazoo became known early and helped stimulate settlement. ²¹ What little industry did arise was a matter of necessity for the farmer's subsistence: grist mills to flour the wheat, wagon factories to repair the wagons so frequently damaged by the rutted and bumpy roads, saw mills to build new homes,

18. Durant, op. cit., p. 227

19. Thomas, op. cit., p. 22

20. Moore, The Evolution of a Modern City Free from General Fund Indebtedness, p. 6.

21. Fuller, Economic & Social Beginnings of Michigan, p. 322.

chair and cabinet factories to obtain furniture for the homes, and agricultural implement factories to produce plows to till the land.²² As the panic of '37 came on, and as commerce declined, the threatened industrialization of Kalamazoo ceased as quickly as it had begun,²³ and the people again turned to the soil for security. The Kalamazoo Gazette of June 24, 1837 mentions that "never before has there been 1/5 part as much land under cultivation in the County of Kalamazoo and vicinity as at the present time. Our farmers have found out the true source from whence all substantial and real wealth must spring. No more visionary bubbles, we believe, will ever again tempt them to foresake the plow." And again a few months later it talks about a wonderful bank. "It is the Universal Agricultural Bank of Nature in which every man may be a stockholder, and which, although it sometimes falls a trifle short on its dividends, has never yet stopped payment for nearly 6,000 years, nor ever failed of yielding a net profit of 10,000%"²⁴

22. Moore, op. cit., pp 6-7

23. supra, pp 5

24. Kalamazoo Gazette, July 8, 1837

Thus the Kalamazoo Gazette evidenced its cynical opinion of the world of commerce and industry.

While the Kalamazoo Gazette encouraged agriculture generally during this recessional period, it encouraged sugar beet farming specifically. On April 15th the Kalamazoo Gazette mentioned that George O'Brien of Kalamazoo was commencing the manufacturing of sugar from beets on an extensive scale and that "farmers round here would do well to give this subject a little consideration as it will, in our opinion, become a very profitable business"²⁵ However, the Kalamazoo Gazette's suggestion evidently was not extensively followed, for in succeeding years we hear no more about sugar beet raising in Kalamazoo's locality, nor do we hear anything about the success of Mr. George O'Brien's refining project.

After the advent of the Michigan Central Railroad in Kalamazoo in 1846 the general business

25. Thereafter on May 13th and 27th the Kalamazoo Gazette published articles on the growing of sugar beets and citing the wealth this product had brought about in France. See Kalamazoo Gazette, April 15, May 13, May 27, 1837.

conditions became more prosperous. Several new
 blocks of stores, offices, and shops were constructed;
 an oil mill and a large brewery were put into successful
 operation, and a small woolen factory which had been
 erected a few years previous was substantially en-
 larged and improved.

It was in 1846 that the Kalamazoo Gazette
 began to campaign for establishment of a local paper
 mill. These almost clairvoyant words appeared in
 the Kalamazoo Gazette November 27, 1846: "With a
 wide country around us having an unprecedented number
 of printing establishments, we are dependent on
 eastern mills for our supply of paper. Perhaps this
 branch of business would afford a larger profit, for
 the capital invested, than any other that could be
 immediately put into operation. The demand for paper
 is extensive; the material for its manufacturing easily
 procured and the facilities for establishing a mill
 unrivaled: with all these advantages we can most con-
 fidently recommend this to capitalists as an invest-
 ment that cannot fail to prove profitable."

26. Kalamazoo Gazette, December 4, 1846
27. ibid., December 4, 1846
28. ibid., December 4, 1846
29. ibid., November 27, 1846

Four years later the Kalamazoo Gazette again praised the "unrivaed facilities" for paper manufacturing in Kalamazoo, by citing the fact that 75 printing offices would depend upon a local mill for their supply, and capitalists were pleadingly invited to an investigation of this matter."³⁰ And again in 1853 the Kalamazoo Gazette bemoaned the fact that there was no paper mill in Kalamazoo, while pointing out the excellent waterpower facilities and large potential market.³¹ By 1859 the Kalamazoo Gazette's pleading and urging seems to have born results;^e for the issue of February 11th noted that "a company of men are taking the initial steps toward building a paper mill in our midst, having secured a site within a short distance from the center of business, that cannot be excelled in the State."³² However, this long hoped for industrial ambition was delayed through the Civil War years, until October 1866 when³³ the Kalamazoo Paper Company was established.

30. ibid., March 8, 1850
31. ibid., October 28, 1853
32. ibid., February 11, 1859
33. Durant, op. cit., p 259

This, then, was the beginning of the paper industry which was to form such a large part of Kalamazoo's industrial life after the turn of the century and earn for the community the name of "The Paper City."

However, the main industrial growth in Kalamazoo in the later 1840's occurred in the expansion of flour and grist mills and the introduction of blast furnaces for iron manufacturing. During 1847 the village's attention was directed to the construction of the locality's first steam mill. This was erected near the train depot by Parker, Moffet and Cobb.³⁴ The Kalamazoo Gazette, in attempting to give a report upon the quality of the newly-erected steam mill's flour reported that it had heard it said that the mill did superior work, but that it would have to delay a "fuller report" until given a sample barrel³⁵ of flour. But evidently the business policy of the mill's directors did not include sample barrels of flour, for the "fuller report" on the flour's quality was never published. "Verily, our village will not be wanting for flouring facilities" exclaimed the

34. Ibid., December 25, 1846

35. Ibid., September 17, 1847

Kalamazoo Gazette in the spring of 1848, as it was announcing the construction of another steam mill by a Mr. Allen. With the completion of the new mill, the article went on to say, twelve run of stone would be in operation for the coming harvest.³⁶ When the Portage Mills added another run of stone that same summer, the Kalamazoo Gazette gleefully boasted that "Kalamazoo is not surpassed at this time for flouring facilities by any place in the State."³⁷

that
At the same time the milling facilities³⁸ were being increased, the first blast furnace³⁹ for making pig iron was set up in Kalamazoo by a Mr. Wilder.

36. ibid., May 19, 1848

37. ibid., August 18, 1848

38. It is doubtful which type of blast furnace the article means. Usher in The Industrial History of England describes an early coke burning furnace whose blast was produced by bellows operated by water power. The furnace's output was 20 to 22 tons of iron per week, which is a little higher than the Kalamazoo furnace's out-put. However, by 1850 the Kalamazoo furnace's out-put was 50 tons per week which is comparable to the out-put of a furnace equipped with a Smeaton compressed air pump which could either be powered by water or steam. See Usher, The Industrial History of England, pp. 321-322.

39. Kalamazoo Gazette, December 17, 1847

This iron works - known as The Eagle Foundry - began operating just before New Year's, 1848 and, from the first, was capable of producing two to three tons of iron per day.⁴⁰

By the approach of the 1850's the Kalamazoo Gazette reported that the state of machinery in Kalamazoo was such that it was no longer necessary to go east for any piece of work. The village, the article continued, now had three furnaces - (although only one was of the blast type) and together turned out 30 tons of iron per week from the local iron bed. From this iron a variety of castings were made, and, since two of the furnaces had machine shops attached, steam engines were manufactured. In addition to the furnaces, the village at that time could boast of: an extensive woolen factory, an oil mill, a pump cabinet, a chair factory, several turning lathes, four flouring mills (2 steam, 2 water), several carriage factories, and usual quantity of blacksmith and power shops.⁴¹

In the spring of 1850 the new blast furnace passed into the hands of new proprietors - Woodbury and

40. ibid, January 1, 1848

41. ibid, September 14, 1849

Potter, and, after receiving a large order for cooking stoves from Genessee County, New York, began to specialize in stove manufacturing. Also in 1850 a fanning mill factory was built by D. Rogell after his model had been awarded a prize at the county fair.⁴² This is the first indication in Kalamazoo of a fanning mill industry which, through the 60's, was to become one of the leading elements in Kalamazoo's industrial wealth.⁴³

By the autumn of 1850 both the milling and foundry businesses had increased in size. Governor Ransom, in showing a few representatives of the Michigan Farmer around Kalamazoo for the county fair, boasted that Kalamazoo had the largest pig iron establishment in the state. The furnace, he said, was turning out fifty tons per week. Also the Governor praised Kalamazoo's five flouring mills - having thirteen run of stone - and turning out 700 barrels of flour daily.⁴⁴

42. ibid., October 25, 1850

43. Moore, op. cit., p. 10

44. Kalamazoo Gazette, November 8, 1850.

In 1853, according to the Kalamazoo Gazette, one of the principal enterprises of the year was the formation of a large foundry and machine shop by Mr. Burt and Son from Saugerties, New York. This machine shop was to make steam engines, boilers, and saw and flour mill machinery, while the foundry was to cast stoves and agricultural implements. Between 50 and 100 men were expected to be employed by the Burt Foundry.⁴⁵ However, it is doubtful if this was an entirely new enterprise, but probably was a re-⁴⁶organization of the previous Eagle foundry.

We have a fairly accurate picture of the leading industries in Kalamazoo during the 50's because of the series of articles, in the form of a business directory, published in The Kalamazoo Gazette in 1855. The industrial fields which the Kalamazoo Gazette considers as the most prominent are the iron industry, the carriage industry, the leather industry and the building industry. The business statistics concerning these industries are interesting because

45. ibid, April 29, 1853.

46. supra., p. 13.

they indicate the size, employment, annual income and specializations of Kalamazoo's leading business leaders.

The iron industry in 1855 consisted of three concerns: W. Burt and Sons, Glover and Reese, and A. Arms and Company, and of these, W. Burt and Sons was by far the largest. Burt and Sons consisted of a blast furnace and a stove foundry which were connected to a 160 acre iron ore bed located on the outskirts of the village. This iron ore bed had from a six inch to a one foot depth. The blast furnace produced 900 tons of pig iron a year, 500 tons of which were made into the 4,500 stoves cast annually. One hundred ^{and} five men were employed at Burt's and Sons, and the furnace and foundry together did an annual business of \$61,000. But another important division of Burt and Sons was their machine shop which produced steam engines. The machine shop employed 25 machinists and did an annual business of \$40,000.

Much smaller were the other two members of the iron industry. Both Glover and Reese, and A. Arms and Company consisted of a foundry and a machine shop and both dealt extensively in agricultural implements. Glover and Reese employed about sixteen men and carried on a \$15,000 a year business, while

A. Arms and Company employed from ten to twelve men and did a \$10,000 a year business. However, the Kalamazoo Gazette indicates that the later concern expected to expand so as to double their business in the near future.⁴⁷

The carriage industry consisted of three concerns specializing in light wagons and buggies and three concerns specializing in heavy wagons. In the former class were Davis, Austin and Company, Cornell and Hogeboom, and Charles S. Crittenden. Davis, Austin and Company employed 90 men, many of whom were convicts from Lansing prison. They manufactured approximately 600 two-horse wagons and 100 buggies a year - mainly for The Kalamazoo, Centreville, Jackson and neighboring markets, - and carried on a \$16,000 a year business. Both Cornell and Hogeboom and Crittenden made only light and fancy carriages. Cornell and Hogeboom employed fifteen men and did an annual business of \$12,000 to \$15,000, whereas, Crittenden had thirteen employees and had an \$8000.00 to \$10,000 a year business. In the later class were William Harrison, D. & G. Burrell,

47. Kalamazoo Gazette, May 11, 1855

and Walter Russell. These concerns employed anywhere from six to ten men and did a \$4,000 to \$6,000⁴⁸ a year business.

The leather industry consisted of three main shops and four smaller ones which made, bought and sold boots, three dealers who made and sold harnesses, and one tanner. Of the boot manufacturers, C. D. Hanscomb was the largest; this concern employed from fifteen to twenty men and carried on an annual business of \$25,000. A. G. Wilson and Ira Burdick both employed around fifteen men and did from a \$12,000 to \$15,000 business a year. The three saddle and harness makers were Kidder and Brown, Penfield and Company, and Stuart and Green, and each concern employed six or seven men and did a \$6,000 to \$10,000 a year business. The tanner was William Waterbury, who also dealt in shoes and harnesses. Although he employed only three men, he carried on a \$12,000 a⁴⁹ year business.

The building and lumber industry in 1855, according to the Kalamazoo Gazette, was "immense," and its size indicated the "unexampled" growth of ✓

48. Kalamazoo Gazette, May 4, 1855

49. ibid, May 18, 1855

an interior village. A. and S. Knerr and Daniel Veriell seem to have been the principal builders in Kalamazoo, although each manufactured doors, frames, sashes, etc. on the side. A. and S. Knerr employed twenty-six men and constructed, on the average, a "good-sized" building per week. This gave them a business turn-over of \$30,000 per year. Veriel employed only eight hands, and although no business figures are stated, the Kalamazoo Gazette does mention a "rapidly increasing business". The rest of the firms in the lumber industry were either dealers in stock lumber or in ready-made doors, shingles, sashes, windows, lath, etc.. Neal and Howe specialized in drying and dressing lumber and in making shingles and "fence stuff". Although they employed only three men their business was rapidly increasing. Krause and Denison dealt in raw lumber and finished products. They employed from thirteen to fifteen hands and did a \$30,000 to \$35,000 a year business. Hugh McCall handled only ready-made building materials, but was about the same size as Krause and Denison. Sweetland and Dewing were dealers in lumber, shingles and lath, and carried on an annual business of \$20,000. Besides these main lumber and building concerns, there were

several other minor ones, which were not listed.⁵⁰

These industrial fields, then, plus the flouring mill industry which, although not listed, was also of commercial importance,⁵¹ were most prominent in Kalamazoo in 1855. And this industrial grouping continued, with a few minor exceptions, until Kalamazoo entered the time of the Civil War, which was to alter the industrial equilibrium in all sections. ✓

Perhaps the main expansion of industry in Kalamazoo up until 1860, was in the manufacturing of agricultural implements. In the summer of 1855 a Mr. Dodge of Batavia, New York, began the construction of one of the largest agricultural implement factories in the western states.⁵² The concern intended to manufacture all types of agricultural tools except edged tools and forks, and its employment potentiality was estimated to be from 100 to 200 hands. Kalamazoo was selected as a site for this new venture, because ✓

50. ibid., May 25, 1855

51. supra., pp. 12, 13

52. The partially constructed brick factory building was to be two stories high, run 100 feet in depth and 40 feet in width. Kalamazoo Gazette, July 20, 1855.

of its excellent lumber and iron facilities.⁵³ ✓
Also, in the fall of 1855, the Arms and Company asso-⁵⁴
ciated itself with J. M. Robinson of Lockport, New
York for the purpose of greatly expanding its out-
put. The new firm was to be known as Arms and
Robinson, and intended to concentrate its entire
out-put in the field of agricultural implements, espe-
cially the wheel cultivator and Hildreth's newly
patented gang plow.⁵⁵

By the fall of 1856 Kalamazoo's commercial
and industrial assets were listed by the Kalamazoo
Gazette to be as follows:

- 1 - Blast furnace
- 4 - Other furnaces
- 3 - Machine shops
- 2 - Agricultural implement manufacturers
- 3 - Planing mills
- 3 - Sash, door and blind factories
- 2 - Cabinet ware manufacturers
- 2 - Saw mills
- 3 - Lumber yards
- 3 - Carriage manufacturers
- 1 - Wagon manufacturer
- 6 - Boot and shoe manufacturers
- 3 - Harness manufacturers
- 1 - Whip and glove manufacturer
- 1 - Tannery
- 2 - Cigar manufacturers
- 3 - Flour mills,
- 1 - Woolen mill
- 1 - Match factory
- 1 - Soap and candle chandlery

53. ibid., July 20, 1855.

54. supra., pp. 17 and 18

55. Kalamazoo Gazette, October 5, 1855

- 1 - Soda water manufacturer
- 1 - Marble works
- 2 - Distilleries
- 2 - Breweries
- 1 - Bonnet bleachery
- 3 - Shoe stores
- 2 - Hat stores
- 1 - Music store
- 3 - Book stores
- 3 - Fancy goods stores
- 6 - Dry goods stores
- 3 - Hardware stores
- 3 - Leather stores
- 3 - Book sellers
- 1 - Crockery store
- 1 - Flour and grain store
- 12 - Retail grocers,
- 4 - Clothing stores
- 3 - Jewelers
- 4 - Drugstores
- 3 - Millinery stores
- 2 - Bakeries
- 3 - Tin shops
- 3 - Printing offices
- 4 - Newspapers
- 4 - Hotels
- 2 - Daguerreotype galleries
- 1 - Confectionier
- 7 - Blacksmiths
- 1 - Book bindery
- 4 - Wholesale grocers
- 3 - Gunsmiths
- 4 - Merchant tailors
- 2 - Storage houses
- 2 - Dentists
- 10 - Doctors
- 11 - Lawyers

56

These business statistics needed one important addition to make them a fairly complete estimate of Kalamazoo's commercial and industrial assets as it

56. Kalamazoo Gazette, October 17, 1856

went into the violent and unsettled 60's. This was the immense new flour mill built by Mr. W. W. Allcott ✓ in 1859. The new mill contained four run of stone and was capable of grinding 150 barrels of flour daily. Connected to the mill was a 60' by 60' grain stone house capable of storing 25,000 bushels of grain.

Thus, through 30 years of growth, the once purely agricultural village had developed into one equally divided between agriculture, commerce and manufacturing.⁵⁷ This carefully arrived at equilibrium between agricultural, commercial, and manufacturing interests was soon to be upset by the Civil War's aftermath of mushroomed industrial growth, and Kalamazoo was later to be successfully known as the Windmill City, The Carriage City, and The Paper City.⁵⁸ But throughout the development of Kalamazoo from 1830 to 1860, the village's growth was characterized by balanced interests and self-sufficiency - characteristics which later were to be superseded by post-war industrial specialization and interdependency.

(The End)

57. Moore, op. cit., p. 10

58. Moore, op. cit., p. 10

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Primary Sources:

Kalamazoo Gazette,

Jan. 23, 1837 to Oct. 13, 1843, passim.

July 17, 1846 to Dec. 28, 1860, passim.

Ladies Library Association, Quarter Centennial
Celebration of the Settlement of Kalamazoo,
Kalamazoo, 1855.

Thomas, J. M., Thomas' Kalamazoo Directory and
Business Advertiser for 1867 and 68.

Kalamazoo, 1867

Secondary Sources:

Durant, Samuel W., The History of Kalamazoo County,
Michigan, Philadelphia, 1880

Fisher and Little, Compendium of History and
Biography of Kalamazoo County, Michigan, Chicago,
(No publishing date given)

Fuller, G., A Centennial History of the State
and Its People, Vol. II, Chicago, 1939.

Fuller, G., Economic and Social Beginnings of
Michigan, Lansing, 1916.

Fuller, G., Historic Michigan, Vol. II, (No date
or place of publication given)

Moore, F., The Evolution of a Modern City Free
From General Fund Indebtedness, A Thesis.

Usher, A., An Introduction to the Industrial
History of England, New York, 1920