

COMMEMORATIVE
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

OF THE

FOX RIVER VALLEY

COUNTIES OF

BROWN, OUTAGAMIE AND WINNEBAGO,

CONTAINING

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE
CITIZENS, AND OF MANY OF THE EARLY SETTLED FAMILIES.

—ILLUSTRATED.—

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CASPER SCHADEN, a well-known member of the farming community of De Pere township, Brown county, was born April 2, 1842, in Prussia, son of Frank J. and Catherine (Cornelius) Schaden, the latter of whom died when Casper was an infant. The father was subsequently married again, this time to Gertrude Andre, by whom he had four children: Mary, Gertrude, Joseph and Anna Mary; by his first wife he had two children, Catherine and Casper, and of the entire family, four children are yet living. Frank J. Schaden was a blacksmith, and a successful tradesman.

In 1852, his second wife having also died, Frank J. Schaden concluded to bring his family to America, and after an ocean voyage of forty-eight days, they landed in New York City, thence immediately coming westward to Milwaukee, Wis., where they visited friends. From Milwaukee they came direct to De Pere, Brown county, where Mr. Schaden had two brothers-in-law living, and during the first winter the family were scattered, the father working hard to get a start. He purchased twenty acres of new land, and erected a log house thereon, in which the family lived for some time, and, with the aid of his sons, he eventually cleared the farm and converted it into a cultivated productive tract. He died September 23, 1886, at the home of his daughter, and was buried in Denmark, Brown county.

Casper Schaden attended school in his native land until he came with his father to the United States, after which he was obliged to give up school, as his help was needed on the farm, where he was thoroughly trained to agricultural pursuits. When he first came to De Pere township there were no roads for wagons, and he had to carry flour on his shoulder from Green Bay. One night his sister and one of the younger boys went after the cows, but darkness coming on before she reached home with them, she lost her way and was compelled to remain in the woods all

night. Our subject remained on the farm continuously until 1860, in the fall of which year he went to Pensaukee, Wis., and commenced to work in the lumber regions, where he experienced hardships and privations which only the strongest constitution could withstand. In the spring he would return to the farm and there remain during the summer, returning to the lumber regions in the winter. He worked in Stiles, Oconto county, one winter, and was also employed by a man named Raymen, in Denmark, for the Two Rivers Company; for two winters he was in the employ of Richie, from De Pere, and together with this he also drove team for sixteen winters.

On January 29, 1867, Mr. Schaden was married to Miss Catherine Kohren, and since then he has given his attention exclusively to farming. He first purchased twenty acres of land, which he paid for with the pine timber cut from the place, and by the united efforts of himself and wife the land was cleared and improved, and later added to, until they now own sixty-five acres of fertile, well-cultivated land. They have had twelve children, as follows: Casper, born October 21, 1869; Joseph, born January 2, 1871 (deceased); Kate, born March 18, 1872 (deceased); Peter, born January 25, 1873; Joseph, born May 24, 1874 (deceased); Kate, born February 28, 1876; Nick, born October 17, 1877; Mary M., born December 12, 1879; Elizabeth, born April 8, 1882; Gertrude, born March 10, 1884; Ann A., born January 28, 1886; and John, born October 28, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Schaden were originally members of the Catholic Church in Green Bay, but now belong to the church in New Denmark, in which latter they celebrated their silver wedding January 29, 1892, Rev. Father Garus officiating. Politically our subject is a Democrat, and has served his township as path master two years, and as school director. He is an honest, upright citizen, and has the esteem and respect of all who know him.