

History of Waukesha County, Chicago, Western Historical Company, 1880

JONATHAN BETTS, farmer, Sec. 33; P. O. Eagle; born in Elsen, Norfolk, England, September 1813; came to America in 1830, and, after four years spent in Rome, N. Y., removed to La Salle Co., Ill.; engaged in stage-driving in Illinois and Indiana about three years; settled in Eagle July 12, 1838, in company with F. Draper, they buying and farming 240 acres together till 1841, when Mr. Betts, took eighty acres on the east side of the road; he has since bought eighty acres of Government land. These were about the first men to locate in these parts, and, as they had six yoke of cattle, soon became known throughout the town, Mr. B. driving breaking team about five years and turning over thousands of acres of Wisconsin virgin soil; his first furrow turned on Sec. 28, and his first twenty acres of wheat sown among the burr oaks which sparsely covered their claim. Feb. 17, 1844, he married Miss Lucina Ewer, a native of Marcellus, Wayne Co., N. Y., he having previously lived with the Draper family in their log house. When Mr. Betts built his barn, he bought the lumber from the first large consignment, ever sent over the M. & P. du C. R. R. Mr. and Mrs. B. have seven living children-Mary J., Susan A., Alice M., Melissa A., Charles M., Fremont A. and Daisy L.; the elder son, a carpenter by trade, married; Dec. 30, 1879, Miss Jennie Coulter, a native of the State of New York and a resident of Troy Center; the younger son is also on the old homestead, and all are Republicans in politics.
