

The Petoskey Record Wed 12-9-1885

Projected Improvements.

It is already evident that the year 1886 will witness a marked advance in the real estate and business interests of Petoskey. Our readers will bear witness that we are not given to “ballooning” our beautiful little city by exaggeration of statement and “highfalutin” accounts of her progress. Believing that is a policy of that sort results in re-action and consequent damage, the RECORD prefers to adhere to a plain statement of the village and surrounding country, leaving it for our readers to draw their own inferences from them. We have made inquiries which result in the following information; Mr. Watson Snyder will erect a brick block containing two story with plate glass fronts on Lake street, filling up the gap between his Masonic Block and the Shirk block. Mrs. Dr. Williams will erect a brick store with plate glass front next to the brick store of C.N. Shaw on Howard street which is already leased for a term of years by L.W. Cole. The banking firm of Curtis, Wachtel & Co. will put up a large brick block on the corner of Mitchell and Howard streets containing the banking rooms upon the corner, and two stores, one fronting upon Howard and the other upon Mitchell street. The second story of this block will be fitted up in elegant style for offices. Mr. J.J. Warne has purchased the adjoining lot on Mitchell street and will build of brick in style of *façade* to correspond with the blank block. Parties are in negotiation for the lots next west of Mr. Warne belonging to Mr. Wachtel, and it is certain that whether the sale is completed or not a brick block will go upon that property also. Next west of these two lots is the ground recently purchased by J.J. Hankey who will put up a brick building as soon as the front will permit in the spring. The erection of these large brick buildings will make a heavy demand for brick, and Mr. Snyder is now arranging for the early opening of his brick yard under the management of an experienced brick manufacturer Birket & Spokes are blasting a tail race which requires the removal of about 1,000 cubic yards of rock. When completed this will give them about seven feet additional head for their flouring mill and the pulp mill to be erected in the spring. The Arlington, Cushman, and Clifton contemplate such additions as will add largely to their capacity before the resort season opens. In Petoskey, and Bay View, a large number of dwellings will be built, figures having been made for thirty houses, exclusive of a number at Wequetonsing. All this indicates an active demand for carpenters, masons and indeed all kinds of skilled and unskilled labor. Real estate not only upon the business streets, but back in the village is feeling the influence and shows a strong upward tendency. These facts are hopeful and healthy, showing clearly that there is a return of confidence, and that a very substantial improvement in business of all kinds may be looked for with confidence next year.