

# State Historical Society



## OF WISCONSIN.

Madison, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, 1872.

SIR:

I have the honor to inform you that, at a Meeting of the Executive Committee of the **State Historical Society of Wisconsin**, held this day, you were unanimously elected a *Corresponding* Member.

Should such Membership be agreeable to you, you will please signify the same by letter at your earliest convenience.

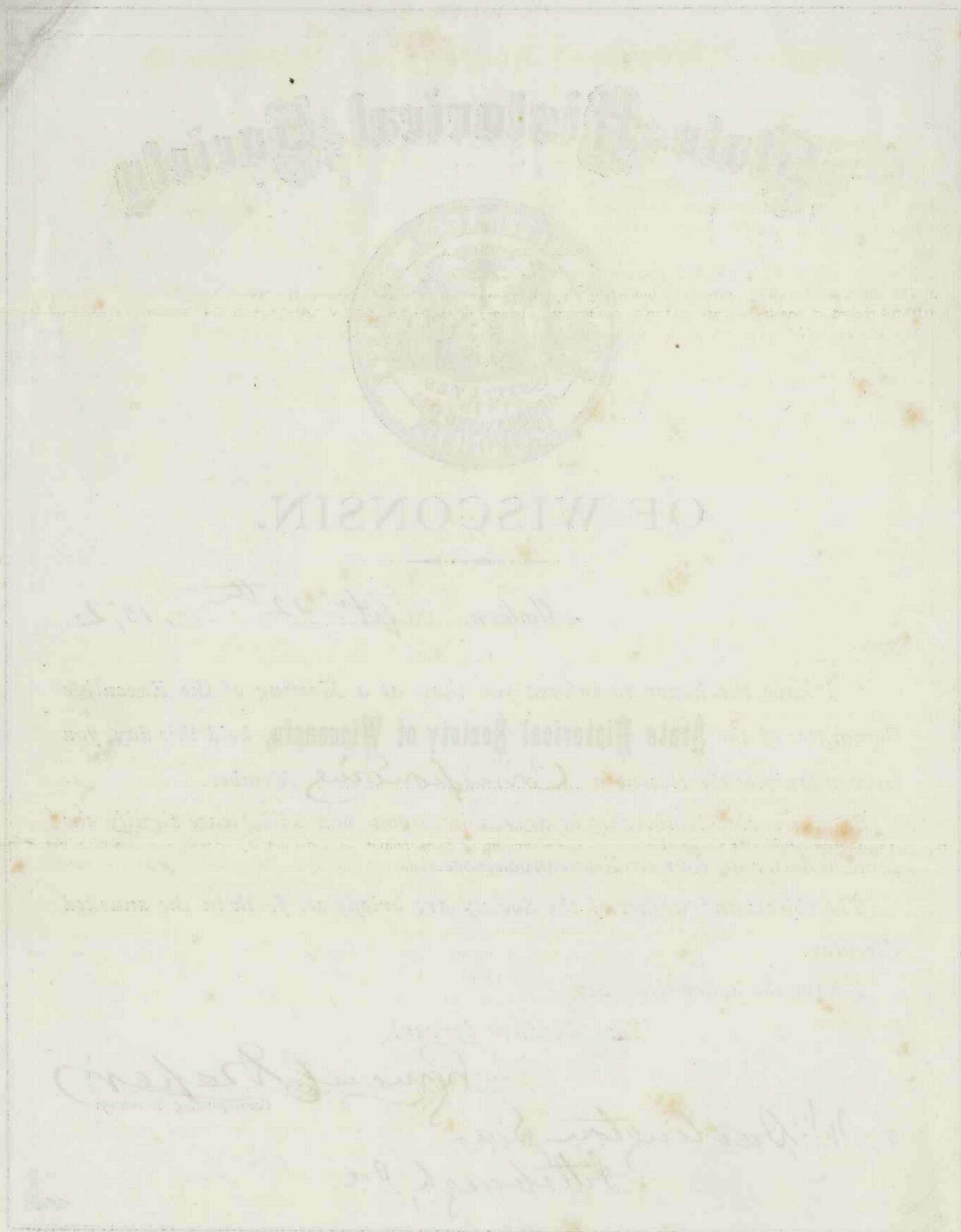
The objects and wishes of the Society are briefly set forth in the annexed Circular.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*Samuel Draper*  
Corresponding Secretary.

To *Wm. Darlington Esq.*  
*Pittsburgh, Pa.*



CIRCULAR OF THE  
**State Historical Society of Wisconsin.**

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The Executive Committee of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin invite your attention to its objects, condition and prospects. Since the re-organization of the Society under its charter of March, 1853, much progress has been made in the field of Western historical research and collection. The Legislature of the State, in the true spirit of enlightened legislation, has granted the Society liberal appropriations to aid in collecting works and documents, and disseminating information relative to the history and progress of Wisconsin. This fund places the Society on a firm basis, and has enabled it to procure copies of many rare and valuable works on the Northwest, and other publications suitable for an historical library, and the co-operation of our active and corresponding members, has also done much to augment our collections.

The rapid and wonderful growth of our State admonishes us to secure what relates to the rapidly receding past; to prepare a faithful record of passing events, and to keep alive the memory of those who have contributed, or may hereafter contribute, to mould the rising destinies of Wisconsin, and also of those of those of our citizens who have devoted their lives to their country.

We desire, therefore, to procure, preserve, and constantly augment, with appropriate material, a collection of books, manuscripts and other memorials illustrative of the history of the Northwest, and especially of our own State; and we earnestly appeal to our fellow-citizens of Wisconsin, and literary friends abroad, for their generous contributions to our library and collections. The various kinds of material wanted, are:—

1. Manuscript statements and narratives of pioneer settlers—old letters, and journals relative to the early history and settlement of Wisconsin, and the Black Hawk War; biographical notes of our pioneers, and of eminent citizens, deceased; and facts illustrative of our Indian tribes, their history, characteristics, sketches of their prominent chiefs, orators and warriors, together with contributions of Indian implements, dress, ornaments and curiosities.

2. Files of newspapers, books, pamphlets, college catalogues; minutes of ecclesiastical conventions, associations, conferences and synods, and other publications relating to this State, or Michigan Territory, of which Wisconsin formed a part from 1818 to 1835—and hence the Territorial Laws and Journals, and files of Michigan newspapers for that period, we are particularly anxious to obtain.

3. Drawings and descriptions of our ancient mounds and fortifications, their size, representation and locality.

4. Information respecting any ancient coins or other curiosities found in Wisconsin. The contribution of such articles to the Cabinet of the Society is respectfully solicited.

5. Indian geographical names of streams and localities in this State, with their significations.

6. Books of all kinds, and especially such as relate to American history, travels and biography in general, and the West in particular, family genealogies, old magazines, pamphlets, files of newspapers, maps, historical manuscripts, autographs of distinguished persons, coins, medals, paintings, portraits, statuary and engravings.

7. We solicit from Historical Societies and other learned bodies, that interchange of books and other materials by which the usefulness of Institutions of this nature is so essentially enhanced—pledging ourselves to repay such contributions by acts in kind to the full extent of our ability.

8. The Society particularly begs the favor and compliment of authors and publishers, to present, with their autographs, copies of their respective works for its Library.

9. Editors and publishers of newspapers, magazines and reviews, will confer a lasting favor on the Society by contributing their publications regularly for its Library—or, at least, such numbers as may contain articles bearing upon Wisconsin history, biography, geography, or antiquities, all which will be carefully preserved for binding.

It may be interesting to the friends of the Society beyond the limits of the State, to learn that the Library is rapidly increasing, and including volumes of bound newspapers, and reckoning by titles, bound and unbound, the library numbers fully *50,530* volumes. The Picture Gallery has already become an ornament to the State, and already numbers over *75* by the ablest artists in the Union. The Cabinet of historical curiosities is rapidly augmenting; and seventy periodicals are regularly received and carefully preserved for binding. The meetings of the Executive Committee are held at the Society's rooms on the 2d floor of the south wing of the State Capitol on the first Tuesday evening of each quarter.

We respectfully request that all to whom this circular is addressed will be disposed to give to our appeal a generous response. Packages for the Society may be sent to, or deposited with, the following gentlemen, who have kindly consented to take charge of them. Such parcels, to prevent mistakes, should be properly enveloped and addressed, even if but a single article; and it would, furthermore, be desirable, that donors should forward the Corresponding Secretary a specification of books or articles donated and deposited.

**DEPOSITARIES.**

G. REMSEN, of CLAXTON, REMSEN & Co., Philadelphia.

SAMUEL G. DRAKE, Antiquarian Book Store, Boston.

J. SABIN & SONS, 84 Nassau street, New York.

I. A. LAPHAM, LL. D., Milwaukee.

ROBERT CLARKE & Co., ~~Boston~~ *Cincinnati*.

JOEL MUNSELL, Publisher, 78 State street, Albany,

☞ Donors to the Society's Library and Collections will, in return, be placed upon the list of exchange, and receive equivalent publications of the Society, the issue of which has already commenced, and will be regularly continued.

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DEPOSITARIES.

Donors to the Society's Library and Collections will, in return, be placed upon the list of ex-officio, and receive gratis the publications of the Society, the name of which has already commenced, and will be regularly continued.

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BARNES & BATES, 214 Broadway, New York.

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