

ing the colonial government; and William Hayden was one of the freemen who founded that government and prospered under it; and here we have the flag of the Union, her thirty-eight stars, each representing a million and a half of people, and among all these millions, we the descendants of William Hayden are scattered, and acting our part to-day. We welcome you who come from far or near to join in these festivities, to speak with each other of our common ancestry, and recall the many blessings which have fallen to us by inheritance from our fathers.

To return to our ancestor, whom we left in these woods selecting a site for his house. Let us for a moment take in the situation. No open ground save the meadow, and the floods forbid their use for dwellings; not a saw-mill in the land to furnish a single board. Every board sawn was under Armstrong's patent, that is, the good strong arms of two men; one standing on the log above, the other in the pit beneath. Most of the boards of the early settlers were "clove boards," cloven or split from short logs, and hewn and shaved into shape. These clove boards were the ancestors, so to speak, of the feather edge clapboards of to-day.

Nails were at first brought from England, and were costly, but later on were made here, one by one on the anvil. Whether William was able to procure help at this time to assist him in building a framed house, or he was obliged to do as those who came to Windsor ten years before, build first a cellar, I cannot tell. A cellar was what a Kansas or Nebraska man would call a dug-out. Doubtless all the houses built preparatory to the coming of the families in the autumn of 1635, were of this order of architecture. They were occasionally built more than thirty years later. Most of these cellars were built on the brow of the meadow hill. An excavation was made the size of the proposed dwelling, the earth thrown up at the sides and rear. The end facing the meadow was made of hewn timber or plank set in the ground, a thatched roof was set over the whole, and the floor and sides of the room were made of clove boards; a fire-place with a chimney made of sticks and clay mortar, adorned the rear end of the room, and made habitable the dwelling of many a wife and mother whose childhood and earlier days had been surrounded in dear old England by the