Wisconsin Day

MAY 29th

UPON this day, in 1848, Wisconsin was admitted to the Union of States. Every Wisconsin boy and girl should be keenly interested in the history of our own splendid Commonwealth.

That history is uncommonly delightful, being filled with romantic episodes. Wisconsin had been under the dominion of Spain, France, and Great Britain, before it became American territory. Upon our soil, in the past two and a half centuries, have taken place prolonged Indian wars, bitter struggles between rival bands of adventurers, and thrilling feats of exploration and adventure. The story of our modern political and industrial development also abounds with features of the greatest interest.

The history of Wisconsin should be read in detail, but here are

A FEW LEADING EVENTS,

the dates of which should be well fixed in the mind of each and every boy or girl, who, proud of the State, should take pleasure in properly observing Wisconsin Day, May 29, the day on which Wisconsin finally entered the Sisterhood of States.

SPANISH DOMINION.

The Spaniards claimed the greater part of North America, which they called "Florida;" but few, if any, of those early Spaniards actually visited what is now Wisconsin.

FRENCH DOMINION.

1608. Quebec settled by French. Soon thereafter, what is now Canada, and the entire Mississippi Valley, were claimed by them, and called "New France."

1634. Jean Nicolet came to Wisconsin, as the agent of New France, to make treaties with the Indians.

1673. Louis Joliet and Father Jacques Marquette ascended Fox River, descended Wisconsin River, and discovered the Upper Mississippi at Prairie du Chien.

1751. About this year, Charles de Langlade permanently settled at Green Bay.

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ENGLISH DOMINATION.

1763. France surrendered New France to Great Britain, which at once occupied the old French fort at Green Bay.

AMERICAN DOMINATION.

1783. What is now Wisconsin, ceded by Great Britain to the United States, as result of Revolutionary War; but for reasons to be found in the histories, temporarily held by Great Britain until 1796.

1795. Milwaukee selected by Jacques Vieau, fur trader.

1814. British expedition captured Prairie du Chien.

1816. American troops first arrived at Green Bay, and built Fort Howard.

1826. First rush to lead region of Southwest Wisconsin.

1832. Black Hawk War.

1836. Wisconsin Territory formed.

1848. Wisconsin admitted to the Union, under act approved May 29.

1850. State University opened.

1851. First railroad opened, from Milwaukee to Waukesha.

1856. Celebrated contest for Governorship, between Bashford and Barstow.

1861-65. Wisconsin sends 91,327 men to the front; her death loss was 12,301,

1871. Forest fires in Northeast Wisconsin, with great loss of life and property.

1886. Labor riot in Milwaukee.

1898. Wisconsin sent 5,390 men to Spanish-American War.

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