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Wisconsin Day, September 6, 1893

at the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago.

The celebration on this day consisted of a reunion of citizens and friends of the State. Bach's Milwaukee Band played at intervals on the veranda of the Wisconsin Building, and a stream of people flowed in and out examining every detail of the delightful homelike structure. Governor George W. Peck and his staff were present, for whom an informal reception was given, followed in the evening by music and dancing and a brilliant illumination of the building and grounds.



Wisconsin State Building

An object of patriotic veneration to all comers was the figure of "Old Abe," Wisconsin's famous war eagle, perched on a pedestal above the standard of the Eighth Wisconsin Regiment in the main hall of the building. He went through the war with this regiment and was carried at its head at the final review of troops in Washington. After the war he was provided for by the State, and when he died his body was preserved to be placed in the Capitol Building at Madison. "Old Abe" was represented in the fireworks of that evening, together with the State motto, "Forward." It was estimated that twenty-five thousand people from Wisconsin were present.