

among the names of witnesses was Mons. DE BORIE-GUILLOT, commanding the French in the neighborhood of Ouis-konche, on the Mississippi. No more suitable place could have been selected for a military post than Prairie du Chien, and from all the information thus far obtained, its location must be conceded as an established fact. Judge GEO. GALE in his work on the Upper Mississippi, says, "We may safely infer that the country about Prairie du Chien was occupied as a French post at least as early as April 20, 1689, and possibly the previous fall."

In the year 1683, PERROT visited the Iowa and Dakota Indians, to establish friendly alliances. The discovery of the lead mines on Des Moines and Pevre rivers is attributed to him.

Baron LA HONTAN is the next person who visited Wisconsin and published an account of his travels. He followed the route of MARQUETTE, and on the 23d October, 1689, arrived, as he says, "where the Wisconsin enters the Mississippi, which is about half a league wide at that place." He observed two islands, on one of which he landed—saw no signs of Indians—passed up the Mississippi and made some discoveries. His statements about the upper country and HENNEPIN's account of his journey south, are not regarded with favor by historians, and cannot be regarded trustworthy.

1693-1700. In the spring of 1693 LE SEUER came for the first time to the Mississippi by way of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, to go to the country of the Sioux, where he lived at different times for seven years, and on Sept. 1, 1700, he passed up the Mississippi to St. Peters river, and returned with 2,000 quintals of blue and green earth.

1700-1730. There are no records of travelers or of any settlement at the Prairie until the year 1726, when, says Rev. Dr. A. BRUNSON, a man of the name of CARDINELL came to the country as a hunter and trapper, and located here. He came from Canada with his wife, who is supposed to be the first white woman in this section. He probably came to Green Bay with the French troops to punish the refractory Foxes, for their insolence and cruelty, and hearing from the traders of the rich hunting grounds on the Mississippi, tried his fortune in that direction, and is said to have made the first farm on the Prairie. His wife, who outlived him, and it is said a dozen other men to whom she was married, one after another, died in 1827, computed from the best data to be one hundred and thirty years of age. When she first came to the country buffaloes were very abundant. She said that in time of high water the Indians passed

with canoes along the bluffs on the east side of the Prairie.

The next settler was a man of the name of GARNIER, whose descendants still are found in the vicinity.

Father GUIGNAS passed down the Wisconsin in 1728, and up the Mississippi to Lake Pepin.

1730-1736. About five miles from the mouth of the Wisconsin the Outagamies had a large town on the right bank of the river. They were induced from a superstitious belief that the GREAT SPIRIT had ordered them to remove their location, to build a town on the banks of the Mississippi. This place was called by the French "La Prairie du Chien," the Dog Plain, or more properly "Les Prairie des Chien," the Dogs' Prairie. This name was derived from a large family called "Des Chiens" who formerly resided there, and in 1781 the descendants of the same family then resided at that place. Col. B. W. BRISBOIS says the name was derived from the Fox Chief ALIM, or dog, whose band occupied the Prairie when first visited by the French, that chief's name was "Dog," hence Dog's prairie or dog's meadow. CHIEN being the French of dog, turned it into Prairie du Chien.

1736-1755. In the year 1755 the government of France established a permanent military post near the mouth of the Wisconsin, in consequence of which a number of French families settled in that vicinity, and established the village of Prairie du Chien. The fort near the Wisconsin, established 1689, had evidently been abandoned sometime previous. By the Treaty of Versailles in 1763, the village and fort followed the condition of the Canadas, and the Illinois country, as it was called, passed to the Crown of England. In 1783 the events of the American Revolution again changed their condition, and June 1st, 1796, the village and fort formally surrendered to the United States.

1766. This year Capt. JONATHAN CARVER, on his way to the Upper Mississippi, followed the route of MARQUETTE and others, and entered the Mississippi on the 15th of October. About five miles from the junction of the rivers he observed the ruins of a large settlement in a very pleasing situation, evidently the town of the Outagamies. At the Prairie or the Dog Plains, he found a large town containing about 300 families. The houses are well built after the Indian manner (log cabins, covered with bark), and pleasantly situated on a very rich soil, from which they raise every necessary of life in great abundance. He saw many horses of good size and shape. The town, he says, "is the great mart where all the adjacent tribes, and even those who inhabit the