

Chiens is supposed to have been some thirty years later, though the number of claimants is believed to be considerably greater; but, in respect to both, it is said the settlements are quite compact. All the traditionary or other information which can be procured by you concerning the origin and history of these settlements would be very desirable, and may be of much use in the ultimate investigation of their land claims.

It is expected that from the time of your arrival at Green Bay, and entering upon the duties devolving upon you, you will keep accurate minutes of all your official proceedings.

WM. WOODBRIDGE, *Secretary of Michigan*,
 PETER AUDRAIN, *Register*,
 J. KEARSLEY, *Receiver*,
 } Commissioners.

ISAAC LEE, Esq., *Agent, &c.*

OATH OF AGENT.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, *Land District of Detroit* :

I, Isaac Lee, of the said Territory, having been appointed agent for the purpose of ascertaining the titles and claims to land at the settlements of Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties imposed upon me by the act entitled "An act to revive the powers of the commissioners for ascertaining and deciding on claims to land in the district of Detroit, and for settling the claims to land at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, in the Territory of Michigan," according to the best of my ability and understanding. So help me God.

ISAAC LEE.

Sworn to and subscribed before us this 8th day of August, 1820.

WM. WOODBRIDGE, *Secretary of Michigan*,
 PETER AUDRAIN, *Register*,
 J. KEARSLEY, *Receiver*,
 } Commissioners.

Extract from official report of agent.

GENTLEMEN: On my arrival at Green Bay, on the 24th of August, A. D. 1820, I found that the principal land claimants were absent. I gave personal notice at every house of my arrival and business, and embraced the first opportunity of a passage to Prairie des Chiens, stating to the inhabitants of Green Bay that I should return and attend to their land claims in October.

On my arrival at Prairie des Chiens, October 2, I gave personal notice at each house of my arrival and business there, and immediately commenced to take testimony, which I completed, and took my departure for Green Bay October 24, at which place I arrived November 16, and found myself obliged to remain there during the winter season. The principal part of my report is contained in the records already before you. As to the traditionary account of the first settlement of that country, and the purchase of the lands from the natives, I refer you to the depositions before you, and a letter from Matthew Irwin, esq., factor at Green Bay, to Governor Cass. I was requested by the inhabitants of both Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens to represent to you the situation of those whose claims would not come within the present law, with a request that you would officially represent to the general government their situation, and endeavor to procure the passage of a law more favorable than the existing law, as they find it difficult to prove a continual occupation for twenty-five years. The records before you contain an account of every kind of claim that came to my knowledge in the country.

With respect, yours, &c.,

ISAAC LEE, *Agent*.

The COMMISSIONERS of the *Land District of Detroit*.

Extinguishment of Indian title.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, *County of Crawford*, ss :

Be it remembered that on this day personally appeared before me, Isaac Lee, a justice of the peace in and for said county, and agent duly appointed to ascertain the title to lands at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, Dennis Courtois, of said county, who, after being sworn according to law, deposeth and saith that he is fifty-two years old; that he has been a resident of Prairie des Chiens twenty-nine years; that, according to the best information he has been able to obtain from the tradition of the inhabitants at Prairie des Chiens, the old French fort was burned during the second year of the revolutionary war; that he has no knowledge of any building or fence being erected on the same ground since that time, but that the land between the said fort and the hills or bluffs was occupied before and since the time that deponent arrived in this country; that Prairie des Chiens has been formerly occupied much in the manner of an Indian village, the lands being alternately in common, and improved in detached parts as each should please, and this by the common consent of the villagers, since deponent's arrival in the country; that he (deponent) has been uniformly told by the old French inhabitants of the prairie that it was bought and paid for by the French many years ago; that he has never heard any Indian make claim to said lands.

DENNIS COURTOIS.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 21st of October, A. D. 1820.

ISAAC LEE, *J. P. C. C., and Agent*.

TERRITORY OF MICHIGAN, *County of Crawford*, ss :

Be it remembered that on this day personally appeared before me, Isaac Lee, a justice of the peace in and for said county, and agent duly appointed to ascertain the title to lands at Green Bay and Prairie des Chiens, Michael Brisbois, of said county, who, after being sworn according to law, deposeth and saith that he, this deponent, is sixty years of age; that he has been thirty-nine years in this country; that, from the best information he has been able to obtain, and from his own knowledge, Prairie du Chien, extending from the mouth of the river Wisconsin to the upper part of the prairie, has been occupied and cultivated in small improvements, in virtue of sundry claims of French people, both before and since deponent's arrival in the country; that he (deponent) has never heard of any Indian claim to said tract, except that