Col. Alexander McNair of St. Louis, had, as already mentioned, for his clerks in the suttling business, his nephew Thomas Mc-Nair, afterwards captain of the militia, and John L. Findley.—But Thomas McNair shortly afterwards married a daughter of Mr. Curtois, a respectable farmer of French descent, and Findley married a Miss Hurtileese, a half-sister of Mrs. Rolette, and a quarter blood of the Sioux nation. Upon learning these transactions of his clerks, Col. McNair naturally concluded that they were attending more to their own pleasure than to his matters, and sent a man by the name of Wilfred Owens, a Kentuckian, to whom he gave an interest in the business, and discharged Mc-Nair, afterwards captain of the militia, and John L. Findley.—

McNair went to farming. Findley went to Mackinaw, and procured, by the assistance of Mr. Rolette, a small assortment of goods, and attempted to trade at Prairie du Chien; but as there was then no money in circulation, except what little came from the few troops stationed at the fort, and goods were then selling very high at Mackinaw, he did not succeed in business, and before the close of the year turned over to Mr. Rolette his stock and assets towards the payment of the purchase, which was made of Messrs. Berthelotte and Rolette.

In the spring of 1817, a Roman Catholic Priest from St. Louis called Pere Priere, visited Prairie du Chien. He was the first that had been there for many years, and perhaps since the settlement, and organized the Roman Catholic Church, and disturbed some of the domestic arrangements of the inhabitants. He found several women who had left their husbands and were living with other men; these he made by the terror of his church to return and ask pardon of their husbands, and to be taken back by them, which they of course could not refuse.

Brevet General Smythe, the Colonel of the Rifle Regiment, who came to Prairie du Chien to erect Fort Crawford in 1816, had arrived in June, and selected the mound where the stockade had been built, and the ground in front, to include the most thick-