

down very poor in the spring, and that when he was through with his work and wished to turn him out on the Prairie, to save himself from the penalty of the law, he had taken him to be castrated to the only man on the Prairie that pretended to perform such operations. But he declined doing so, saying that the horse was too poor and weak to live through it, and that he had better turn him out on the Prairie to rest and recruit a few days, as he could do no harm. Under his testimony, the jury brought in a verdict for defendant, stating that Barrette's horse was neither "wilfully nor willingly" at large, contrary to law.

After this Barrette, by advice of his friend, brought suit against Mr. Rolette, before N. Boilvin, Esq., another Justice of the Peace, for trespass, and swimming his horse across the slough of St. Ferole, and had another jury, who gave Barrette five dollars damages and costs, which mortified Mr. Rolette very much. He did not care so much about the money, as he did about attempting to punish a Canadian farmer for disobeying his wishes, and to have that farmer beat him.

In the fall of 1818, a severe fight took place on the prairie between Lac Traverse and the head waters of the Mississippi, under something like the following circumstances, as related to me immediately after by some Indians who had participated in the action. I was then at my wintering station near Lac qui Parle, on the St. Peters. During the summer a Yankton chief, who generally resided near Lac Traverse, called by the French the Grand Sierure, had met with some Chippewas, with whom he had smoked the pipe of peace, and after the council had broken up, and the Chippewas were wending their way, as they supposed, safely to their homes, when a party of the Grand Sierure's band followed them and killed some of the men, and took one woman prisoner. Upon this, eleven young Chippewas armed, provisioned, and provided with moccasins, and started for the Sioux country, declaring that they would not return until they had avenged the insult and outrage. They travelled in the Sioux country about a month