

for some other part of the Territory, since which time the Methodists have supplied the place regularly with preachers, and occasionally a transient clergyman of some other denomination visits us and preaches. Rev. Alfred Brunson since his residence at Prairie du Chien, has probably taken more interest than any other person in it, to develop the resources of the country, having at different times visited most parts of Western and Northern Wisconsin, and has written and published several articles on the subject, well calculated to attract attention to this part of the country.

Of the old inhabitants found at the Prairie on my arrival here, John W. Johnson, the factor and Chief Justice of the county court, was in 1832, relieved of his duties as factor, by the winding up of the factory system of Indian trade, when he removed to St. Louis, where he died a few years since. Francis Bouthillier, one of the Associate Justices of the county court, moved to Galena, near which place he died in 1833 or 1834.

Wilfred Owens ended his days in 1821 by cutting his throat in a fit of mental derangement;* and John L. Findley, the first clerk of the court, went, in 1821, in company with a Frenchman by the name of Depouse, and a Canadian named Barrette, up the Mississippi in a canoe on some business. On their arrival at Lac Pepin, near the mouth of the Chippewa, they met with a war party of Chippewas looking for Sioux Indians, and the whites being probably overcharged with whiskey, of which they were all exceedingly fond, a quarrel ensued, as was afterwards learned from the Chippewas. Barrette, who had been lumbering on the Black River the previous winter, recognized in one of the Indians of the war party, one whom he believed had formerly stolen his horse; and being of rather a pugnacious disposition, and proba-

*The following notice of Mr. Owens' death, we find in the *Detroit Gazette*, Oct. 5th, 1821: "Died at Prairie du Chien, on the 23d of August last, Mr. Wilfred Owens, merchant. He committed suicide by cutting an artery of his arm, and his throat, in the presence of two of his friends, and was supposed to be insane. Mr. Owens was Judge of Probate, and Associate Justice, in the county of Crawford, and a very respectable member of society."