

and centre, and than which nothing can be more discordant to the present state of my feelings."

It will be recollected, that at this time, 1833, the entire country north of the Wisconsin River, was unceded territory, except this Prairie. The pine timber on the tributaries of the Mississippi above this place, was, as it still is, much wanted in the new towns and settlements below; but being in the Indian Territory, the whites, without special permission, were not allowed to take it.— Judge J. H. Lockwood had obtained such permission from both the Indians and the War Department, under the supervision of which the Indian affairs were then placed, to build a mill on the Menomonee branch of the Chippewa River, he paying an annuity of some two thousand dollars to the Wabasha band of Sioux Indians, who then claimed that country. Mr. Burnett, with some others, applied to the Department for a like permission to build a mill on Black River. The application was referred to Gen. Clark of St. Louis, over six hundred miles from the site prayed for, and, of course, knew as little about it as those living at Washington City. But at that city, Gen. Clark was presumed to know everything pertaining to the wilderness, and its inhabitants, even to the lakes and the Pacific ocean, and of course, all matters involving Indian rights and privileges, were referred to him.

He could no more appreciate the growth of the towns and settlements above St. Louis, than can the people east of the Alleghanies, the growth of the country west of them, and therefore saw no necessity for the measure; or if he did, he saw more in the technicalities and discipline of the agents of the Government, than in the wants of the people. His own growing city could be supplied, as it had been, and the towns above as far up as Galena, from the Ohio River, and not dreaming, perhaps, that in all future time St. Louis would grow to its present dimensions, or that by this time (1856) there would be over twenty cities on the river above St. Louis larger than St. Louis then was, with a hundred smaller towns, he decided against the application, on the ground that Mr. Burnett was an officer of the General Government in