

Territory than in this instance. It was the first Territory organized under the administration of Gen. Jackson, and his friends, or at least many of them, were disposed to avail themselves of the opportunity now offered, to get some office.

Col. Jones says, under date of March 13th, 1836, while the bill to organize the Territory was pending: "The President told me the other day, that there would be a thousand applicants for the offices of our Territory. There is scarcely a day that I am not asked for my feeble influence in favor of some rascally office-hunter from this District, or some State. I assure you, that I have become so disgusted with the hungry wolves, that I cannot treat them with common civility. I hate the sight of them, and look upon them as *robbers* of the dearest rights of my constituents. We ought to drive them from our soil, if they succeed in stealing our offices."

But notwithstanding all the efforts made in favor of citizens of the Territory, the offices were mostly filled by those from other States; and as a reason for this, Col. Jones says, Apr. 18th, 1836: "I go for Wisconsin and her citizens before the world. But, Sir, we have no votes to give the President, and are not worth pleasing. These office-seekers are strongly recommended, and it is a difficult matter, as the President told me, to get over the importunities of his numerous political and influential friends, who have their friends to please." It is possible, if not probable, that Mr. Burnett would have been more successful in his application for office, if he had been less independent, and allowed what he considered to be corruption in high places, to pass without his caustic strictures upon it.

As early as March, 1836, the incipient steps were taken at Detroit, to form the *Four Lake Company*, with a view to secure the site, and lay out a city, which should afterwards be the capital of Wisconsin. Several persons were associated with Govs. Mason and Doty in this enterprise, one of whom was Mr. Burnett. The country being then unsettled from the Blue Mounds to Milwaukee, and but little explored, measures were taken by some of the com-