

Mary, the eldest daughter, was married to Captain Cotton of the army, soon after the arrival of her family at the Bay. Judge Arndt opened the first tavern, and established the first public ferry across Fox River, about this period. Henry S. Baird, A. J. Irwin and I were appointed Commissioners to lay out a road on the east side of Fox River, from opposite Fort Howard to the Grand Kau-ka-lin. The French people, through whose farms the road was laid, were decidedly hostile to such an innovation upon the customs of the country; but we went on and opened the road, and in due time they not only became reconciled to, but even liked the new improvement.

In 1825, I built at Green Bay, for Judge Doty, the first framed house ever erected in Wisconsin; it was then considered a great curiosity, and hundreds came to see it, pronouncing it a great display of architecture. About this time, Gen. A. G. Ellis brought his wife to Green Bay, and he with his associate, J. V. Suydam, started the first newspaper ever printed west of Lake Michigan—a sort of seven-by-nine sheet, which appeared semi-occasionally.

In this year, 1825, Col. Wm. S. Hamilton, son of the celebrated Alexander Hamilton, drove the first cattle to Green Bay, for the use of the troops. He purchased his cattle in Illinois, and drove them by way of Chicago.

About this time the head-chief of the Menomonee Indians died, leaving no male offspring. The hereditary male line having run out, there arose a great deal of hard feeling among the Menomonees. Each of the different bands claimed that they had the best right to elect the new head-chief. The difficulty was reported to the President, and he appointed Gov. Cass and Col. T. L. McKinney, commissioners. They came to Green Bay in 1827, and called the Indians together at Little Butte des Morts; and after examining the claims of the different bands, they selected Oshkosh as the one best qualified to serve his people as head-chief, and when the decision was made, all parties seemed pleased with it. We had a good time at the treaty, and all parted good friends.