

dren. They were deprived of their guns, tomahawks and knives. McMahan was allowed to scrutinize them carefully, until his eye rested on the chief transgressor, when he was furnished with a strong raw-hide, and the Indian was ordered forth, and received from McMahan as severe a flagellation as could be administered with no larger instrument; and although the blood flowed from his back to the ground, the Indian never flinched, but evinced a perfect stoical indifference, and won the admiration of the crowd by his brave and dignified deportment. He was ordered to dress and march with the others; they were marched a mile above Sparta, their guns and other property restored to them, and were ordered to leave. They left, and since then but few cases of misbehavior have occurred.

But to return to our narrative. Franklin Pettit returned in the spring of 1851, with his father and brother William, who the next year laid out a portion of the village of Sparta. A State road was laid out in the fall of 1851, running from Portage City to La Crosse, passing through Sparta. A State road had been previously laid out from Prairie du Chien to Lake St. Croix, also passing through Sparta. I am not aware of the precise time when this last mentioned road was surveyed, but in the year 1852, \$1,200 was appropriated by the Legislature to defray the expenses; Wyrain Knowlton and L. Spalding were the Commissioners for its establishment. I brought my family here in the latter part of June, 1852, and settled near the mouth of the Little La Crosse, on the south side of the main river, three miles below Sparta. From the time I had left, the fall before, until I returned—a period of about seven months, the settlers had increased ten fold. In the fall of 1851, in the whole county of Monroe, having now seventeen organized towns, with an average of nearly one hundred voters to each town, there were not a dozen families. In the fall of 1852, there was an election held at Sparta, La Crosse having given us a precinct. There were but seventeen votes polled; R. I. Castleman, William Pettit and Lyman Andrews