

# Sketch of Moses Hardwick

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By Morgan Lewis Martin

A detachment of troops commanded by Col. John Miller, 3d U. S. Infantry, as related in Grignon's "Recollections," arrived at Green Bay on the 16th day of July, 1816, and among them was the subject of this brief sketch.

Moses Hardwick was born at Richmond, Ky., Oct. 2, 1791. He early enlisted in the service of his country, participating in the War of 1812, having been stationed awhile at Sacket's Harbor, N. Y., and received a pension during the latter portion of his life. After his discharge from the army in 1817, still in the prime and vigor of early manhood, he determined to remain at Green Bay as a permanent settler, with many others whose terms of enlistment expired. Of such as became respected citizens of the Territory on leaving the army were Charles Chapman, Col. Samuel Ryan, and others, whose descendants are now resident among us.

After his discharge, Hardwick was employed for several years as a mail-carrier. There were no accessible military posts or post-offices west of Detroit, except at Fort Wayne and Chicago, from one of which the mail for Fort Howard was received during the season when lake navigation was closed. Usually from December 1st till the following April, monthly trips were made on foot to one of those posts, by carriers employed by the quartermaster at the fort. It was a service which few could perform, requiring powers of endurance and strength, with which men are rarely endowed. The depth of snow was such as to require the use of *snow-shoes*, and to give no opportunity for providing a comfortable camp for the night.

The person engaged in this service was obliged to keep on his feet day and night, until overcome by fatigue and want of sleep, when, rest becoming an absolute necessity, he wrapped himself in his blanket, lay down in a snow bank, and took the needed repose; after which he continued the same routine of tramping and