

every slug had struck it. Some had entered his glossy side, one broke a shoulder, another the back-bone. The result of the shot so pleased the Frenchman, that I really believe money would have been no inducement for him to part with his gun; though I would not have given my short rifle for a dozen such. While engaged in securing the choicest portions of the venison, our Indian guide told us it was but a short distance to a larger body of water, on the shore of which lived the great chief of his tribe, whose name was Muck-ke-tay-pe-nay. This piece of intelligence made us think we were near the large lake—Lake Michigan; but we were disappointed, for late in the afternoon, we entered the foot of Lake Peoria, and were met at landing by a number of Indians, from whom we learned that it was more than two hundred miles to the nearest trading post on the Lake, which was Chi-ca-a-go. We had to remain with this tribe several days, before our guide would leave the encampment; and during which time I saw several Indians of other tribes, one of whom was Black Hawk, who, I afterward found out, was then trying to get these Indians to join the Winnebagoes against the whites in the North-West. At length the councils were concluded, and our guide signified his willingness to proceed. Under his direction we paddled along until we came to the Des Plaines river, from which we passed into a large slough or lake, that must have led us into a branch of the Chicago river, for we followed a stream that brought us opposite Fort Dearborn.

At this period, Chicago was merely an Indian agency; it contained about fourteen houses, and not more than 75 or 100 inhabitants at the most. An agent of the American Fur Company, named Gurdon S. Hubbard, then occupied the Fort. The staple business seemed to be carried on by Indians, and run-away soldiers, who hunted ducks and musk-rats in the marshes. There was a great deal of low land, and mostly destitute of timber. The principal inhabitants were the agent, Mr. Hubbard, a Frenchman by the name of Ouilmette,* and

*ANTOINE OUILMETTE, whose wife was a Pottawattamie woman, is mentioned in the treaty at Prairie Du Chien, in 1839, with the Chippewas, Ottawas, &c.; and at the treaty of Chicago, September, 1863, provision is made for his children. It would appear that he died during the interim between the two treaties.