

ment next morning, by daylight. The Fort contained a large garrison of soldiers, mostly rifle companies who had just arrived with General Cass and Col. M'Kenney.\* Besides the garrison, Green Bay had a population of between seven and eight hundred people, consisting of every nation, from native Indian to the sable son of Africa; and amalgamation was not uncommon either, for all were connected by regular gradation of shades and color; and you might suppose an inhabitant's nationality to a fraction—as half-breed, a two-thirds Fox, &c. Thus you will perceive that society was a little mixed. This frequent intermarriage had the bad effect to make them indolent, for they evinced neither enterprise nor intelligence. They gained a livelihood like the Indians, by hunting and fishing, or were in the employ of a Fur Company that monopolized their time, and prevented them from engaging in agricultural pursuits. And had they time and knowledge, their disposition would lead them to prefer a pipe and idleness. So it is to the sturdy enterprise of the white settler alone, that I can attribute the growth and improvement, that have made themselves manifest in Wisconsin since 1827, at which time emigration began to pour into the territory.

When at Fort Howard in the year 1827, the Indian affairs had assumed a threatening aspect. Reports of murders and disturbances, had spread through the settlements. Not a straggler arrived but brought an exaggerated account of Indian difficulties. Prairie Du Chien, Juneau's Settlement, Chicago, Galena and Green Bay, were then the only white settlements in the North-West, and all more or less threatened by Indians, who infested the country surrounding them. I continued to hang around the Fort, leading a sort of free ranger life—sometimes accompanying the officers on their hunting tours, but refusing all proposals to enlist.

It was the winter of '27 that the U. S. Quarter-Master, having heard of me through some of the men, with whom I was a

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\*Gen. CASS was not the commandant of Fort Howard, as Mr. FONDA supposed; but was with Col. M'KENNEY, on a commission to hold a treaty with the Chippewas, Monomonee and Winnebago Indians, which they did in August, of that year, 1827, at the great Butte Des Morts.

L. C. D.