

which were led to engage in the French and Indian war upon the English Colonies; and here resided, at the time, De Langlade, the active leader of the Indian forces which harrassed the British settlements and forts on the frontier, and participated in the battle at Braddock's defeat. Prairie Du Chien, the third French post, was selected as a place for trade, as early as 1730, by Cardinell, a hunter and trapper; and it is stated that it became early, also, a missionary station.

From 1763 to 1816, the British Government held virtual possession of our State. On the surrender of the French Provinces, English troops were garrisoned at Green Bay; but they soon left. Afterwards a post was re-established there; and British soldiers were stationed, for a short time, at Prairie Du Chien. Notwithstanding the French sovereignty had been withdrawn from the Northwest, and the power of Great Britain ruled in its stead, the French traders and settlers resided and operated as usual in the State. They added to their old trading posts, those at Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Fond Du Lac, Oshkosh, Portage, some new settlements near Green Bay, and a few smaller ones in other portions of the State.

No French Mission Schools

No evidence can be found that the Jesuits ever opened a mission school in Wisconsin before the American troops took possession of Fort Howard, at Green Bay, in 1816; neither did the French traders and settlers seek to enjoy within our limits the advantages of any organized school. Although the mission on Fox River occupies so important a position in the first annals of the country, and it was in constant connection with the most powerful tribes, and possessed a chapel and dwelling house, it was far behind Kaskaskia, the earliest European settlement in Illinois, and the center of the French efforts at colonization in that region; and, also, behind Mackinaw, at the entrance to Lake Michigan. In both places, what were termed colleges, were maintained a few years for the instruction of Indian converts. It is believed that religious teaching was furnished at our stations to the extent of cate-