

weeks the cholera raged fearfully in the camp—thirteen of the company died, and were buried there in the woods without the use of such luxuries as coffins.

The site where Rock Island now stands was entirely vacant—a beautiful blue-grass sod, on which we frequently drilled. The Sac and Fox tribes of Indians came in while we were there, and signed a treaty of peace; and, on the 25th of September, we received orders to go into winter quarters at Danville, Ill., where we remained until the 13th of April, 1833, when we were ordered to report at Dodgeville. Our route lay by Hennepin, on the Illinois River, Dixon, on Rock River, Buffalo Grove, Chambers, Kellogg's Grove, thence to Fort Hamilton (now Wiota), where there was a block-house and a small settlement of miners. Considerable mining had been done at that place, but from there to Dodgeville we saw no house.

At Dodgeville were a cluster of eight or ten log cabins, with diggings and a furnace, and one little variety store in a log cabin—these constituted the town, and this was mostly the property of Col. Dodge. Here we met our colonel for the first time—Colonel Dodge. After remaining here a week we started for Fort Winnebago, via Blue Mounds, where we found a block-house. There had been a settlement here, but the people had all left on account of the Indians, who had killed some of the settlers. From here we went to the northwest side of Fourth Lake, where we encamped for a few days. Near our encampment lived a solitary Frenchman¹ in a log cabin. He alone constituted

¹ This must have been Michel St. Cyr, noticed in the sixth volume of our *Collections*. Wallace Rowan had first located at this point, just north of the outlet of Pheasant Branch, at the head of Lake Mendota—afterwards the site of Col. Wm. B. Slaughter's paper City of the Four Lakes, and was there at the outbreak of the Black Hawk War, in 1832. Not long after, and probably in consequence of the Indian troubles of that period, he removed to Squaw or Strawberry Point, on the eastern bank of Third or Monona Lake. Thus in May, 1833, Capt. Brown's company found a "Frenchman" (St. Cyr) residing there. We may suppose he located there in the preceding fall, when the Indian war had ended. This serves to fix pretty nearly the early settlement of St. Cyr—one of the pioneers of Dane County.