

taches to his name, as an early and intrepid explorer of the wilds of the West.

Let us now advert, very briefly, to the wars which occurred between the English colonists, on the one side, and the French and Indians on the other. Though these conflicts at arms were in the eastern portion of our country, yet as our territory was partly the inciting cause, it is proper in this connection to make some mention of them. The English colonists held possession of all the country along the Atlantic coast, and as far west as the Alleghany mountains. They claimed generally a right, by virtue of their charters, to all the country west to the Pacific Ocean. The French had taken possession of the country along the borders of the St. Lawrence River, and the great chain of lakes, and had also established various settlements and trading-posts throughout the Mississippi valley, and they in turn, claimed the country by virtue of their discoveries. It was evident from this conflict of claims, that a clash of arms would ultimately ensue. Frequent wars broke out across the ocean, between England and France, during the latter part of the 16th century, and much of the 17th. The colonists very naturally took sides with their respective parent countries, and thus the spirit of war was kindled in the New World. When the conflict was once commenced here, the parent countries sided with their respective colonies, and furnished material aid for carrying it on. The English colonists, with the aid of the mother region, were finally victorious; and our territory, as well as all others which had been held by the French in this region, fell to the English, and the former lost all claims to the country ever after. The martial spirit awakened, and the partial union effected for prosecuting these wars, doubtless had much to do in leading the colonies subsequently to declare their independence of the mother country.

A brief reference will now be made to a few of the earliest permanent white settlers of Wisconsin. About the year 1745, Augustin de Langlade, a native of France, but who in early life had taken up his abode in Canada, and