

river may not be suitable for that purpose," they agreed that such fort might be established either above the mouth of the Wisconsin, or on the opposite side of the Mississippi, as might be found most fitting for the object.

Gen. John H. Rountree, Gov. Nelson Dewey, Hon. Robert Glenn Sr., and Nathaniel W. Kendall, all early settlers of Grant County, Wisconsin, having resided there from forty to sixty years, and long familiar with the region below the mouth of the Wisconsin, unite in declaring, that they have never heard of any tradition or any vestiges of an early post south of the Wisconsin in that quarter; that the country from the mouth of the Wisconsin to the locality of Wyalusing, about four and a half miles, is altogether too low for a suitable locality for a fort, frequently overflowing to the distant bluffs on the east. If, therefore, located below the Wisconsin, it must from necessity have been quite a number of miles from its mouth. Major A. Mackenzie, U. S. engineer, stationed for many years at Rock Island, and superintending the government surveys and improvements on the Upper Mississippi, gives it as his opinion, that "the ground between Prairie du Chien and Wyalusing affords no point suitable for a fort;" and that the site of Fort Crawford, at Prairie du Chien, is the locality to which reference is made as a military point, "at or near the mouth of the Wisconsin."

At a point seven or eight miles below the mouth of the Wisconsin, on the eastern bank of the Mississippi, and on a high piece of bottom-land that seldom overflows, many relics have been found, including leaden balls and shot, bits of lead apparently dropped upon the ground in a molten state, together with buttons and silver ornaments. This would seem to have been the locality of an Indian village, or other settlement; but within the past fifteen or twenty years, several rods of this bottom have been washed away, so that where most of these relics were picked up, is now in the channel of the river.<sup>1</sup>

Hon. Horace Beach, an old resident of Prairie du Chien,

<sup>1</sup> Ms. letter of Robert Glenn Jr., of Wyalusing.