away, and escaped up the Wisconsin. This I learned from
B. W. Brisbois.

The stockade was built near the bank of the river, which
afforded plenty of water, with springs along its banks. In
company with S. A. Clark, I have examined the site of the sup-
posed old French fort. Not much is left to indicate its exact
locality. Mr. Clark informs me, that when he occupied the
ground, nearly fifty years ago, there was some evidence of a
fort and stockade; that there were ruins of three or four stone
chimneys or fire-places, in a straight line from north to south,
and laid up with clay mortar; that the stone of these chimneys
remains, which showed evidence of contact with fire, and which
he used in making improvements about his house. The rampart
or wall, I should judge, was about 350 to 375 feet, as pointed
out by Mr. Clark, on the eastern side.

This old fort was located a little below the Pig's Eye—this
Pig's Eye bayou is the first and only opening from the main
channel of the Mississippi, above the mouth of the Wiscon-
sin. It was a very natural and convenient locality for a fort.
What appears to have been a ditch and embankment surround-
ing a parallelogram is still to be seen; but no vestige of any
remaining palisades. The ground is not now enclosed, but
appears to have been plowed. I hardly think plowing up
against fences would have thrown up such an embankment as
now exists. The eastern embankment or fosse is, in some
places, from twenty inches to two feet higher than the prairie
outside; and, in some places, there appears to have been a ditch
outside, but distinct evidence of the ditch is not now very satis-
factory.

As to mounds, there are no vestiges of any inside of the old
fort enclosure. About two hundred feet north of the north
embankment, there is slight evidence of mounds, which, if they
ever existed, have been mostly obliterated. Mound works are
very common, and exist all over this prairie.

Thus we have a uniform and unbroken line of tradition
of this old French fort at Prairie du Chien, for over a cen-