

"Fifth: The fortifications made by stockades were common among the mound-builders and Indians alike; generally, however, without trenches, and always on a circle. Stockade forts, by civilized people, are always straight, with sharp angles at the corners. There is no need of mistaking a stockade of the mound-builders and Indians, for the stockade of the French, the Spanish, or Americans.

"I should say from the description given by Mr. Brunson, that the tokens which he and Mr. Clark discovered, were those of a fort, either French or American. They could not have been those of the mound-builders. There are no enclosures belonging to the mound-builders near Prairie du Chien. There are many long mounds on the bluffs in various directions. These long mounds run in a continuous line, sometimes a mile or more, broken at intervals so as to make the mounds about eighty feet long. Effigies are scattered about near them. They are not fortifications, though Carver and Gen. Pike mistook them for such. They are more likely to be elevated platforms for the purpose of watching game—hunters could run along on the top of them, and hide behind them; the game would pass between them at the open places. They are found on the summit of the narrow, precipitous tongues of land, and run from the edge of the cliff back to the level plateau.

"Village enclosures near Prairie du Chien are made up of mounds, large conical mounds, arranged in a large circle—too large for a stockade. The prairie mounds were used for platforms—as resorts in the time of flood. No Indian stockade can be seen near Prairie du Chien. I think that the site described by Mr. Brunson must have been a fort erected by whites.

"Indian stockades were found near Milwaukee. There was no regular ditch connected with them, as may be seen in New York; but merely two lines of walls, forming a semi-circle, parallel with one another. No trench, I believe, has been found in connection with any prehistoric wall in the State—that is rather singular."

It is a wild conjecture, under such circumstances, to sup-