

pose that the old fort at Prairie du Chien, with its ditch or moat *outside* of its ramparts, was a military structure of the mound-builders, while all surrounding works confessedly theirs, are of a peaceful nature. Mr. Butterfield, referring to the old fort, declares, that "the parapets and mounds were connected in one series of works." Mr. Samuel A. Clark, who nearly half a century ago, lived on the old fort lot, declares there were but two small mounds within the enclosure; these were near the center, and had no connection whatever with the parapets; and Hon. O. B. Thomas states that these mounds were without significance. There was, a little north of the old fort, a row of five mounds, apparently parallel, and another row of three just west of the others, as shown on Lyon's map of 1828; but no military man or antiquarian has ever regarded the fort as in any manner connected with these ancient earth-works, or either in any way, dependent upon the other.

This very phrase, of "parapets and mounds connected in one series of works," which Mr. Butterfield applies to the old fort, he cites from Long's *Narrative* by Keating in such a way as to lead the reader to suppose, that Col. Long was actually describing the ancient structure under discussion; while, as he says, he refers to works "*on the highlands*;" from three to five hundred feet above the prairie locality of the old fort,¹ and perhaps miles away. And to make Mr. Butterfield's pretended citation yet more inappropriate, Long says of these works "*on the highlands*," that "no ditch was observed on either side of the parapet." At the old French fort, there was a ditch on the *outside* of the wall. In this same work of Long and Keating, it is stated, that we have derived our notions of fortifications from the Romans, and have continued to this day "to place the ditch *outside* the rampart;" while the mound-builders and Indians make their excavations by throwing up dirt before them, in the direction from which they apprehend an attack, and shelter themselves in the hollow. Hence the *inside* ditches.²

¹ Long's *Expedition*, by Keating, i, p. 241, 242.

² Long, i, p. 29.