

civil war, the site of this building was owned by James W. Larkin.<sup>1</sup> I was in Milwaukee during that period, and the places where the store and dwelling had stood were plainly visible, from the remains of banks of earth which had surrounded them.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wheeler's *Chronicles of Milwaukee* (1861), p. 23.—ED.

<sup>2</sup> It will be noticed that nowhere does the narrator mention Jean Baptiste Mirandea, who is reported in all existing histories of Milwaukee to have been in Jacques Vieau's company. In answer to later questions relative to his recollections of Mirandea, I have letters from A. J. Vieau, dated October 27 and 29, 1887, in which he says in substance: "I never heard my father say that Jean B. Mirandea went to Milwaukee in his company. I never heard him say what time Mirandea arrived there. I am of the opinion that Mirandea came after my father, but not long after. He was never in any sort of partnership with my father. I have heard my father and mother and older brothers all say that Mirandea carried on blacksmithing and did father's work, whenever engaged to do it, like any other mechanic; he was, from my father's account of him, a very good man, but had one bad fault—he drank whisky, and that was the cause of his death. Mirandea married a Pottawattomie squaw [Cf. *Hist. Milw. Co.*, p. 66], with whom he lived till his death in the spring of 1819. After his death, she and her children went to live among the Pottawattomies again—except Victoria, who was raised by the Kinzies, in Chicago, and in 1822 married a Canadian named Joseph Porthier. Mrs. Porthier is still living in the town of Lake, near Milwaukee. I think nearly all Mirandea's sons and daughters married Indians. Louis was alive fifteen years ago, near Grand Rapids, Wis. I haven't heard of him since. Several of the others went with the Pottawattomies to Kansas, in 1837. Mirandea was buried on the slope of the hill, on what is now the northeast corner of Main and Michigan streets. When, in 1837 or 1838, Michigan street was being graded, Solomon Juneau told the workmen to take care of Mirandea's bones, their resting place being marked by a wooden cross. I was standing near the grave, with others, when the blacksmith's skull came tumbling down the bank, the place having been opened with a pick. The greater part of the hair was still attached to the skull, and some one remarked that the reason for this was that Mirandea had drunk so much poor whisky that he had become sort of pickled. I do not know how much truth there was in this remark. The rest of the bones came down almost immediately after, and all the remains were picked up by Juneau's orders, put in a box and placed in the regular cemetery. Mirandea was, as I understand, a tallish, thinnish man; he had a blonde complexion and his hair was very light."

In Buck's *Milwaukee Under the Charter*, iii., pp. 477, 479, 480, are interesting statements regarding Mirandea and his wife, from their children, Victoria and Josette.—ED.