

Antoine Le Clair, Sr., left Peoria in the fall of 1812, when the Indians were beginning to be troublesome, and it was dangerous longer to continue there. He went with Major Thomas Forsyth, the Indian agent, to St. Louis, and next spring Le Clair and family went to Portage des Sioux. Le Clair, Sr., and his son, the narrator, were subsequently employed by Gov. William Clark and Major Forsyth, in the Indian department.

Le Clair, Sr., the narrator, and Major Forsyth went with Gov. Benjamin Howard on his expedition to Peoria. Thirteen hundred men went by land and some by water, on keel-boats. There was no fighting. They built a fort at Peoria, and remained perhaps two weeks, when all returned except a garrison for the fort. The Le Clairs went with the land forces — all of whom were mounted — and the militia from Vincennes, Kaskaskia, St. Louis, &c. The provisions were conveyed up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers in the boats.