

equipped by Daniel Whitney, while Juneau represented Astor's company. I remember that in 1833 there was a treaty council at Chicago, at which some traders' claims were to be settled from the Indian annuities. I arrived there on the first morning of the council, having been sent to represent Whitney's interests. I found Vieau and asked him whether he had put in his claim. He replied that he had, and on my asking for the papers showed them to me. Now Vieau had lost \$3,000 for Whitney through the Indians at Milwaukee, in consequence of an epidemic of small-pox, a year or two before, as I ascertained after some detailed inquiry. But as he could neither read nor write, he had allowed some one to fix up a claim of but \$500, and this he had presented. I at once had Vieau withdraw this and amend it to the proper amount, which was allowed, and Whitney got his money.

Michael Brisbois and James H. Lockwood were trading for themselves at Prairie du Chien; so also was John B. Brunet, but the latter's brother-in-law, Joseph Rolette,¹ operated for the American Fur Company. It is possible that there may have been others at the Prairie, but these are all I can remember.

Pierre Paquette was at the Portage, transporting boats with teams of horses and oxen; and perhaps trading as well. Francis le Roy had a trading house there also, at this time.

Some of the Indian trading posts, in those days, were of a permanent character. The trader would build a log house for his family, should he chance to have one, and log buildings for store and warehouse, near by. Here, if trade warranted, he would return each fall and pass the winter with savages and wild animals for companions. Milwaukee, Fond du Lac and Fox River (below Lake Winnebago) were such stations, being supplied from Green Bay; but at Butte des Morts, the Portage and Prairie du Chien, the traders lived all the year round. As a rule, however, the Indian trade was conducted in the wilderness with but temporary quarters and but little care for permanent locations, although some of the operators had a preference for familiar districts.

¹ *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, ix., pp. 293-296, 465.—ED.