

that there was any in progress when I arrived. Father Fauvel started a parish school in a small log house built for the purpose near where the water-works pumping station now is. He also used it for chapel purposes. I attended his service but once, and that was some few months after he came. I went in, walked up to the altar, and in a whisper told him I would like to borrow his seine. He replied in the same tone that I could have it, but must return the article by a certain hour, when he would be through with his service and should want to use it himself. This chapel was the only church in Green Bay at that time. When I landed here, the community was destitute of regular spiritual instruction; although I think that Eleazer Williams, the Episcopalian missionary among the Oneidas, had been in the habit of occasionally appearing on the scene and gathering a small congregation.

Williams has been about as thoroughly discussed as any character in the history of Wisconsin. I never was any admirer of the man or his methods, but I am inclined to think that General Ellis and others<sup>1</sup> are somewhat too severe upon him. A man reared amid savage surroundings, as he was, should be judged by a different standard than we set up for one who has spent his life entirely among white people. No one can from childhood fraternize with Indians without absorbing their characteristics to some extent,—and becoming vain, deceitful and boastful. He was a remarkable man in many respects, but was deeply imbued with false notions of life, and his career was a failure. He was neither better nor worse than his life-long companions, and was what might have been expected from one who had been sent into the world with certain racial vices, and whose training and associations were not calculated to better him.

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On my first arrival at Green Bay, May 20, 1827, I had letters to the Indian agent, Maj. Henry B. Brevoort, from Governor Cass, relative to some law matters in which the

<sup>1</sup> *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, vi., p. 308, *et seq.*; viii., p. 322, *et seq.*—ED.