

Both Solomon Juneau and Jacques Vieau were intelligent and worthy men, Mr. Juneau having the polished manners and airs of the French gentleman. In a certain *History of Milwaukee*,¹ the latter has been described as being on a par with the Indians, as to intelligence and manners.² That they and their families were far removed above the savage tribes by which they were surrounded, is proven by the fact that they were enabled to procure goods and supplies to a large amount on the usual credit from the American Fur Company. Neither of them did at that time regard themselves as permanent settlers of Milwaukee; but were temporary residents there for purposes of trade with the Indians. Their homes were in Green Bay. When I first visited Milwaukee in the summer of 1833, on the tour of exploration before narrated, they and their families were not there, the premises being in charge of employés and one of Vieau's sons. A further evidence that all were mere sojourners was found in the fact that no land was cleared, fenced, or even under cultivation, except a small patch of ground used by a brother of Juneau, in which he cultivated a few vegetables. Subsequent events, however, proved Solomon Juneau to be the first permanent settler, when the land he occupied was ceded by the Indians and subjected to sale as government land.

From 1833 forward, I was a frequent and always welcome visitor to the house of Solomon Juneau. His home was the "old trading house," and so far from being the filthy, disgusting home represented in the *History of Milwaukee*, was in all respects neat and comfortable; for the proverbially neat and tidy French women know how to make their habitations attractive. In the fall of 1834 the late Governor Doty, Byron Kilbourn and myself were at Milwaukee and

¹ Published by Western Historical Co. in 1881.—ED.

² These remarks about Solomon Juneau are in the main identical with a letter,—dated Green Bay, June 21, 1881,—which Judge Martin wrote to the Milwaukee Pioneer Association, in defense of Mr. Juneau from reflections made upon him by the historical work in question. For details of the dispute, see *The Milwaukee Sentinel*, June 26, 1881, and Buck's *Milwaukee Under the Charter*, iii., appendix; the portions of the county history especially controverted are, pp. 65, 69.—ED.