

What statements I now make are intended for yourself and the Committee and are the same with some additions as those contained in my communications which it appears have never reached you.

My first object was to ascertain the views and feelings of the Agent, Mr. Davenport. He received and treated me with kindness and hospitality, and declared his readiness to afford assistance in establishing a mission amongst the Indians over whom he had charge. But informed me that it would depend very much upon the feelings of the Indian Trader, Geo. Davenport, Esq.<sup>1</sup> and the U. S. Interpreter also, as they had very great influence over the Indians. The former having been a trader amongst them some 18 years and the latter was a half-breed. But says he, I have no confidence in either, and I think it doubtful about the part which the trader will act.

As soon as convenient I called upon Mr. D., the trader, and had a long interview with him. He expressed a belief in the doctrine of universal salvation and labored almost always when I conversed with him to show "how happy the Indians were in their present state."

To the inquiry whether he thought a mission amongst

---

<sup>1</sup> "George Davenport, born in Lincolnshire, England, 1783, enlisted in the United States army in 1805 and served for ten years. With the soldiers who came to build Fort Armstrong he landed on Rock Island 1816, May 10th. In the autumn of 1835 he became one of the founders of the city in Iowa that bears his name."—Davidson's *In Unnamed Wisconsin*, p. 133, note. At one time he was commander at Fort Snelling.—*Wis. Hist. Colls.*, ii, p. 250. In Mr. Thwaites's "Notes on Early Lead Mining" (*id.*, xiii, p. 286) he is entitled "Colonel," is called agent of the American Fur Company, and is stated to have erected in 1816 a trading post on the portage between the Mississippi and the Galena (or Fever) River near the mouth of the latter. He is "credited with shipping to St. Louis, in 1816, the first flat-boat cargo of lead ever avowedly emanating from the Fever river mines; it was used in payment for Indian goods." In 1822 he was represented as an Indian trader at Rock Island by Amos Farrar.—*Wis. Hist. Colls.*, vi, p. 275. As to his connection with an alleged autobiography of Black Hawk, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, v, p. 300. It was possibly his son George Davenport, "who was born among the Indians at Rock Island," who was agent of the Musquakie tribe in or about 1882; see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, ix, p. 158, note.—W. W. W.