

In October, 1824, the first term of the circuit court was held at this place. The court convened at the small school house, previously mentioned. The jury sat upstairs in our house, and two Indian murderers, when not wanted in the court room, sat in my kitchen. One of the Indians had murdered an army officer, whose name I believe was Patterson, and whose grave was in a small military cemetery but a few rods from our house. Strange to say, I felt no fear of these Indians. True, they were guarded by the sheriff, but he was in and out of the room all of the time. They were both large men and were painted black, which gave them a most hideous appearance. I was not afraid of them, because young nerves are strong. Yet, I think I should have been afraid of *white* murderers.

In November, John Dousman and family arrived from Mackinac.¹ They took possession of the other half of the house we occupied, having rented it in June at the same time my husband rented our home. The eldest Dousman child, Jane, was the friend of my girlhood. After my lonely life of nearly two months, my happiness was now complete.

The first call I received as a housekeeper was from Judge and Mrs. Doty. They walked up to our home, the Judge carrying their baby, Charles Doty, now of St. Andrews Bay, Florida. Mrs. Doty afterwards said she could not realize at the time that I could not speak English, but thought that I was only bashful, or reserved. The other neighbors called in due time.

October 4, 1824. Judge Doty's "Notes of Trials and Decisions," 1823-30, a neatly-kept MS. book of about 300 quarto pages, is in the possession of this Society.

In his address before this Society, in 1851, Morgan L. Martin said: "The first Court held in Brown county of which any record is preserved, was a special session of the County Court, July 12, 1824, Jacques Porlier, Chief Justice; John Lawe and Henry Brevoort, Associates."—ED.

¹ Augustin Grignon, in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, iii, p. 242, says that John Dousman settled on the Lower Fox River previous to the War of 1812-15. See other references to Dousman in *Id.*, iii, x, xiii, xiv.—ED.