

Madame Laborde came soon after to assist her daughter, Mrs. John Dousman, in the care of her household. Mr. Dousman was at one time a man of property, but was naturally extravagant. He was sutler at Fort Mackinac at an early day, which brought him into the society of the army officers, who generally lived up to their salary. Then his health failed him and his estate dwindled away. He still had some property at this place, which he had held for many years and which was one of the causes that brought him to Green Bay. His illness exhausted nearly all that was left of his possessions, little remaining to his family after his death.

In exchange for the lonely life I had been living, I was now surrounded by friends. We had many a sleigh-ride through the winter. Our favorite drive was to Judge Lawe's mills, on East River, where the Dickinson mills were later. As we had no church, this was one way of spending Sunday. One lady in this city will most certainly recall the sleigh-rides she took at this time with a certain army lieutenant, who a few months afterwards became her husband.

I have previously stated that there were no servants to be had here; I ought to have said maid-servants. We, however, secured a man servant, but not one who would do housework; that was considered degrading. In winter everyone had to keep a horse and a man, as each family had to provide their own supply of wood. The young man we hired, chopped the wood, hauled it to the house, prepared it for the fire, and carried it in. He would also bring in the water, take care of the horse and milk the cow; the latter he considered almost a disgrace. This man was an additional care to me. The men who would hire out for such work were young and very green Canadians from Montreal and its surroundings. They were known as *mangeure de lard*,¹ which is synonymous with a verdant or raw youth. After a time, we succeeded in getting a little Indian girl of about twelve years of age, wild as a deer, but not as

¹ "Lard-eater," a term applied by fur-traders to raw *voyageurs*.—ED.