

to direct and guide the expected settlers, who in due time made their appearance. Most of them came by way of St. Louis and Galena, and stopped at my house at Mineral Point for direction and advice.

Streiff, I believe, is alive yet (1889), though I do not remember having seen him since that time. He was a gentleman of good sense, kind heart, just, a strong constitution, an indefatigable worker, and, I am told, enjoys, very justly too, the esteem and confidence of his fellow-townsmen. I have never been to New Glarus. Since my removal to La Crosse, which for the last thirty-six years has been my home, my business engagements and duties in other directions have prevented me from ever visiting the colony in whose inception and birth I assisted. But from all reports, the colony is prosperous — industry and thrift prevail. The people have preserved the honesty, integrity, activity, and love of liberty which have been the distinguishing traits of the Swiss nation for the last six hundred years.

At the outbreak of the Mexican War, a company of volunteers was organized, of which J. Clowney was elected captain and I first lieutenant. We offered our services to Governor Dodge. He accepted our offer, and told us to be ready to march to Prairie du Chien and occupy Fort Crawford, as the United States troops stationed there were already or would soon be ordered to the front. In a few days, however, the governor informed us that Wyram Knowlton, afterward judge of the sixth judicial district of the State, who was a resident of Prairie du Chien, had organized a company composed of citizens of Crawford County, and had asked the privilege of being permitted to protect their own homes and to occupy the fort. He asked us to recall our application, promising us the first chance to go to Mexico should any further calls for troops be made on Wisconsin by the secretary of war, to which we cheerfully assented. Shortly afterward, Captain Clowney removing from Mineral Point, resigned, and I was elected captain. We anxiously waited for orders from the government; but they