

He declared to the general that he would not remove, and that he was not afraid of the Americans. Notwithstanding these boasts, as soon as the militia arrived on the 25th, the Indians abandoned the place without firing a gun. Two days after, Black Hawk made his appearance again, with a white flag, and demanded a parley. After a few days' negotiation, a treaty was agreed upon, and the Indians relinquished their claim to the territory.

This pacification, however, was not of long continuance. The Indians still retained the feelings of exasperation caused by the harsh treatment which they had received, and their unfriendly temper was increased by the imperfect fulfilment of the treaty by the Americans. They had been promised a liberal supply of corn as an indemnity for the crops which they had been forced to abandon. But the quantity they received was far from sufficient to support them, and a party of the Sacs found themselves obliged, as one of their chiefs said, to cross the river and "steal the corn from their own fields." New complaints now arose on both sides; the Indians gathered strength on the west bank of the Mississippi, and Black Hawk resolved on commencing a predatory war on the frontier settlements. This measure was precipitated by the hostilities which had existed between his own people and the Menomnies and Sioux. These hostilities had been allayed for a time by the intervention of the whites; but, in 1831, a band of Sioux, who were encamped in the neighborhood of the American fort at Prairie du Chien, were attacked by Black Hawk's men, and twenty-