

formed a junction with Gen. *Dodge*, the army, consisting of 1300 men, crossed the Otisconsin on the 27 and 28 July, and soon after fell upon the trail of the Indians, who were flying from the late scene of action on that river, as we have observed above. The country through which the army had to march was a continued series of mountains, covered to their very tops with a thick wood of heavy timber, and much underwood. The valleys were very deep and difficult to be passed; but nothing could damp the ardor of the whites, and they pressed on to overtake *Black-hawk* before he should be able to escape across the Mississippi. This they accomplished, as we have already seen. The place where they were overtaken was very favorable for the Indians, as may be judged by their being able to maintain a fight of about three hours, in their wretched, half-starved condition, with not more than 300 warriors. They were discovered in a deep ravine, at the foot of a precipice, over which the army had to pass; and they were routed only at the point of the bayonet. Old logs, high grass and large trees covered them until the charge was made, when, as they were driven from one covert, they readily found another, and thus was the fight protracted. At length the whites were able so to dispose of their force, as to come upon them above and below, and also in the centre. No chance remained now to the Indians, but to swim the Mississippi, or elude the vigilance of their enemies by land, who had nearly encompassed them. Many, therefore, undertook the former means of flight, but few escaped by it, as the greatest slaughter was in the river; but a considerable number found means to escape by land. One hundred and fifty of them were supposed to have been killed in this battle.

*Black-hawk* was among those who escaped, but his precipitation was such, that he left even his papers behind him; one of which was a certificate from British officers, that he had served faithfully and fought valiantly for them in their late war against the United States. The prisoners taken at this time stated that at the battle on the Otisconsin, with the force under Gen. *Dodge*, 68 of their numbers were killed and many wounded.

It was now thought that the Sacs would be glad to make peace on any terms. Accordingly Gen. *Atkinson* determined to order *Keokuk* to demand a surrender of the remaining principal men of the hostile party. From the battle ground the Generals *Atkinson*, *Dodge* and *Posey* went down the river to Fort Crawford, (Prairie du Chien,) in the Warrior, and the army followed by land. On the 4 August, Capt. *Price*, with a small company, killed and took 12 Sacs between Cassville and the Otisconsin.

The fortune of the hostile Indians having now become desperate, enough of their countrymen were ready to volunteer to hunt them in every place. On the 3 August, 100 Sioux had permission to go out after them, and soon after another smaller band set off. News was soon after brought, that these had overtaken the hostile Sacs and Foxes on the south side of the Mississippi, and in a fight had killed about 120 of them.

*Keokuk* was chief of the friendly Sacs, and, about the same time, caused a nephew of his to be given up to the whites, as being the murderer of one *Martin*, in Warren county, Illinois.

*Naopepe* was second in command to *Black-hawk*, and in all the expeditions against the whites; he was taken prisoner in the fight with the Sioux, and at his examination afterwards by Gen. *Scott*, about the murders which had been committed on the whites, he gave this account of himself:—

*"I always belonged to Black-hawk's band. Last summer I went to Mat-don; when I came back, I found that by the treaty with Gen. Gaines, the Sacs had moved across the Mississippi. I remained during the winter with the prophet, on Rock River, 35 miles above the mouth. During the winter, the prophet sent me across the Mississippi, to Black-hawk, with a message,*