

intermission nearly to the present time. How long before—for how many centuries previous—this contest was waged, we know not—the records are dim, the traditions vague and uncertain. But we do know that, from the St. Croix to the Mille Lacs, the ancient home of the M'day-wah-kauntwaun Sioux, whose rich maple bottoms are a Golgotha of hostile bones, through all the midland hunting-grounds to Lake Superior, and northwest by wild rice-shallows to the fertile lands of Red lake (whose waters have so often drunk blood from battles on its shores as to have gained the ensanguined cognomen which we mildly translate "Red"), we can trace the terrible results of this warfare of the Algonquin and Dakota races—a warfare which in its results completed that general disruption of all the old geographical relations of the various tribes of Minnesota, which the Dakotas, perhaps, were the first to disarrange, when they located on the Upper Mississippi.

The incidents of this war—the battles, where fought—the victories, where and by whom won—the councils held, and alliances formed—the advances, the retreats, and the final conquests—are among the inquiries not unworthy of instituting. The character of this work prevents, at this stage, a further commentary on these inquiries; therefore I close this chapter with a brief review of Minnesota since its first settlement and organization.

Previous to the admission of Wisconsin as a state, all that part of the territory east of the Mississippi was a part of Wisconsin territory. After the admission of Wisconsin as a state, there was a considerable population here without any government. Hon. John Catlin, secretary of the territory of Wisconsin, came up here, believing that this was then the territory of Wisconsin, and that the duties of governor devolved upon him (the governor of the old territory having accepted an office under the new state of Wisconsin), and issued a proclamation ordering an election for delegate to the house of representatives of the United States. This election was held October 30, 1848. Henry H. Sibley and Henry M. Rice—two of the most prominent men in the territory—were the candidates. Mr. Sibley was elected. He went on to Wash-