

discharged from the army. Without apprehension of danger from the Indians, I left my family, which consisted of Mrs. Lockwood, and her brother, a young man of between sixteen and seventeen years of age, who was clerk in charge of the store, and a servant girl belonging to one of the tribes of New York civilized Indians settled near Green Bay.

I started to go by way of Green Bay and the Lakes for New York, in a boat up the Wisconsin, and down the Fox River to Green Bay; thence in a vessel to Buffalo, and down the canal to Albany, and thence by steamboat to New York City. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the first day's journey up the Wisconsin, I came to an island where were sitting three Winnebagoes smoking, the oldest called Wah-nah-peck-ah, who had a credit of me the fall previous, and had paid but little of it in the spring; the other two were young men not known to me by name. They had some venison hanging on a pole and we stopped to purchase it. As I stepped on shore, I discovered an appearance of cold reserve unusual in Indians in such meetings, and as I went up to them, I said '*bon jour*,' the usual French salutation, which they generally understood; but Wah-nah-peck-ah said that he would not say '*bon jour*,' to me. Upon which I took hold of his hand and shook it, asking him why he would not say *bon jour* to me? He enquired what the news was. I told him I had no news. He told me that the Winnebagoes confined at Fort Snelling had been killed. I assured him that it was not true, that I had seen a person lately from that fort, who told me of the death of the Sioux, but that the Winnebagoes were alive. He then gave me to understand that if such was the case, it was well; but if the Winnebagoes were killed, they would avenge it. I succeeded in purchasing the venison, giving them some powder in exchange, and as I was about to step on board of my boat, Wah-nah-peck-ah wanted some whiskey, knowing that we always carried some for our men. I directed one of the men to give them each a drink, which Wah-nah-peck-ah refused, and taking up his cup that he had by him, he showed by signs that he wanted it filled; and be-