

fore continued on up a considerable distance, passing several lodges at different points until we came to the principal camp, on the east side of the river, supposed to be sixty miles above Prairie du Chien. I communicated your message to all the Indians I saw on the way, who readily promised to obey your instructions.

"At the principal camp I found Washington Decorí, with a considerable part of the tribe from the Wisconsin and Kickapoo rivers. I immediately informed them of your request, and desired them to get ready as soon as possible and go to the agency. They manifested entire willingness to do so, but said some of their party were out hunting, and would be in at night, for whom they wished to wait, so that all might come together. They promised very positively that they would start as soon as the hunters should arrive, and would certainly see you by the middle of the afternoon to-morrow. After some conversation about their starting this evening, and their still objecting to do so until the hunters came in, Lieut. Abercrombie told them, that he would wait until sunset for them to get ready; and if they did not start by that time, he would take all their canoes, and bring them down with the steam-boat. About two hours after this, they concluded to start, and let the hunters come on after them; and after seeing all their canoes move off, we started on our return, and reached this place at 9 o'clock this evening. The Indians whom I saw will be here to-morrow by 12 o'clock. They had not heard of the battle on the Wisconsin, but appeared to be highly gratified and pleased at the news."

The next day, July 27th, Gen. Street ordered Mr. Burnett to "proceed with Washington Decorí to La Crosse, and such other points as you may deem important, and tell the Winnebagoes I wish to see them at the agency. I wish Win-ne-shick certainly to come. Much must be left to your own judgment in the case. The object is to get what information you can relative to the Sauks and Foxes, and to draw all the Winnebagoes from the Upper Mississippi, and with them the means of passing the river. If you can, extend the news to the Sioux."