

enough to prevent them from taking their canoes (if they did not kill them), and crossing over the river; that should they effect a passage to the west side of the river, at any point above this place, within their country, they would be suspected of assisting them, and if it should be known that they had done so, they would lose their annuities, and be treated as allies of the Sauks and Foxes. They promised to start for this place on the return of the absent party, and bring all their canoes with them. From their apparent anxiety, I think they will be here in three or four days at the farthest, though they said it might be six.

"The Sioux chief, L'Ark, who left this place on the evening of the 25th inst., passed Black River this morning before our arrival, and will reach his people with the news (which he received from here) to-day. Having done all we could, we left La Crosse at 10 A. M., and reached this place at 3 P. M.," making 90 miles in five hours.

It was but a few days after this, the 2nd of August, 1832, that Gen. Atkinson over-hauled the broken fragments of Black Hawk's army, fatigued, hungry, and dispirited, and attacked them on the bottoms of the Mississippi, a few miles below the mouth of Bad Ax River, about forty-five miles above Prairie du Chien, and totally defeated and scattered them. Black Hawk succeeded in crossing the river by some means, probably on a raft of driftwood, but was soon after taken prisoner by a company of Winnebagoes. Mr. Burnett was with them or met them soon after the capture, to whom Black Hawk gave a piece of red ribbon which was tied to his hair.* Thus ended the most fearful Indian war that has ever occurred on the soil of Wisconsin.

We have noticed before, that Mr. Burnett being a lawyer, and having but a small salary, one not equal to the duties performed, and the expenses of the place in which he lived, claimed the right which was exercised by others of his profession, to practice at the bar. But in doing so he involved himself in a difficulty with an

*This piece of ribbon is now, Jan. 18th, 1856, in my possession, and will, with this memoir, be sent to the State Historical Society for preservation. A. B.