

divisions of the army. Maj. Dement's battalion and some others of Posey's brigade, were anxious that Gen. Dodge should take the command of all the forces in that division of the army; an election was held, but the Illinois volunteers, as a matter of State pride, still preferred Gen. Posey, who was elected by a small majority. The division was then put in motion for the point of destination. Col. Dodge's command then consisted of five companies, numbering about two hundred men, including Capt. Stephenson's Galena company.

We camped the first night, at the East Pecatonica, which we had much difficulty in crossing, having to swim our horses, and raft over our baggage. The second night our encampment was at Devee's old smelting establishment, on Sugar River, where Capt. Stephenson's company joined us. We then proceeded by way of the Four Lakes, where we were joined by the Winnebago chief White Crow. Col. W. S. Hamilton had joined us the night before, with some Indians and some white volunteers, who were designated as the scouting party of Col. Dodge's command. Capt. Stephenson, in the meantime, had been elected Major of Col. Dodge's command; and the Colonel's staff consisted, at this time, of Maj. R. H. Kirkpatrick as aid, W. W. Woodbridge, Adjutant, and James P. Cox, Sergeant-Major.

The White Crow proffered to conduct us to Black Hawk's encampment, which, he said, was on Rock River, near the Kosh-konong. Under his guidance, we advanced for several days over almost impassable swamps, until within a short distance of the locality as described by White Crow, when we were met by an express from Gen. Atkinson, ordering us to proceed immediately to his encampment on Bark River. Col. Dodge felt somewhat vexed to be thus thwarted in his purpose, and remarked, that he was crippled in every movement he wished to make, by untimely expresses. In obedience to orders, we proceeded to head-quarters. The night previously, a volunteer had been killed, and Gen. Atkinson thinking the enemy near at hand, was desirous of