

concentrating all his forces, preparatory to a general engagement, which he contemplated bringing on the next day.

But when Col. Hamilton and his scouts reconnoitered Black Hawk's camp the next morning, it was ascertained that he had decamped, with his whole force. It was discovered that he had occupied a most advantageous position for defense—a high declivity sloping to the river, which at that point was full of large boulders, rendering its passage extremely difficult; and from the apparent anxiety of the White Crow and his party to lead us there, it was, with much reason, supposed that he was acting in concert with Black Hawk, to bring on an engagement at that point, with the left wing of the army. Had this succeeded, the volunteers must, if not beaten, at least have suffered severely.

At this time, and at Gen. Atkinson's encampment, Capt. Charles Dunn, since Chief Justice of Wisconsin, and now a member of the State Senate, while acting as officer of the day, and going around to relieve the guard, was unfortunately shot by one of the sentinels and dangerously wounded. He was so disabled, as to be compelled to return home, being conveyed to Dixon by an escort.

Gens. Henry and Alexander, and Col. Dodge, with their respective commands, were ordered to Fort Winnebago for provisions, and Gen. Posey's brigade was ordered to the Mining Region for the protection of the forts and settlements in that quarter. Arriving at Fort Winnebago, Col. Dodge ascertained, through the Winnebagoes, that the Sauks and Foxes had moved up Rock River, and were then at the Rapids. He immediately called a council of his own officers, and those of the other two commands at which he communicated the intelligence he had derived from the Winnebagoes, and proposed to return to Gen. Atkinson's camp by way of the Rapids. Gen. Alexander objected, stating that it would be a violation of Gen. Atkinson's orders, which were to return immediately; and Col. Dodge rejoined, that as there was no route specified in the orders, he thought they might return by any route they should deem proper. Gen. Henry co-