

the discredit already brought upon the Sucker arms by the defeat of Maj. Stillman, and other similar disasters, appealing to them in the name of their Sucker mothers, to vindicate the valor of the Suckers and the Sucker State. In fact, it was often remarked afterwards, that he made a great Sucker speech, under the impulse of which his men, no doubt, would have well vindicated, as they had the preceding day, the valor of the Sucker arms.

It was afterwards ascertained, however, that the Indian Chief was making propositions of peace, instead of urging or cheering on his warriors to battle, which no doubt would have been accepted, had the Winnebagoes been in camp. The proposals were said to have been, that the Sauks and Foxes would surrender themselves all up, at discretion, and only asked protection for the lives of their women and children. But hearing no response, and supposing the Winnebagoes were with us, they concluded that their proposals were not acceptable, and no mercy would be shown them; and consequently every effort was then made to remove as fast as possible out of the country.

The next day we buried our slain companion, Short, and made litters for the conveyance of the wounded. Expresses were sent to Gen. Atkinson, and to Prairie du Chien, after having marched in the morning to the Wisconsin, and ascertained that the Indians during the night had all effected a crossing. The following morning, the whole command marched for the Blue Mounds, where we arrived at night, after one of the most fatiguing days that was experienced during the war. The difficulty of conveying our wounded men on litters for thirty miles, over almost impassable creeks, through swamps, over hills, and through thick woods, by a winding path, was attended with fatigue and difficulty of which no one can well conceive.

Here I must relate an amusing, and withal, at the time, an alarming incident of the day—one which I can never forget. Although John McNair's wound was a flesh one, yet it was so excruciatingly painful, that it was only with the greatest difficulty he could be conveyed in any way. Being my Orderly Sergeant,