

woman, but Col. Whistler would not permit it, so I had to discharge my female warrior very much against my will. We all went up Fox River in boats and canoes; I was placed in the advance boat, to look out ahead for breakers. Our progress was slow, but we at length arrived at the Portage, with our scalps all safe on our heads.

We encamped on the ground where Fort Winnebago was built in the following year, 1828; the Winnebagoes were encamped on the Wisconsin, where Portage City is now located and were several hundred strong. We had several rumors that they were determined not to surrender the murderers, but to give us battle. We had been there but a few days when we heard that General Atkinson was on his way to join us, ascending the Wisconsin in boats. The Winnebagoes heard the news of Atkinson's approach the day before we did; we discovered a great stir in the Winnebago camp, shouting, hallooing and dancing, and we soon after discovered a party of thirty warriors leave their camp and advance towards ours. Col. Whistler ordered the whole detachment under arms. I was the officer of the guard; he ordered me to take the guard, and go down to the river, and ascertain what the Winnebagoes wanted. They soon arrived, singing and shouting the deathsong. I crossed the river with my guard and an interpreter. They informed me that they had come to deliver up the murderers; I received them, recrossed the river, when they showed me the three murderers, and said that those were the guilty ones. The principal one was called the Red Bird. He was dressed in fine style, having on a suit made of neatly dressed buffalo skins, perfectly white, and as soft as a kid-glove; and on each shoulder, to supply the place of an epaulette, was fastened a preserved red bird—hence the name of this noted chief, Red Bird. The other two Indians were well dressed.

While I was engaged in putting up a guard-tent, we heard the roar of cannon from Gen. Atkinson's detachment, and soon after Gen. Dodge arrived with a large company of mounted volunteers from the Lead Mines. The Indian pris-