Green Bay, in 1816–17, published in the first volume of the Society's Collections:

"Engrossed with the political wars ever present before them, our people soon forget the events in a more sharp and serious one, which, but a few years ago, occupied so much of their attention. We refer to the war in the North West, known as the Black Hawk war.

"We have just received the second annual Report and Collections of the Historical Society of Wisconsin, for which we are indebted to its learned and able secretary, L. C. Draper, Esq. It is a work of over five hundred pages, and full of exciting interest. Conspicuous among these is the little, short, but sanguinary battle of Pekatonica. We have selected this because it is in these single hand-to-hand fights—man-to-man—that tries the nerve of the combatant far more than it could in a field fight of thousands on a side.

"In June, 1832, the occupants of the frontier of the North-West had been collecting at different points with a view of a system of general defence from the Sauk and Fox Indians. About a month before, Major Stillman had sustained a disastrous defeat from a much inferior force under Black Hawk, owing to a want of conduct and discipline, which greatly lowered the reputation of our arms in the opinion of the great Sauk chief, and he had derisively sent them word to take better care of themselves, 'as they were a soft-shell tribe;' and possibly it was in this spirit of confidence or contempt, that he despatched a scouting party of tried warriors through our lines and into the settlements, which committed various depredations—having, on the 14th of June, killed five out of six men found on a farm within a few miles of Fort Hamilton, and, the next day, a farmer within a mile of that fort. A party was immediately formed for pursuit, under Lieut. Charles Bracken, a gentleman whom we take pleasure, as will many of our citizens, to recognize as a native of our city.

"Just on the point of starting, they were joined by Gen. Henry Dodge with an additional party, and who now assumed