

with the associations of the scenes around me—*Pike's Hill*, so named in honor of the gallant officer of that name, being just opposite—all combined, as the canoe was wheeled out upon the river, to fill me with emotions strange, bewildering, yet soothing; and then there was the grateful sense which my heart cherished for the security with which the unseen, though ever-present God, had ever blessed us. I had no language to express all these then, and I have none now; but the memory of it will never die!

We were now on the theatre of the recent Indian murders, tidings of which had gone forth; and reaching St. Louis and Jefferson Barracks, upon the one hand, and Green Bay and Fort Howard upon the other, had put in motion about a thousand men, to interpose the appropriate shield to arrest and extinguish the spirit that had led to these butcheries. Well would it have been, if, when the bayonets of the nation had been dispatched to punish the unenlightened, the untutored Indians, for the execution of the provisions of the *Lex Talionis*, the only law known to them, a corresponding energy, and the adequate power, had been employed to compel the civilized of our own race to treat these unfortunate people as human beings, and if there could be found no place for *kindness* in these relations, to enforce the obligation to treat them with at least common justice.

Prairie Du Chien is said to have been once the seat of a Fox Chief named The Dog. The level land, upon part of which the village stands, was once, doubtless, part of the bed of the Mississippi. When forsaken by the waters, the channels of the river running close to the opposite or southern shore, the deserted lands became a prairie. Being now shorn of its native grass and flowers, the entire area has become a waste. When a prairie The Dog was its principal occupant, with his band perhaps, and its owner—when the French gave it the appellation it yet bears of *La Prairie Du Chien*, or the Prairie of the Dog.

This area is composed of several thousand acres of land. From W. S. W. to N. N. E., (the Mississippi running at this