

were afterwards found dead, on the north side of the Wisconsin River, on the route to the Bad Axe. The number of wounded is unknown. This engagement has ever since been known as the Battle of the Wisconsin Heights.

The morning of the morrow disclosed that the Indians had all crossed the Wisconsin River, and disappeared. The army marched to the Blue Mounds, where Colonel Dodge's command, being all near their homes, with worn out horses, were temporarily dismissed to their respective posts, until again called to active duty.

Expresses were sent to General Atkinson and to Prairie du Chien, and it was a few days before the army could again be brought together to continue the pursuit. General Atkinson with his army marched by way of the Blue Mounds to Helena. Here the volunteers under Colonel Dodge were again assembled, and the whole army crossed the Wisconsin, and soon discovered the trail of the retreating Indians. On the 2d of August—the twelfth day after the battle of the Wisconsin Heights—the army came up with the entire body of the Indians, near the mouth of the Bad Axe, about forty miles above Prairie du Chien. A steamboat, the "Warrior," had also been sent up the river, armed with a six-pounder, to prevent their escape across the Mississippi. Thus surrounded, the Indians fell easy victims, and the battle soon terminated in the total destruction of a very large portion of Black Hawk's followers, men, women and children, and the capture and dispersion of the remainder.

General Atkinson's official report states the loss of the regulars at five killed and four wounded; of the Illinois volunteers at nine killed and wounded, and in Henry's brigade seven killed and wounded; and this, the final engagement of the Black Hawk War, is known to this day as the Battle of the Bad Axe.

Most of the Sauks and Foxes who got safely across the Mississippi, including women and children, were pursued and killed by their implacable enemies, the Sioux. For the proud and haughty Black Sparrow Hawk, as he called himself, it was too degrading and humiliating to submit as a prisoner, therefore instant flight became his last and only alternative. He hastily retreated to a neighboring height, accompanied by his faithful adjunct, the