

country, and another was the probability that the Winnebagoes would not harm me.

Every day some Winnebago would come to me and advise me to go at night and stay in his wigwam, where he said I would be safe. At nine o'clock at night I left the fort, with many a God speed you, armed with a small Ruggles rifle, my dispatches, a tomahawk, and bowie knife. I crossed the Fox River at a shallow point just above where the public stables used to stand, and keeping the Indian trail that led from here to White Crow's village\* on Lake Koshkonong on my right, I traveled rapidly all night, walking up hill, and running down hill and on a level. I struck the trail several times during the night, but left it immediately as I feared some Indians might be encamped upon it, whose dogs would discover me before I would discover them. I arrived safely at the fort at half past 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and delivered my dispatches to Gen. Atkinson, who sent 3,000 men at once to relieve Fort Winnebago. I may add, that Fort Atkinson was constructed of log pickets, with loop-holes for musketry, with block-houses on the southeast and northwest corners, with about an acre of ground within the enclosure.

I slept till 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and then started on my return, following the trail of the mounted militia for twelve miles, when I passed them, and reached the head of a stream that used to be called Rowan's Creek, about twelve miles from the fort shortly after daylight; and fearing to go farther till night, I crawled into some brush and went to sleep.

As soon as it was quite dark, I left my hiding place and returned to the fort as near as possible by the route I left it, arriving between ten and eleven o'clock P. M. I reported that the troops were on the way, and would arrive next morning. We kept close watch all that night, and at 4 o'clock P. M. next day the troops arrived. It may surprise some of my readers, that I should travel so rapidly, and the mounted troops should be so long on the road; but you must recollect the marshes were very wet at that time,

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\* Mr. Clark writes, that White Crow's village was built in the usual style of lodges not wigwams, more like houses covered with white cedar bark; and contained a population of about 1,200 souls.

L. C. D.