

battle, or to retreat from their present position, where he had little doubt of overtaking them. He, therefore, took such measures as to prevent their escape. To enable a company to guard our provisions and sick, when we should again advance, a stockade was erected, which was called Fort Koshkonong.¹

Here we learned by dispatches from Maj.-Gen. Scott to our commander, of the arrival of that officer with his troops at Chicago, and that the Asiatic cholera was raging among them. This was the first intimation any individual of our command had received of the existence of this disease on this continent. We also received other disagreeable and mortifying intelligence through the public prints, and from other sources—the censure conveyed in insinuations and innuendoes by certain prints; the information from private letters, and perhaps the tone of official dispatches, all gave us too clearly to understand, that thus far for our toil, exposure, and exertions, we had received nothing but censure—how unjustly, every individual of the army knew and felt.

On the arrival of the provisions, a new guide—an Indian chief²—offered to conduct the army to the enemy's camp; his services were gladly accepted, and the army once more advanced through swamps in the direction of the foe. When again within a few hours march of them, the night set in with the most tremendous storm of rain, wind, thunder and lightning that I ever witnessed. Before morning an officer overtook us with information from Gen. Henry, that the enemy had retreated, crossing Rock River, and that the mounted corps of Henry and Dodge having fallen on the fresh trail of the retreating Indian army, had taken the trail in pursuit, after dispatching the express to Gen. Atkinson. Instantly we commenced our retrograde movement again,

¹ This fort was located in the eastern outskirts of the present village of Fort Atkinson, and was first known as Fort Koshkonong, and afterwards as Fort Atkinson. It was garrisoned by Capt. Gideon Lowe, of the regulars, with thirty or forty men, till the conclusion of the war, when it was abandoned, and Lowe marched his men to Fort Winnebago.

² White Crow.

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