

As I have already been more prolix than I intended, I refer the reader to the official account of the battle. Suffice it to say, that quarters were in no instance asked or granted. The official reports give the number of killed of the enemy at one hundred and fifty, though doubtless many more were killed in the river and elsewhere, whose bodies were never seen afterwards. Our loss was but twenty-seven. This disparity was doubtless owing to the rapid charge made by our troops, on the enemy, giving them time to deliver but one confused fire. About one hundred and fifty horses were taken or killed. The Black Hawk, the Prophet, and some other chiefs escaped from the action; but were subsequently brought in by the Winnebagoes, and the friendly Sauks, and delivered to the commanding general. After the action, a body of one hundred Sioux warriors presented themselves, and asked leave to pursue on the trail of such of the enemy as had escaped. This was granted, and the Sioux, after two days' pursuit, overtook and killed fifty or sixty, mostly, it is feared, women and children.

The afternoon previous to the action, the steamboat Warrior, on her return from the Sioux villages above, with some twenty or thirty U. S. soldiers, discovered the Indian army on the bank of the Mississippi, engaged in constructing rafts and other means of crossing the river, exactly where Gen. Atkinson subsequently attacked them.

The enemy for some time endeavored to decoy the steamboat to the shore, assuring those on board that they were Winnebagoes, a friendly tribe. A sharp skirmish was finally the result, in which several of the Indians—different reports say from seven to twenty-three in number—were killed, and one soldier wounded. The boat then repaired to Prairie du Chien, and arrived again opportunely at the close of the action the following day.

The troops moved down the river to Prairie du Chien, where they were met by Maj.-Gen. Scott, who, with his staff, had left the brigade at Chicago, prostrated by an enemy far more terrible than the savages—the cholera; and was hastening to take part in the campaign. The wounded were left at this place, and the army descended to Rock Island,