

by saying, "I shall start immediately in pursuit of the Indians, and I shall overtake them before I stop. Mark the language—I shall overtake them before I stop; and when I do overtake them, I shall charge them sword in hand, let their numbers be what they may. If there are any in the ranks who feel as if they cannot do this, I want them to fall into the rear, for I want no cowards with me."<sup>1</sup> But not a man fell back—all were eager for the chase.

The order was then given for the advance, which was made in quick time. Soon we came to the mangled and mutilated body of Apple. The Indians seemed to have scattered in all directions, and considerable time was spent in finding the trail. When found, it led us through an almost impassable thicket of underbrush, grape-vines, prickly ash, fallen timber, and everything that was calculated to impede our progress. This continued for about three miles, when the trail struck the open prairie. Then the pursuit became animated and rapid; but in getting out of the timber, the line became wonderfully extended, perhaps a half a mile in length. This fact, and the delays occasioned by the crossing of branches, which were much swollen by the rain of the previous night, made travel slow. The Indians were often in sight, and we could see their movements. They seemed to be in no hurry to get away from us, neither did they manifest any fear or alarm, but moved leisurely along. The commander, as he seemed to be, was walking backwards and talking to his braves. He was perhaps fifty years of age, of tall and commanding appearance.

After the Indians had swam the Peckatonica River, and were about two hundred yards distant, the most of the detachment, with Col. Dodge in the front, came up to the high bluff of the stream, on the opposite side from the Indians. Here some random firing took place, but without effect. At this point, Capt. Gentry and Lieut. D. M. Parkinson galloped their horses down the river, and swam them across to the opposite side where the Indians were. This move-

<sup>1</sup> Substantially the same address is given by Col. D. M. Parkinson, *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, II, 347; by Gen. Bracken, in same volume, pp. 370, 371; Smith's *Wisconsin*, I, 275.