

that the whites had met with; but now the thing was changed. The Indians from this time forward were upon the defensive, instead of the aggressive as heretofore. Their endeavor now was to get out of the country. They were hotly pursued and overtaken at the Wisconsin Heights, on the 21st of July, where they were again badly defeated, sixty-eight of their number being killed upon the ground, and many more dying from wounds supposed to have been received in this fight. On the 2d day of August they were again overtaken at the Bad Axe, on the Mississippi River, where they were almost annihilated and driven out of the country.

Now it will be seen by reviewing the events of the Black Hawk War, that this battle of the Peckatonica was the first repulse the Indians had met with; and it will also be seen that the only battles in which the whites were successful were those in which Col. Dodge and his brave volunteers were engaged. It will furthermore be seen, that they were always in the front, and in the thickest and hottest of the fight. There can be no reasonable doubt, but that the speedy and successful termination of this war was largely attributable to the prompt, energetic, and judicious movements of Col. Dodge, sustained by the bold and brave volunteers under him.

When we compare the duration of this war, and the circumstances under which it was carried on, with those of the other Indian outbreaks of this country, we may be able to form some just estimate of the relative fitness and efficiency of those who had control of them. The Indian war of Virginia lasted twenty-two years; the Creek War and those connected with it, continued for three years, though waged by the intrepid Andrew Jackson; the first Seminole War lasted one year, and the second Seminole War lasted two years; and these wars were in part under the direction of Col. Zachary Taylor. The Black Hawk War only lasted about three months at the most; and only one month and a half after Col. Dodge became connected with the management of it. No impartial man who is familiar with the facts, can doubt that Col. Dodge was the main cause of the