

we saw, that looked anything like attempts to stay, were at Dodge's stockade, and Henry Gratiot's grove.

After our inspection of the mining country, we returned home from Galena the way we had come,— via Prairie du Chien and Portage. On the Fox river, at about Butte des Morts, we met Maj. David E. Twiggs, with three companies of soldiers in boats, on their way to establish the garrison of Fort Winnebago. Jefferson Davis, just graduated from West Point, was one of his lieutenants. Both parties stopped and we had some conversation. All of us knew Twiggs, who bore a bad character. He had a private named William Prestige, in his boat, securely chained; this Prestige, exasperated by brutal treatment, had attempted to take Twiggs's life, and the latter, by way of revenge, kept him in irons and under the harshest treatment allowable by the code, until his term of enlistment expired, in the year following.¹

The jurisdiction of Michigan extended west of the Mississippi and, with the exception of the two trading posts at Green Bay and Prairie du Chien, was exclusively an Indian country west of Lake Michigan. Hostile tribes wandered over it at will, casting an evil eye upon any encroachment upon their extensive and beautiful domain. The Red Bird war culminated in opening the mineral region west of Blue Mounds to miners in search of its hidden wealth. East of that landmark was an unexplored wilderness. Having now visited the mining country, I had a natural desire to extend my explorations through the remainder of the territory now known as Wisconsin.

Judge Doty and I,—in company with Wistweaw (Blacksmith), a Menomonee Indian, and Alex. Grignon,² a young half-blood Menomonee, as helpers,—left Green Bay on horseback, in the spring of 1829, and traversed the region hitherto little known, south of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. We were the first party, so far as I can ascertain, to make the trip by land between the extreme outposts of this section, Green Bay and Prairie du Chien. Proceeding along the summit of the high ridge which hems in Lake Winnebago

¹ *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, vii., p. 375.—ED.

² *Id.*, x., p. 484.—ED.