

My letter of the 20th instant will apprise your Excy of the call made by Genl. Atkinson for 2 or 3 hundred of the Menomonees—the call was promptly met & the usual mode of communicating with the Indians taken¹ but I am truly sorry to say, that after a lapse of nearly five days, but about forty Inds. have assembled at the Agency. It is true, however, that the 1st War Chief of the Nation, the Big Soldier,² reports this morning that his band consisting of fifty or sixty fighting men are ready at their villages to be taken up by the line of march of those Inds. living below the Settlements and along the Bay shore, and in accordance with my orders to them. The Menomonees are most wretchedly armed, or rather not armed at all—and I am afraid that with every effort & exertion, not more than 150 of this nation will be able to march efficiently armed. The whole number of Arms at our disposition, by purchase, rifle as well as shot guns, is only 110. I trust however that the balance will be found in the hands of the Indians—altho not of a character fit for active service. A number of Spears however have been made & are still making for their use, and which will in some measure Compensate for the inferiority of their Arms. The order from the Aid de Camp of Genl. Scott, recognizing the call of 200 Volunteers, under the Command of Col. Irwin,³ comes very opportunely. In a conversation with the Commanding officer of the Post, Capt. Clarke,⁴ last evening, it was urged upon him to aid the Ind. Dept. to induce the New York Inds. to obey this call promptly & efficiently—and it gives me great satisfaction to believe that the Arms (200 in number)

¹Sending out native or half-breed runners. Ebenezer Childs, whose recollections are in *Wis. Hist. Coll.*, iv., was also employed to rally the Menomonees at this time.—Ed.

²Pawakonem (Big Soldier) signed the treaty of Green Bay, October 27, 1832.—Ed.

³Alexander J. Irwin, of Green Bay.—Ed.

⁴Nathan Clark, captain of the 5th infantry. Appointed to the army from Connecticut; 2nd lieut. of 37th infantry, May 19, 1813; transferred to 5th infantry, May 17, 1815; 1st lieut., March 3, 1817; captain, June 29, 1824; died Feb. 18, 1836. Brevet major, June 29, 1834, for ten years faithful service in one grade.—Ed.