

and ruin of the Indian, the cause of the horrid murders which occurred so often, and of the exceeding difficulty experienced in reaching the Indian with the gospel.

We see in the journals of 1832, how the mission was disturbed by the Black Hawk War. Rumors of invading bands of Sacs and Foxes, of stealthy onset, of bloody massacre, and of general destruction, pervaded all the vast wilds of Wisconsin. Between the frontier posts of Fort Winnebago (Portage) and Fort Howard (Green Bay), there was a frequent passage of hurrying messengers, and at last the march of soldiers and war-painted Indians in the service of the United States.<sup>1</sup> The mission was full of daily alarms, and many of the families and all of the assistant missionaries went to Fort Howard for protection; but our missionary held his ground, looking after those who remained, and continuing the work as well as he could. After a time the excitement subsided, and peace again pervaded the Fox River valley.

The question of the removal of the settlement to a more favorable location now began to be agitated, and we find Marsh a member of an exploring company which set out from Statesburg in the late summer of 1832. They embark in boats at the foot of the Grand Kakalin, and begin the ascent of the Rapids. He is charmed with the sound of the dashing waters; with the shores, some forty feet high, covered with dense forests and grape vines; with the green boughs often hanging over into the water. About sundown they arrived at the foot of Little Butte des Morts, just above Appleton, where the river expands into the broad and quiet surface which reaches up to Doty's Island. Here they camped for the night, first having a service of song and prayer. The next morning they reached the island, and it is described as a beautiful spot about two miles long and one wide. It was occupied by a small band of the Winnebago tribe. Near the upper end

---

<sup>1</sup> Reference is here made to Stambaugh's Expedition. See "Story of the Black Hawk War," and "Boyd Papers," in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xii, pp. 216-298.—Ed.