

By Col. Joseph Dickson, of Grant County.

My parents, were natives of Pennsylvania, and ~~immigrated~~ to, and settled in, St Clair County, ~~State of~~ Illinois, in the year 1802, where I was born. January 28th, 1803. That County was then a frontier ^{region} ~~country~~, and but sparsely settled, except a small district of country on the American Bottom settled mostly by French.

In the year 1818. My father and family moved to within 9 miles of where Springfield, the present Capital of the State, was afterwards located, where I assisted my father in building the first white man's ~~cabin~~ ^{cabin} in that Log Cabin in Sangamon County, where I remained until the spring of 1827. When I immigrated with many other young adventurers to the what was then called the Green River Lead Mines. Making the journey from Keokuk, on ^{the} lower Mississippi Rapids, on foot through an entirely uninhabited wilderness, packing my provisions & blanket, in the month of March. I spent the ~~first~~ ^{first} summer mining, until the 15th of August, ~~of that summer~~ when I commenced ^{improving} a farm, one and a half miles south of where Platteville is now situated. The next season plowed up 20 acres prairie land and planted and ~~grew~~ ^{raised} corn on the land that season, which I think was the first field of corn raised in ^{what is} ~~now~~ ^{canyon} Grant County. I continued to farming until the spring of 1832, when I exchanged

^{mining}
 it for a ~~lead~~, soon after which the war commonly
~~known as~~ the Black Hawk war commenced
~~or broke out~~ in the month of May, when on the
 first intelligence of hostilities by the Indians
 I joined a mounted company of volunteers
 raised at Platteville. ~~At the organization~~
~~organization~~ I was elected orderly sergeant,
 in Captain John H. Rountree's company, in
 which ~~that capacity~~ I served. ~~one~~ ^{one} month,
 at the end of which ~~time~~ ^{when} ~~in the absence of~~ ^{consequence of}
 the captain, I was ~~elected captain~~ ^{chosen to command} of the
 company, and ~~served as such~~ ^{thus} about one
 month. ~~There~~ ^{then} through by the order of the
 Colonel Dodge, I took command of a
 spy company, and continued in such com-
 mand, and was in front of the army
 during the chase to Rock River, Fort
 Winnebago, and to the Wisconsin Heights;
 and at the Wisconsin Heights I with
 my ~~spy~~ company, commenced the attack
 on a band of Indians kept in ^{who were}
 kept in the rear of the retreating ^{Indian} army
 of Indians, and chased them ~~to~~ ^{into} the
 main body of Indians, when we were
 fired at several times, but without in-
 jury, and I returned to the advancing
 army without loss or injury to my com-
 mand.

after the battle of the Wisconsin Heights,
 and the army was supplied with provisions,
 we again ^{pushed} ~~went~~ to the Indian trail, and
 I took the lead with my company
 and followed to the Bad Axe by command.

of General Atkinson. At the battle of
the Bad Axe, I discovered, the evening before
the battle, the trail of Black Hawk with
his party of about forty Indians, to have
left the main trail, and ~~to have~~ gone up the
River, which fact I reported to the
Commanding General.

On the next morning, I with my command ^{encountered and} engaged
a company of Indians. at a place near to
where I had the evening before discovered the
trail of Black Hawk and his party.

~~During the battle~~ ^{the battle was summed} my command killed fourteen Indians
and after a short time, say half an hour's engage-
ment, General Dodge, with his command,
and General Atkinson with his regular army,
arrived at the place where I had engaged
this party consisting of about forty Indians;
and about the time ^{of their} ~~that the~~ generals
arrived, I with my command ^{we} had killed
and dispersed this band of Indians.

The main body of ^{the enemy} ~~Indians~~ had gone down the
River after they entered the River Bottom. I pursued
~~where I with my command, followed.~~

~~The~~ pursuing General Henry with his command
formed in the Mississippi Bottom;
I crossed the Slough, and engaged a
squad of Indians, who were making
preparations to cross the River; after
which we were fired upon and returned
the fire of several bands or squads
of Indians, before the army ~~had~~ arrived.
I ~~passed~~ ^{myself} with several of my men were
wounded before the ^{other troops came up.} ~~army arrived.~~

I was taken
 After the battle was over, ~~myself~~ with
 others ~~was taken~~ on board of a steamer
 which came along soon after, to Prairie
 Du Chemin, where I was properly cared for, and
 my wounds ^{received} suitably attended to. Since which
~~time~~ I have spent a ^{short time} few years in Illinois, and
 the balance of the time to the present I have
 devoted ~~myself~~ ^{given my} time and attention to agri-
 cultural pursuits, on my farm,
 four miles ^{South of} Plattville.