

two, which are of the same note, and sufficient to satisfy any one that there is considerable guess work about his history.

First, he makes no mention of the killing of an Indian on the bank of Third Lake, near where the Lake House now stands, a circumstance known to all of the first settlers of Madison. Second, he says two Indians were killed about noon of that day on which the troops marched from this place to the Wisconsin, when there was but one. The incorrectness of these particulars and many others that might be pointed out are sufficient to satisfy my mind that the main objects of Gov. Ford in writing this History of the *Black Hawk war* was, first, to make money, and next, to detract from the well earned fame of Gen. Dodge.

The particulars of the battle of the Wisconsin are as incorrectly given as any man could give them who knows nothing of them whatever. The Indians are said to have flanked to the right, when they most certainly flanked to the left. Gen. Dodge is said to have refused to charge the enemy, without reinforcements; when the facts are that he charged them, with his single squadron alone, and received almost their entire fire and killed many of their number, before any of the Illinois forces could be brought successfully to bear upon them. This was in consequence of his position in front, where Gen. Henry had placed him for the purpose of receiving the first fire and terrific yell of the Indians; having, as Gen. Henry expressed it himself, some doubts whether his men would stand the first fire and the frightful savage yell; and well he might have some doubts of this character, as the Illinois troops had, upon two occasions, fled at the first onset of the Indians.

Upon the second charge upon this occasion, it is most untrue, that Gen. Dodge and his men took no part in the charge, as the idea is clearly conveyed in the chapters published in your paper. This charge was suggested by Gen. Dodge to Gen. Henry, as I am most credibly informed, and I know upon this occasion as upon all others, where I was with the army, that Gen. Dodge's squadron was the foremost, most prompt and energetic. To say