

bear my testimony, that if he possessed great bitterness of feeling towards those he disliked or considered his enemies, he was as warmly devoted to his friends; and saving his prejudices, he was truly an honest man. It must also be apparent to those who have perused his history, that it has been compiled principally from his recollection of men and things, and from information derived from others. This is particularly the case with regard to the *Black Hawk war*. Governor Ford did not serve in that war, was not present at any of the events of which he speaks, and consequently he has been made the instrument of some small men in Illinois, who are their own trumpeters, to laud their feats of arms and to detract from others.

About the first of July, 1832, the army commanded by Gen. Atkinson, operating against Black Hawk and his warriors, moved up the valley of Rock River. The right wing, composed of the United States regular soldiers and Henry's brigade of Illinois volunteers, commanded by Gen. Atkinson in person, marched on the east side of the river. Gen. Alexander's brigade formed the centre; and the left wing, consisting of Posey's brigade and the miners under Gen. Henry Dodge, rendezvoused at Wiota, and marched from that place about the same time for Kosh-ko-nong Lake.

Gen. Dodge's command consisted of five companies of mounted men, commanded by Captains Gentry, Clark, Dickson, Parkinson and Jones, and about twenty Menomonee Indians and eight or ten white men, commanded by Col. W. S. Hamilton. On the march, near Sugar River, he was joined by Capt. James W. Stephenson's company of about eighty men from Galena, which made his force fully three hundred men. Near the Four Lakes, the White Crow, or *Blind*, a Winnebago chief, also joined him with about thirty warriors.

Before arriving at Kosh-ko-nong, the officers and men of Dodge's command became dissatisfied with Posey's brigade. No one questioned Gen. Posey's courage, and all admitted him to be a gentleman, yet he did not possess the firmness requisite to command