

him. He was by many years the senior of General Henry, and had been a Major General in the State of Missouri, and held an important command on that frontier in the War of 1812, when General Henry was in his boyhood*. That General Henry virtually yielded the command, and implicitly entrusted himself and his brigade to the direction of General Dodge, are apparent from his declining to write letters, although urged to do so, claiming the honor of the expedition and victory.

General Henry was truly a soldier, bravest among the brave! He was, however, young and inexperienced in warfare of any kind. Being patriotic and without vanity, and anxious to put an end to the war, he had the good sense to know, that he did not detract from his own merits by yielding to the guidance of one having the age and experience of Gen. Dodge.

Governor Ford states, that after the battle of the Wisconsin, General Dodge, in styling himself Colonel of Michigan volunteers, assumed a rank to which he was not entitled; he being the commander of a "small battalion;" and that he travelled out of the line of his duty when he addressed a letter to the commanding officer at Fort Crawford (now Prairie du Chien) informing him of the victory over the Indians, and advising him of the course that ought to be adopted, if the enemy attempted to reach the west side of the Mississippi by descending the Wisconsin River. I have heretofore explained the command Gen. Dodge held in the Michigan militia, consequently he assumed no rank to which he was not entitled; and in advising the commanding officer at Fort Crawford of the course he thought it proper for him to pursue to prevent the escape of the Indians, he did no more than his duty.

It having been ascertained, that our supplies of provisions were not sufficient to enable us to pursue the enemy across the Wisconsin, and being also encumbered with a number of wounded,

*And in that war, it may further be added, that Gen. Henry's father served under Gen. Dodge; and hence it is not strange, that Gen. Henry should have paid great deference and respect to the opinions of Gen. Dodge, who was so much his senior in years, and his superior in military experience.