

appointment for two years, when I was re-appointed several times by Gen. Cass, and thus held the office until Wisconsin was organized as a Territory in 1836; and then re-commissioned by Gov. Dodge. While serving as sheriff, it became my duty to execute a second person for the crime of murder; these executions were the most unpleasant duties I ever performed—and these two murderers were the first and last ever executed in all that part of Wisconsin.

In 1829, I was appointed post-master at Grand Kakalin, on Fox River; and resigned after serving one year. I was the second post-master appointed in the north-eastern part of Wisconsin. I had charge of the first Durham boat that ever went up Fox River and crossed the portage; I went to Galena and purchased the first lead that was brought thence to Green Bay. Fort Winnebago was built in 1828; and, in 1829, the President appointed Commissioners to hold a treaty with the Winnebagoes, and they procured the cession of the entire country to which they laid claim east of the Mississippi. The first annuity paid the Menomonee Indians was paid to them at the Grand Chute, twenty-five miles above Green Bay.

At an early day the Sauk and Fox Indians sold the General Government their lands east of the Mississippi, which were situated on Rock River. Black Hawk was not pleased with the sale, and refused to sign the treaty. In 1831, he returned with his people to their old planting grounds on Rock River. There were, at this time, a number of white families settled in that region, who did not like their Indian neighbors; they complained to the Governor of Illinois, and an arrangement was finally effected with Black Hawk and his followers to leave the country, for doing which they were to receive three thousand bushels of corn as an equivalent for their abandoned crops. But the next season Black Hawk and his people again returned to the homes of their fathers; they could not bear the idea of permitting the pale faces to plow up the graves of their ancestors. Again did the white inhabitants report to the Governor; when a body of volunteers was raised to dispossess