

a government of the people, where the equal rights of all are protected, and that the power of our countrymen can crush this savage foe; yet it will take time for the government to direct a force sufficient to give security and peace to the frontier people.

"I have, as well as yourselves, entire confidence, both in the president of the United States, and the distinguished individual at the head of the war department; that our Indian relations are better understood by those distinguished men, Jackson and Cass, than by any two citizens who could be selected to fill their stations. They have often met our savage enemies on the field of battle, where they have conquered them, and have often also met them in council. They understand well all the artifice, cunning and stratagems for which our enemies are distinguished; they well know our wants, and will apply the remedy. In Gen. Atkinson, in whose protection this frontier is placed, I have the most entire confidence. He is well advised of our situation. You will recollect the responsibility he assumed for the people of this country in 1827, by ascending the Wisconsin with six hundred infantry, and one hundred and fifty mounted men, to demand the murderers of our people. Many of us had the honor of serving under him on that occasion. He has my entire confidence, both as a man of talents in his profession, and as a soldier and a gentleman. If our government will let him retain his command, he will give us a lasting peace, that will insure us tranquillity for years. He knows the resources as well as the character of the Indians we have to contend with, and if the government furnishes him the means, our troubles will be of short duration.

"What, my fellow soldiers, is the character of the foes we have to contend with? They are a faithless banditti of savages, who have violated all treaties. They have left the country and the nation of which they form a part. The policy of these marauders and robbers of our people appears to be, to enlist the disaffected and restless of other nations, which will give them strength and resources, to murder our people and burn their property. They are the enemies of all people, both the whites and Indians. Their thirst for blood is not to be satisfied. They are willing to bring ruin and destruction on other Indians, in order to