

ted. It will prove a valuable addition to the history of the **Black Hawk War**. His public services, for a period of thirty-four years, were varied and eventful, and alike honorable to himself and useful to his country.

Early in life he married Miss Elvira Foster. She died at Watertown, N. Y., in 1879. Seven of their children yet survive—five daughters and two sons; one of the latter is Hon. Winfield Smith, of Milwaukee, formerly attorney-general of the State. Maj. Smith was about five feet, six inches in height, of about one hundred and sixty pounds weight, with ruddy complexion, gray eyes, and brown hair—of handsome appearance, erect, and of military bearing.

It is justly said of him, in the *U. S. Biographical Dictionary* for Wisconsin, that "he was an able and accomplished officer, understood thoroughly the details of his profession, was governed by a high sense of honor, frank, generous and upright. A gentleman of fine talents, and varied information, agreeable in society, and had many warm friends among the leading men of the nation. He was ardent in his family attachments, constant and devoted in his friendships, an exemplary member of the Episcopal church, of spotless reputation, esteemed and respected by all who knew him."

L. C. D.

Gentlemen:—It would give me pleasure to comply with your request on the subject of the recent Indian hostilities, were I not perfectly sensible of my incapacity to interest you and your readers. As it is, flattered by your solicitation, and acknowledging the obligation to contribute my mite to your valuable work, authentically, I undertake the task.

"To begin then, with the beginning"—The Sauks and Foxes forming one nation of Indians, occupying until 1831, more or less of the country on both banks of the Mississippi for about one hundred and fifty miles above and below Rock Island, have always manifested as a people, hostile feelings toward the people of the United States. During the war with Great Britain, they were active allies of the English; repeatedly and—as they boast—always successfully engaged against us. Several detachments of our army and militia, one under command of Col. Z. Taylor, now of the First Infantry, were previous to 1815, defeated by this warlike people. Since the latter date, the hostile feeling has been openly shown only by a portion of the combined nation called the "British Band," of which a chief called Muckutaymickekawkaik, the celebrated Black Hawk, was the