

Reminiscences of the Black Hawk War

By Gen. Robert Anderson

The *Galena Gazette*, of June 21, 1870, introduces Gen. Anderson's Black Hawk War reminiscences, with the following remarks:

Hon. E. B. Washburne, our minister to France, has placed us under great obligations in sending to us, for publication in the *Gazette*, a very interesting letter in regard to the Black Hawk War, addressed to him by Gen. Robert Anderson, now in France, whose heroic defense of Fort Sumter has made him so well known to the country. These reminiscences of Gen. Anderson will be read with a great deal of interest. Though this war assumed no large proportions, yet there were on its theater of action, of which Galena may be considered the center, a greater number of men who have become distinguished in the history of our country than ever figured on a like theater in the United States. Of this number we mention Col. Zachary Taylor, a colonel in the regular army, and Abraham Lincoln, a private in a cavalry company (horse, arms and equipments valued at one hundred and sixty dollars), both of whom became presidents of the United States; Gen. Scott, candidate for president, and afterward lieutenant-general, who for a time had his headquarters in this town; Jefferson Davis, afterward secretary of war, United States senator from Mississippi, and subsequently president of the Southern Confederacy; Henry Dodge, governor of the Territory of Wisconsin, and afterward United States senator; Hon. Wm. L. D. Ewing serving for a short time as United States senator from Illinois; Hon. Sidney Breese, for six years one of our senators in Congress, and at present the honored chief justice of the State; Gen. Jacob Fry, who was, we believe, one of the trustees of the canal, and afterward canal commissioner; Col. William S.