

speedy and successful termination of this war. I am aware, however, that some attempts have been made to deprive him of this honor. No longer ago than last summer, just after the celebration of this battle at this same place, an article appeared in one of the Milwaukee papers, I do not now remember which one, to the effect that he was entitled to no credit for the Rock River rapid's expedition—that Gen. Atkinson ordered him and General Henry there to find the Indians; that he hesitated to go, and after he got there and found the Indians, as the article stated, he refused to fight them, saying he was only ordered to find them, and not to fight them. All of which is wholly erroneous. I was with Col. Dodge during all that time; so was my father, who was Captain of one of the volunteer companies. He was the warm friend of both Col. Dodge and Gen. Henry, and shared the full confidence of both of these gentlemen, and was admitted to all their counsels and consultations. He often informed me that it was at the suggestion of Col. Dodge, and not in pursuance of any order from Gen. Atkinson, that the expedition to the rapids of Rock River was undertaken; and that Col. Dodge was justly entitled to all the credit and honor of that expedition, and its consequent results. This may well and justly be said without any disparagement or discredit to Gen. Henry, who was doubtless a brave and heroic man, but wholly inexperienced in Indian fighting, and greatly the junior of Col. Dodge in years. He showed his great prudence in conceding to the superior knowledge and experience of Col. Dodge in the management and conduct of the war.

Those who have read Gen. Smith's *History of Wisconsin*, or volume second of the *Collections* of the Wis. Hist. Society, will remember that in the battle of the Peckatonica, a young man by the name of Black was mortally wounded at the first fire of the Indians.

This young man—or boy, rather—was from the State of Pennsylvania, and was the only son of a very respectable widowed lady. He was attracted to this country by the great lead mine excitement, as all others were at that time. He lived at the old Willow Springs, near by my father's house,