

EARLY MILITIA, HISTORY.

In recent historical publications, reference is made to an uprising of the the Blackhawk warriors in Illinois in 1832, and the excitement among the settlers along the western border of the this State, and their leaving their homes, induced Gov. Noble to call out the State militia, and assign General [redacted] to take command, and to mobilize the Militia Companies of the western border, and proceed at once to the northern part of the State, to suppress any expedition of Blackhawk against the people of this State. It was well known that the Blackhawk tribe, were at war against the whites in Illinois, and known that there were many tribes of Indians in this State, who were remaining on the lands ceded to the United States by treaties, and white people who had in previous years suffered from depredations had but little confidence in their peace professions.

Carroll County had a Militia Company, officered and drilled and was among those called out to military duty. Major Andrew Holt, was in command, and assembled the warriors in Delphi, some of whom resided in the [redacted] town, [redacted] required a day. As a proper precaution, the town was put a guard during the first night, while the officers were arranging for horses, guns and ammunition, and food for man and beast. A great light had been seen in the west, which was ominous, that Blackhawk was driving the settlers before him, by firing the prairie grass. The Company got off in good military style in early morning, and started for the Tippecanoe River, thence up the river some miles, and then across to the mouth of the Monon. The few settlers west of the Tippecanoe and the Grand Prairie, had vacated their homes, but no sign of Indians discovered. One lone settler at the Monon, saw nothing of any Indians, and it was decided that it was a false alarm, and returned home the same day. Much rejoicing and amusement made the Company thrice welcome home. The military experience was very brief, but there can not be a doubt, had they got into an Indian fight, each soldier would have shown he was a 100 per cent American.