

In 1831 and 1832 the Black Hawk war was begun, and a call for soldiers was made, to protect the lives of the settlers in the northern counties and drive the savages from the State. A call for volunteers from this county was made by Governor Reynolds, and a day appointed for the assembling of the citizens at Belleville; and I remember with what pride I saw Alfred Cowles, who was the State's attorney for this judicial circuit, Robert Hughes one of the old rangers, and my father with several other prominent men step from the crowd, and following their example a company was soon made up. Neither one of those named expected or intended to go, but furnished substitutes with horse, saddle, blanket and rifle; and I am happy to say that the war closed, the Indians were conquered and they returned safely home, although two young men just grown with whom I had gone to school were killed, namely