

destroyed. The writer has made many efforts to recover these papers and documents, but so far with little success. His commission as Governor of the Territory is in the Historical Rooms at Iowa City. The Historical Department at the Capitol has secured his commission as Captain in the Regular Army, dated July 23, 1812, and signed by President James Madison, and three of his official letters. Beyond these papers we know of no others in existence, though there may be many in Ohio, dating from before he came to Iowa. It seems a strange neglect that the letters—official and private—with other data, relating to a man who was so distinguished in his time, should have so utterly faded out of existence.

CAPTAIN H. I. SMITH.

An interesting article from the pen of this gentleman appeared in *THE ANNALS* for January, 1895, detailing some sad army experiences during the War of the Rebellion. He enlisted as a private in Company B, 7th Iowa Infantry, on the 8th day of July, 1861—the first volunteer from Cerro Gordo county. At the expiration of the term of his enlistment, he re-enlisted as a veteran, remaining in the service until the close of the war, participating in the battles of Belmont, Forts Henry and Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka, Reseca, Long's Ferry, Kenesaw, Atlanta, Allatoona, Savannah, Columbia, Bentonville, Goldsboro, and many others. He was by the side of General G. M. Dodge, when that illustrious soldier was "almost mortally wounded" before Atlanta. In fact, the General fell across the feet of Sergeant Smith, in a very narrow trench, so wedging him in that it was with some difficulty that the latter could extricate himself. He was himself wounded at Belmont and Corinth. He marched with Sherman "from Atlanta to the Sea," saw the surrender of Johnson's

army at Raleigh, and participated in the closing Grand Review of the Union Armies at Washington. The war over, he returned to his home in Cerro Gordo county, where he has since resided. He was a mere boy when he put on the army blue of a private soldier, and seems even now but in the prime of life. He occupies a high position in the community where he lives, and is well known throughout the State. In August, 1894, the President transmitted to Captain Smith a medal of honor, in the name of the Congress of the United States, for distinguished gallantry at the crossing of Black River, N. C., March 15, 1865, where at the peril of his own life he saved a soldier from drowning. His record all through the war is one of especial brilliancy. He has occasionally published valuable contributions to army and local history.

SACS, OR SAUKS.

In the article in this issue of THE ANNALS on General J. M. Street, the writer spells the name of this tribe of Indians—"Sacs;" while Dr. Pickard in writing of Indians in Iowa prior to 1846, spells the same word—"Sauks." Both spellings are used, and we choose to leave each writer to his own choice. But the weight of authority seems to be upon the side of the first form. "The Century Dictionary of Names," George Catlin, in his "North American Indians," Drake, in his older work, Judge A. R. Fulton, in his "Red Men of Iowa," and Schoolcraft, in his monumental "History of the Indian Tribes," use the word "Sacs." But McKenny and Hall in their "Indian Tribes of North America," spell it "Sauks." In a later edition of Drake they are noted as equivalent terms. With these leading authorities thus differing, the reader can decide for himself—though the shorter word has been adopted by the great majority of writers.

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