PARDONS AGED PIONEER WHO KILLED SHERIFF

Wisconsin Governor Frees John F. Dietz, Who Ten Years Ago Held Off Posse for Months.

MADISON, Wis., May 13.—John F. Dietz, who attracted nation-wide attention more than a decade ago as the defender of Cameron Dam in Northern Wisconsin, was pardoned today by Governor Blaine. Dietz was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for the killing of Oscar Harp, a Deputy Sheriff, on Oct. 8, 1910, but the sentence was later reduced to twenty years.

Governor Blaine in granting the pardon said he considered that the trial was legal, but declared that he had come to the conclusion that Dietz should be freed “from consideration of public policy and in making allowance for the exceptional circumstances.”

This action on the part of the Governor ends a dramatic episode in the crime history of the State and frees a man whose exploits in holding off a Sheriff’s posse for months attracted wide attention.