

heard a party of Indians endeavoring to cut me off from the fort, when I took a circuit and evaded them, by taking a by-path, when they had way-laid the main trail, and thus I reached the fort in safety.

Not long before the Sink-Hole affair, one Bernard was killed on Dardenne River, the next stream below Peruque Creek; and about the same time one Wetly was killed near the crossing of Peruque, and Wm. Linn, a Ranger, within thirty rods of Cape au Gris Fort. Linn had gone into the edge of the woods to visit a whiskey jug he had secreted there, when the report of several guns was heard. Lieut. Massey went out in pursuit, but the Indians had crossed the river below, where their canoes were, and decamped. On the Cape au Gris rock, opposite the fort, the Indians deliberately showed themselves, when a young warrior about a dozen years of age advanced, exhibiting Linn's scalp, and exclaiming in the Sauk language, "Come here, you Americans, and we will serve you the same way." Linn's family at the time of his death, were living in Wood's Fort. Within a few days of this affair, a young man named Bolles went to a deer-lick at the foot of the bluff, about two and a half miles from Cape au Gris, and was there shot and scalped.

Of the Sink-Hole battle, fought on the 24th of May, 1814, near Fort Howard, I shall be able to give a full account, as I was present and participated in it. Capt. Peter Craig commanded at Fort Howard; he resided with his father-in-law, Andrew Ramsey, at Cape Girardeau, and did not exceed thirty years of age. Drakeford Gray was first lieutenant, Wilson Able, the second, and Edward Spears, third lieutenant.

About noon, five of the men went out of the fort to Byrne's deserted house on the bluff, about a quarter of a mile below the fort, to bring in a grind-stone. In consequence of back water from the Mississippi, they went in a canoe; and on their return, were fired on by a party supposed to be fifty Indians, who were under shelter of some brush that grew along at the foot of the bluff, near Byrne's house, and about fifteen rods distant from the canoe