

yet unfound body of Spencer, and to see that there were no Indians lurking in our vicinity, to take us by surprise. After burying our unfortunate friends, who had fallen victims through their anxiety to raise a crop of corn, we continued the search for Spencer's body till evening. I must bear my testimony to the prudent, cautious and sagacious manner, in which this expedition was conducted by Maj. Kirkpatrick, the officer in command.

When at night we returned to Fort Hamilton, we found Capt. Gentry there with a portion of his company, when our detachment fell under his command. After some refreshments, the first of which we had partaken since leaving Fort Defiance, a council was held, in which it was determined, that in the event of Col. Dodge failing to arrive by eight o'clock next morning, the force then under command of Capt. Gentry, would pursue the Indians, and make a further search for the body of Spencer. The night passed without any unusual occurrence. Just as our men were about starting the next morning, in pursuance of the arrangements agreed on, Col. Dodge arrived in company with Thomas Jenkins and John Messersmith, Jr., the Colonel, in point of fact, having out-riden the others, arrived some ten or fifteen minutes ahead of them.

It seems, that upon receiving the express at Dodgeville, Col. Dodge with Jenkins and Messersmith, had started for Fort Hamilton by the way of Blue Mounds, where were some fresh horses and men—a portion of Capt. Gentry's command; and leaving orders for them to proceed immediately to Fort Hamilton, Col. Dodge continued his route, by way of Fretwell's Diggings, and arrived at Fort Hamilton as before stated. But a little previous to his arrival, he had left the main road, and taken a by-way, which somewhat shortened the distance; and on coming into the main road again, he met one Apple, a German, who had a good horse, which Capt. Gentry that morning was about to impress into the service, when Apple promised him, if he would allow him to go to his cabin after his blankets, he would accompany us on our expedition. This was by many supposed to be merely an excuse to get away,