

and thus avoid going himself, or letting his horse go. However, he had proceeded but a short distance, after leaving Col. Dodge, when he fell into an ambuscade, and was literally shot to pieces. It appeared afterwards, that the Indians had first way-laid the path by which Col. Dodge approached the fort, which passed through quite a thick point of woods; but, in the morning, seeing some of the men from the fort pass up to the field for some grain, by the way of the main road, which kept round more in the open ground, they changed their position and went there. Thus had Col. Dodge arrived half an hour earlier, or had he kept around the main road, he would undoubtedly have fallen a victim instead of the unfortunate German.

Almost at the same moment of Col. Dodge dismounting at the fort, the horse of Apple came running up near Capt. Gentry's command, who were some distance from the fort. Capt. Gentry directed my son, who was then a mere boy, to run and bring Apple's horse to him, which he did. Upon seeing the horse with a bullet hole through his ear, and one through the top of his neck, the saddle bloody, and recollecting the report of guns a few moments before, there could be no mistake as to what had taken place; all called out at once that Apple was killed. All was instantly wild excitement and disorder, and but for the stern, determined will of Capt. Gentry, aided somewhat by Maj. Kirkpatrick, Lient. Bracken and myself, instead of the successful pursuit and defeat of the Indians, a failure might, and I think would, have been the consequence. In a company of thirty or forty men, there are almost invariably some who possess so excitable and enthusiastic temperaments, as to lose all presence of mind, or self-control, though brave it may be, even to a fault. This was the case in the present instance. When it was ascertained that Apple was unquestionably killed, quite a number of men of this description mounted their horses without orders, and were upon the act of rushing indiscriminately after the Indians. Captain Gentry rushed to their front, and ordered them, in the most peremptory manner, as their captain, to halt, reminding them of