

ly obeyed, and in less than two minutes every Indian was killed and scalped. In their first fire, they shot three of our men, mortally wounding Black and Morris, and slightly wounding Thomas Jenkins. In the charge upon the bank, Wells was mortally wounded. Thus ended this short but sanguinary conflict. The entire war-party was exterminated, leaving not one to bear the sad tidings to their Chief and people, that Col. Dodge and his warriors were not, in fact, of "*the soft-shelled breed.*"*

All our men behaved well, indeed valiantly, without distinction. Col. Dodge, in his official report of the engagement, says: "The volunteers under my command, behaved with great bravery and gallantry; it would be impossible for me to discriminate between them." This battle was fought on the 16th of June; and the names of the persons who participated in it, are: Col. Dodge, Lieut. Bequette, Lieut. Bracken, Lieut. D. M. Parkinson, Lieut. Porter, R. H. Kirkpatrick, Dr. Allen Hill, surgeon, Thomas Jenkins, W. W. Woodbridge, John Messersmith, Jr., Asa Duncan, Benjamin Lawhead, Samuel Patrick, William Carnes, John Hodd, Levin Leach, Alexander Higginbotham, Samuel Black, Dominick McGraw, Peter Parkinson, Jr., Samuel Bunts, Van Waggoner, Wells, Morris, and Rankin. Capt. Gentry joined us just as the firing ceased; and M. G. Fitch and another man were posted as sentinels, to watch the retreat of the Indians should they attempt any.

We then conveyed our wounded men, partly by litter, and partly by wagon, to Fort Hamilton. On our way there, we met Edward Beouchard,† and a number of Winnebagoes, Sioux, and

*Some idea of the brief space of time occupied in this desperate hand-to-hand conflict, may be gathered from the graphic description of one of the volunteers, John Messersmith, Jr., as related in Gen. Smith's History:—"I fired my yager; let it drop—drew out my left pistol; fired it at an Indian—let the pistol fall—drew out my right pistol; fired at another Indian—was pouring powder in my hand to re-load, when one of our company said, 'They are all dead!'"

L. C. D.

†Beouchard, in his statement in Gen. Smith's History, claims to have reached the battle just as the firing commenced, and to have taken part in it; and he gives the additional name of Devies as one of the participants, and Gen. Bracken speaks of one Deves—doubtless the same person. Gen. Bracken also gives the name of Thomas H. Price as one of Gen. Dodge's party. There were four men in charge of the horses, two of whom, according to Gen. Bracken, were Price and a youth named Town-