

above water until he struck the opposite shore. Young, brave, cool and active, and flying for life, it would appear almost incredible that, with his breath exhausted by diving across the river, his clothes saturated with water, at one bound he should spring from the slippery shore to the top of a perpendicular bank fully twelve feet high; yet from his foot prints, it was evident that he did so. Gaining the bank, unharmed amidst a shower of balls, he continued his flight, pursued by the Indians, who, after a hot chase of about five miles, gave up the pursuit.

It appeared that Spencer was pursued by two Indians, one of whom was mounted on the horse with which Spafford's party had been ploughing their corn, and was far in advance of the other; and he having his gun which he snatched up in the flight, Spencer turned and shot the mounted Indian, which enabled him to escape by secreting himself in a thicket.

On the day of the battle of the Pekatonica, Spencer ventured to approach the fort, and saw from a distance that it was surrounded by Indians. They were friendly Sioux and Menomonees, who had joined us that day after the battle, and who were yelling and pow-wow'ing over the scalps which we had taken. Supposing these Indians to be foes who had captured the fort, and murdered all within it, he was horror struck, and fled some six or seven miles to a house where he found some provisions, and secreted himself under a hog-pen, where he was found some ten days afterwards. Within a year he became deranged, and wandered off, none knew whither.

Having performed the melancholy duty of burying the dead, we returned to Fort Hamilton, where we found Captain Gentry, and Lieutenants Bequette and Porter, with a few men. At a council held that evening, it was agreed that if Gen. Dodge did not arrive at the fort by eight o'clock the next morning, the officers and men that were present would take the trail and pursue the Indians.

On receiving the express at Dodgeville, Gen. Dodge accompanied by Thomas Jenkins and John Messersmith, Jr., started for