

entirely from memory, I supposed I was doing him a kindness in complying with his request—in which it seems I was mistaken, judging from the tone of his communication.

However, as to the data to which Mr. Bracken refers, I have a word to say; and that is, that my memory differs with his as to what those accounts contain. If either of those accounts, particularly that published by Mr. Fitch, quotes Mr. Bracken as taking or having the command of the detachment from Fort Defiance, I will agree that I am mistaken as to what those accounts contain.

But as the question at issue is not what those accounts contained, but what are the facts in the case, I shall, without further cavil with Mr. Bracken, as to memory, proceed to lay before you the evidences which I have procured in support of the correctness of my memory, wherein I differ with him.

Upon seeing Mr. Bracken's communication to you, (in reference to this matter,) in a late number of the *Wisconsin Tribune*, I immediately addressed the following named gentlemen upon this subject, to-wit: Robert C. Hoard, who was Captain of the company stationed at Fort Defiance at the time in question; Thomas Beam, who was a soldier at Fort Defiance; Alexander Higginbotham, who was a soldier at Fort Hamilton, and was with the detachment from the time it left Fort Hamilton until after the battle of the Pekatonica; Bennet Million, who was also with the detachment during the burying of the men who were killed at the farm of Spafford and Spencer, and the same that made his miraculous escape from the Indians.

From them I have received the following answers. I would here mention, that these are all the men (that is, Million and Higginbotham) that had any connection with the burying of those men, or the battle of the Pekatonica, that I have any knowledge of in this country, except my father, Col. Parkinson, upon whom, from feelings of delicacy, I have not called, for his recollection of the matter.