

MINERAL POINT, February 5th, 1853.

MR. PETER PARKINSON, JR.:

Your communication addressed to me, asking my recollections about those eleven men who started from Fort Defiance to bury the dead at Spafford's farm, in 1832, was duly received. I recollect that when the express arrived, it was about sun-down, or after. After I had arranged the matter of express to Col. Dodge, I immediately commenced making arrangements to send a reinforcement to Fort Hamilton, and to assist in burying the dead at Spafford's field. There were many who volunteered to go. At the same time there were several men there from the mounted company, with Major Kirkpatrick (or afterwards Major Kirkpatrick); Lieut. Bracken and Second Lieut. Parkinson were among the number who volunteered to go, and all the mounted men who were with Major Kirkpatrick, I believe; consequently, those mounted men came there commanded by their own officer, and neither Lieuts. Bracken or Parkinson could have any command over them. Lieut. Bracken certainly was the officer who held the rank at the fort; consequently, would have had the command, but I think there was some dissatisfaction among the men, who were preparing to go, I think, about who should command them. Lieut. Bracken started off with one man, I think, and he was one of the mounted men. I think about half an hour after Lieut. Bracken left, the rest of the squad started, with dissatisfaction about the command; before they got off, I requested Major Kirkpatrick to take the command; and he did take the command as far as I know.

Yours, &c.,

ROBERT C. HOARD.

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TOWN OF WAYNE, Jan. 28, 1853.

MR. PETER PARKINSON, JR.:

DEAR SIR—In answer to your favor of the 26th inst., I can say, that I was a soldier during the war with Black Hawk, and that