

wards—at the dark hour of midnight—I was watching at his couch with the solicitude of a brother, with no light except what was given by the small glimmering blaze of one long tallow candle. I saw a faint smile come upon his countenance; it increased until it broke out into quite an audible laugh. In the joy of my heart, I put my face down near his and said, "Why, my dear Sam, what pleases you, so as to make you laugh?" He replied: "Well, Peter, I was just laughing at the idea of Col. Dodge saying he would charge them sword in hand, when there were but two swords in the crowd." Poor fellow! he knew but little of military language, but he died with the amusing idea no doubt, on his mind. These were his last words. He was soon after a cold corpse, grim and rigid in death. The second day afterwards, he was buried in a lone and solitary grave, with the honors of war, and perhaps no young man was killed during the contest whose death was more lamented than his.

This circumstance forcibly brought to my mind a scrap of history in connection with the death of Gen. Braddock, in which it was said that after he was wounded he laid in an apparent unconscious state for twenty-four hours, and then revived so as to say, "Well, who would have thought it?" then relapsed and lay twenty-four hours longer in the same apparent condition when he again revived, and said: "Well, we must do better next time;" which I could scarcely believe until witnessing the occurrence I have just related.

There are some matters connected with Peckatonica battle I will venture to notice. My father, D. M. Parkinson, though a lieutenant in the company at Fort Defiance, had no command in this contest, serving only as a volunteer; but he was the following day elected Captain of the fifth company of mounted volunteers of Dodge's squadron.

In the *Illustrated Histories of Iowa and Lafayette Counties*, pages 428, 429, it is stated that Little Priest commanded the party so completely exterminated at Peckatonica. This is a mistake. At the time of this fight, Little Priest was one of the hostages at Gratiot's Grove, and was not liberated till some weeks after. Another evidence of the correctness of my memory in the matter, is the fact that his name appears