

to the Rock Island treaty in September of that year. Had he been slain at Peckatonica, we should hardly have found him sufficiently "alive and kicking," three months thereafter, to have shared in making an important treaty with our government.

Lieut. Fitch, in his narrative, is mistaken in supposing that it was the same Indian with whom Levin Leach had a personal encounter, that Col. Dodge shot with his pistol; nor was Leach's Indian the leader. Fitch's mistake probably arose from the fact, that he was not one of the charging party; but had been assigned by Col. Dodge to take a position, some little distance away, to aid in intercepting any of the Indian party who might attempt to make good their escape. I was near Leach at the time, and witnessed the incident. I know that Leach killed the Indian himself by thrusting his bayonet through him after he jerked him down on the ground by the end of his antagonist's spear, which he seized hold of, to prevent the Indian from running it through him. I am sustained, in the main, in this view, by Gen. Bracken's account, *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, ii, p. 373: "In the charge, Levin Leach encountered a warrior armed with a spear; parrying the thrusts of the Indian with his bayonet, he dropped his gun, sprang upon him, wrenched his spear from him, and with it ran him through the body." Gen. Bracken erred in saying that it was with the chief's spear that Leach killed him—I can state with a certainty that it was done with the bayonet.

Col. Dodge was at the other end of the line, and so was the Indian leader whom he killed—at least he said he did, and no one ever doubted it. This version of Col. Dodge's exploit, is well substantiated in Patterson's enlarged edition of his work on Black Hawk, 1882, p. 170: "Col. Dodge in speaking of this engagement [Peckatonica] at Galena, after the close of the war, said he was amazed at the desperation displayed by a big, burly brave, who came toward him with his gun on his shoulder, and halted quickly when only a few paces from him, drew the trigger, and was sorely