

on the southwestern slope of that lay the brave Custer surrounded by the bodies of several of his officers and forty or fifty of his men, whilst horses were scattered about in every direction. All were stripped, and most of the bodies were scalped and mutilated. And now commenced the duty of recognizing the dead. Of Custer there could be no doubt. He was lying in a perfectly natural position as many had seen him lying when asleep, and, we were told, was not at all mutilated, and that, only after a good deal of search the wounds of which he died could be found. The field was searched and one after another the officers were found and recognized, all except two. A count of the bodies disclosed the fact that some twenty-five or thirty were missing, and we could not, until some time afterwards, form even a surmise in regard to their fate.

The great mystery was now solved, at last, of the destruction of that part of Custer's command. It was possible that some few individuals might have escaped the general massacre ; but so far as we could judge all had fallen ; and the particulars of that sad and desperate conflict against overwhelming numbers of the savage hords which flocked about Custer and his devoted three hundred when Reno was beaten back, will probably never be known.

REFLEXION OF THE AMERICAN Q. C. REVIEW.

The defeat of Custer's command by the Sioux or Dakota Indians has taken the country by surprise. To not a few of us the news of the Little Big Horn disaster came like a clap of thunder from a cloudless sky. Nor has the press failed to comment on it in a variety of ways. The full significance of the fact, however, especially from a Catholic point of view, seems not quite generally understood, nor candidly acknowledged. The fall of a gallant officer, rendered more tragical by the simultaneous death of his