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Beever had led an unexpectedly adventurous life for a Fellow of an Oxford College: he was present at the Crimean War, where he acquired a copy of a Russian translation of *The Pickwick Papers*, which he presented to the Bodleian, and seems later to have spent time in India. In 1860 he travelled to the USA, and in 1862 went to Dakota, where he became a 2nd Lieutenant and took part in the war there between the American Federal Government and the Dakota tribes. In September 1863, Beever was returning from delivering a message to the regiment, when he was ambushed and killed. His death evidently caused something of a stir, as this engraving makes clear.

More on Beever's remarkable life can be found in Oliver Miller, “Frederick John Holt Beever: A Jesus Fellow in Dakota”, *Jesus College Record* 2019, pp. 98-103.