

RG 393, PT. 3
ENTRY
402

LETTERS
Received.

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18-117-102

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RG 393, PT. 3
ENTRY

402

LETTERS

Received.

Fort Laramie, Nov 21, 1866.

New York Major. Lawrence

Commanding Ft. Laramie, N.D.

Majr.

In reply to Your Communication of Yesterday - which You did not have time to address to me, I will state that so far as my information extends, which is not altogether reliable, as it is derived mainly from Indian trading and repairing through the country, but corroborating circumstances justify me in believing it correct.

I have never known a Winter Campaign made against the Indians since my residence in the Country. You will find that the hostile Indians within the next thirty days have all collected on Powder River, in villages of about two hundred lodges each, running down the main Powder River, from the mouth of Little Powder River, to near its mouth. These villages will perhaps number six or more, scattering down the river about one or two days journey apart. This separation of the villages is for the purpose of more easily obtaining supplies, and also it enables them to concentrate with facility, in case of attack.

Powder River being a great rendezvous for the Indians, when numerous herds roam over the Country, is a favorite wintering place for these Indians, who have for a number of years. The Indians will, I think number about three thousand warriors. The location of the Indians, is about twenty miles from Ft. Laramie and thence down Powder River, where timber water, the fine grain, abundance, and an unbroken tract, and a good wagon road down the river. (I think however pack mules much to be preferred to wagons for this season of the year) and for driving the Indians from this fine camp on Powder River, it may be hard to follow them but to Tongue River, Rose River and the Big Horn river. There is a more direct route to reach these Indians; about five days travel thence. But as good roads cannot be made as upon the Fort Laramie roads, as there is no beaten road, the route running through the wild sage brush prairie - and several camps upon the route, You would be subjected to loss. But with plenty of days Road which makes a hard job. Your stock would suffer more on this route, than the new route. Eight hundred men, and this certainly is fully sufficient to handle these Indians in the subduing and make this route, the route like the road a few years more and the people will

of the State, the Caravans, Mills, and the Caravans, the Big Horn are flowing
with herds of Cattle, Sheep, Horses, and Stacks of Grain. The roads being with
trains of wagons transporting the precious Metals from our mines.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

(Signed) W. G. Bullock

S. S. - I refer You to Capt W. E. Reynolds Chief of Survey of the
Mainain being ^{and} Tributaries, 1859 Co. Wagon Depot -

Official

W. G. Bullock

1st Lieutenant 27th Regt I. I. C.

Pres News Quarter, Mainain District January 21st 1867.

Pres Quarter, Department of the State,
Omaha, Nebraska, Dec 27th 1867.

Handls

At Regt Genl H. H.

Comd at Ft Philip Kearny,
General.

It is impossible to forward
whether you will be able to do more than act on the defenses or
not, I have written stating a rising attack on the Sarages under the
favorable Circumstances, and have corresponded on the subject, both with
Major Van Hook, who voluntarily took an Expedition and Col Carrington
who former informing himself as much as possible on the subject - he
will be with You, and his information was various available.

I shall enclose with this perhaps one or two documents which
he forwarded me.

On the theory that the Indians horses will be found unus-
ricable just as from August to Spring up, I have applied for two ad-
ditional Regiments, One of Cavalry, and One of Infantry, to be placed
at Karavins early in April.

I wish You to send me prompt and regular inform-

ation, on every point. Bearing upon present and future operations: such as the Indian resources for forage, and provisions in large bodies, and they grow that will keep this point in order at close of winter. April: Whether you are avail yourself of Indian contributions: and make your suggestions.

But if in your enquiries and want sources of information, you find that you are able to surprise and strike some winter camp, without too much risk. I do not yet give up my hope, and wish that it may be done. You know the Parthian method of Indian warfare: how difficult, in late spring and summer it is for an inferior force to bring them to battle or in forced marches.

It may be however that their success will enable them to meet us fairly, and that their numbers will be very formidable.

Sir J. Salomon just now telegraphed me a report of a grand Convincation to the amount of 10,000 or 12,000 Warriors.

At this distance, I can only suggest - Your action must result from your best judgment of circumstances arising.

Very Respectfully,

(Signed) J. St. Geo. Cook.

At Maj. Genl.

Official

Whitman

1st Lieutenant 27th U. S. Regt. A. A. S. Genl.

Recd Head Quarters, Mountain District, January 21st 1867.

Head Quarters, Department of the State -

Owens, Nebraska, December 28th 1866.

Recd Sir Regt Genl W. V.

Commanding Mountain District

Sir:

By direction of the General Commanding the Department. You will, upon arrival at St. Philip Agency, make a thorough investigation of the circumstances connected with the massacre on the 21st inst. near that Post, and make a full report of same to this H^q Quarters. While this investigation is decidedly important, you are not to permit its prosecution to interrupt Military duties of still greater

Mount.

Saw General

Day & specifically

Your Off. Servant

(Signed) H. S. Schjield

First Major, U. S. A.

Wade - do - Camp.

Official -

[Signature]

1st Lieutenant 27th U. S. Inf. U. S. A. General.

Proc. Head Quarters, Mountain District, January 21st 1867.

Head Qu. 18th U. S. Inf.

St. Hill Kearney, D. S.

January 27th 1867.

I do hereby certify that the following enlisted men were on duty at St. Hill Kearney, D. S. and entitled to extra pay thereof at the rate of twenty cents per day from July 25th to Aug 18th 1867.

Michael Kain Corporal Co. B. 27th Infantry.

Paul Sasa Jan Private " " " "

Edward Hyde " " " "

Thomas Cook " " " "

Samuel Noble " " " "

Daniel Harwood " " " "

William Polley " " " "

(Signed) Henry B. Huntington
Colonel 18th U. S. Inf.

Official -

[Signature]

1st Lieutenant 27th Inf. U. S. A. Genl.

Proc. Head Quarters, Mountain District, July 2nd 1867.

St. Hill Kearney, D. S.

July 29th 1867.

Henry Keith U. S.

3rd U. S. Inf.

Post Adjutant.

Sir.

I have the honor to report that in obedience to the Exchequer Order and letters of instructions I proceeded this morning on the road to O. S. Smith, with fifty (50) pack-boys, twenty (20) Infantry, and two (2) Commissioned Officers, with six Empty Wagons of Six (6) mules Each. I proceeded to a point about seven (7) miles from this post. I found the road, if such it can be called, terribly bad for about six (6) miles. And had the whole distance over which I passed, we were obliged to leave it in several places. And in other places to shovel through the Snow drifts. We went over places with our Empty wagons, over which it would be impossible to go, with wagons loaded, without clearing away drifts of Snow.

The road to O. S. Smith, I am informing Governor Continually Capt. and various. The route lies in the Big Horn Mountains, along the base of which the road is said to run, and which it is impossible to avoid. If the road continues as bad as that over which we passed to-day, and I see no reason to think that it should become much better, at least over a greater part of the route, it would take a Command with Wagons loaded lightly, some Eight (8) or twelve (12) days to reach O. S. Smith, in fair winter weather. In a storm, or storm, no one can tell how long it would take, because Snow to all depths may fit the various.

I therefore consider it a hazardous Expedition to go with troops to O. S. Smith, at this time, with wagons, taking only into consideration the condition of the roads, and their liability to still greater obstruction from drifted Snow.

The road to Smith, is, I am informing, the worst part of the route between the State and Virginia City. From the river State to this post, it runs mostly on Divides, from which the Snow blows. From this post to Smith it crosses continually low Divides, and various, in which the Snow blows, and drifts.

If the condition of the roads, the narrowness of the Pass, and the Indians, are taken into consideration, I deem it dangerous for two Companies or 140 Men, to attempt such an Expedition, should a Command have to be sent in midwinter, in this latitude with the Elements, and with such a road, it should certainly be strong enough to have little fear of Indians. That any Command — and especially a small Command — passing over Southerly King, or through the valley of Conger King would meet

a body of Indians to oppose it, seems more than probable, judging from the information we now have.

It cannot be doubted, that the many little successes with which the Indians have met on this road, during the last two or three months, by fighting small bodies, and their late wonderful victory, has had a tendency, not only to gradually unite them, but to inspire them with great confidence. The war party has increased from their first success, till finally, all who were in the country, and doubtful at the beginning, have been forced to join, and swell its numbers.

The last information received, states that they were in large numbers on Tongue river, and it may be reasonably suspected, that they will attempt to oppose any small force which passes over that river.

I therefore deem it unwise to expect so small a force, and so few supplies, to so many probable dangers, dangers arising from the difficulties of the road, from the climate at this season of the year, in this latitude, and from a confident and successful enemy, who we have reason to believe are strongly encamped on the Tongue river and valley through which the road passes.

More men and wagons go to C. S. Smith with wagons, if it stands, now, it should be retained for 20 days to guard against contingencies, and it should be at least 300 men strong or strong enough to cope with 2000 Indians. Such a command may have to suffer much, may have to be many days on the road, on account of the obstacles to be overcome, all depending upon the state of the weather and the opposition with which it meets from other sources.

This report is made and the conclusions arrived at taking into consideration the present state of affairs as they are now known, and the condition of the roads as they now stand.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servant

(Signed) O. S. S. S. S.

Major U. S. Inf.

Official -

[Signature]

1st Lieutenant 27th Inf. U. S. Inf.

Head Quarters Mountain Dick. 30 June 1867

Head Quarters, Fort.
St. Philip, Cañon, N.S. Jan'y 22nd 1867.

Adjutant General Acting Assistant
Mountain District
Sgt.

I have the honor to transmit herewith the
Monthly Report of St. Philip Cañon N.S. for the 20th day of January
1867.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
'Signed' A.W. Wurdth
Lieut Col 18th Inf
Lt Brig Genl U.S.A.
Cinny Fort

Official
Abraham
1st Lieutenant 27th Inf
Head Quarters, Mountain Dist Jan'y 22nd 1867.

Head Quarters, Fort.
St. Rose, N.S. January 26th 1867.

Brig Genl
Acting Asst Adjt Genl, Mountain District.
St. Philip Cañon N.S.

I have the honor to transmit herewith, Sir, Monthly
Report of St. Rose N.S. for the ten days ending January 20th 1867,
and receipts for Ordnance and Ordnance Stores, for which you will
please send the proper Services by returned mail.

I am Sir
Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
'Signed' A. Proctor
Captain 56th Inf
Commanding Fort.

Official
Abraham
1st Lieutenant 27th Inf. A. C. C. Dist.

Head Quarters Mountain District 29th Jan'y '67

Engineering Department
Washington Camp 30, 1867

Wardle Lt Col Genl Staff
St Louis D.C.

8

General

In compliance with your request of the 5th instant for latest official maps of the whole region of Country, as well as useful to the Commanding Officer of the "Mountain District." I have to enclose herewith a copy of the Map of Yellow Stone and Missouri Rivers, showing Military ports, wagon roads &c.

By Order of Chief of Engineers

'Signed' J. C. Woodruff

Lt Col of Engineers

St Louis U.S.A.

Official
~~Wardle~~
Lieutenant 27th Regt Cavalry

W. A. Head Quartr. Mountain Dist. July 27, 1867

Head Qu. Department of the State
Inspection General Department
Orlando, Fla. Dec 28, 1866

Officers Commanding
St Louis Army, D.C.

9

Sir

I am directed by the General Commanding to instruct you to make, or cause to be made, a general inspection and report thereof of the Magazines, and its contents, and of all Ordnance and Ordnance Stores not in the hands of troops, showing their Character, Condition and Quantity, and to request suggestions as to what and, or are not exceeding surplus with reference to the present or probable future wants of your post, or posts likely to be supplied from yours.

Please let the report also show how and where surplus Ordnance and Ordnance Stores are stored, and the Character and adaptability of the Storehouses containing them.

All articles at the post will be included in the

report.

This report to be made with as little delay as is consistent with other duties.

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servant
(Signed) Lewis Merrill.

Official
~~W. W. W.~~
Lieutenant & J. of J. Inf. a. a. a. Capt.

Adj. Gen. U.S.A.
Chief Inspector Gen. a.

Post Head Quarters Mountain District. July 18th 1867.

Office of Chief of S.
Mountain District.
St Philip Kansas. July 8. 1867.

Materiel Lieutenant H. Scott.

C. S. St Philip Kansas, D.S.

10.

Sir,

You will please forward to this Office at once a Statement informing me when you will be able to forward your Estimates of Commissary Stores and Property for the remainder of the present year, this information is required by the Genl Comdr of the District in due time.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servant

Official
~~W. W. W.~~
Lieutenant & J. of J. Inf. a. a. a. Capt.

(Signed) J. E. Gandy
Adj. Gen. U.S.A.
Act. On Mt. U.S.A.

Post Head Quarters Mountain District - July 5th 1867.

St C. S. Smith, M. S.
July 7th 1867.

Grant Lieutenant H. Scott.

Adj. Gen. U.S.A. Mountain Dist.

St Philip Kansas, D.S.

11

Lieutenant I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt
 of the following Order - viz -
 Gen Order N^o 1, Mountain Dist, Dept. of the State, Jan'y 17, '67
 Gen Order N^o 2, Mountain Dist, do Jan'y 17, '67.
 Extracts - I II. III.

Very Respectfully
 Your Obedient Servant

Official
A. Brown

(Signed)

A. P. Haines
 Captain 27 U. S. Inf
 Guiding Post

Lieutenant 27 U. S. Inf.

Acting Head Quartr. Mountain District, Feb'y 15-67.

Wm. Dr. M. S. W. of the M^o.
 Office Chief County Marker -
 St Louis Mo. Feb'y 6, 1867.

Myers At King Geo. W.

Chy Dr. M^o Dept. of the State,
 Omaha, N. T.

12.

General -

I am accor'dance with instructions contained in
 an Order issued of the Dr. M^o Genl Salsg January 31, 1867, and
 a letter of At King Genl N. H. Hurdle dated St Louis N. T. Dec
 31, 1866. You will please authorize the issue of the Stationery
 necessary to secure the proper transaction of the public busi-
 ness of the Mountain District, Dept. of the State.

Very Respectfully
 Your Obedient Servant

(Signed) A. H. Donaldson
 Act Dr M^o Genl
 Chy Dr. M^o. N. T. M^o

Official
A. Brown

Lieutenant 27 U. S. Inf. 9.4.9. Genl

Acting Head Qu. Mountain District, M^o. Feb'y 19, 1867.

H. C. J. Smith M.D.
July 9 1867.

Print the 2^d List.

Adj. Sub. Maj. Genl Mountain Dist.

St. Philip, Maryland, U.S.

13.

Lieutenant.

I have the honor in reply to a Communication dated July 1st 1867, from the Mountain District, St. Philip, Maryland, U.S. July 20th 1867, to state for the information of the Genl. Adjt. Genl. -

That the Q. Master's Store at the Fort, contains the following articles of Clothing, Camp and Garrison Equipage required for the Fort for two Companies for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1867, and as follows -

Articles of Clothing, Camp and Garrison Equipage required for the Fort for two Companies for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1867, and as follows -

- 200. Drags Apr.
- 150. Uniform Coats
- 200. Pair Irons.
- 250. Pair Sack Coats (Lined)
- 250. Pair Shirts.
- 150. Pair Drawers.
- 250. do Stockings
- 200. do Boots (Frogged.)
- 100. do do (Lined.)
- 75. Woolen Blankets.
- 12. Camp Kettles.
- 12. Mess Pans.
- 100. New Handkerchiefs
- 2. Drums.
- 2. Pipes.



Of Drags Sufficient

Second - As to Subsistence Store, the kind and quantity required for the Fort, for two Companies for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1867, and as follows -

- Along - 16,875 lbs
- Beans 3,000 "
- Candles Adamantine 125 "
- Ref. Fruits 10,000 "

Sack - 1.875 lbs.
Pepper 87 1/2 "

For two Companies in addition to double the amount of the foregoing, required of.

Rice 1000 lbs.
Coffee Beans 1000 "
Tea 75 "



Requisitions for the above Articles of Q. M. and Subsistence Store will be sent to the Chief Qr. Mg. and P. S. of the Dept. by the Mail, also, Statements of Amounts on hand.

Third - The information relative to the present location and future plans of hostile Indians is derived wholly from the Crow Indians. Their statements are conflicting, but I believe the following is what they believe. That there are 200 lodges of Peyumun, at the confluence of the Rose Bud, with the Yellow Stone river, and they intend to cross the Yellow Stone before the snow melts. Several other lodges around the head waters of the Porcupine River, and other streams, between the Missouri and Yellow Stone Rivers, and they go to May. There are 1200 lodges of Sioux, near, or at the mouth of Tongue River, their intention is similar. There are 300 lodges of the Sans-Arcs-Sioux, at the mouth of Powder River. Their intentions are also similar. There are two other villages of Sioux, one of 50 and the other of 70 lodges. One is on Powder River, Tongue River or Rose Bud, who will act in concert with the Indians already mentioned. There are 60 lodges of Arapahoe camping on the Yellow Stone about ten miles above the mouth of Big Horn River. These last say they do not want to fight the Whites, but I judge they will cooperate with the others. It is the plan of the Sioux and Peyumun to induce the Blackfoot to join them with the Head and Gros-Beton of the Missouri. They have endeavored to obtain the cooperation of the Crow Indians, inviting the principal Chiefs to their villages, and loading them with presents. Their plan is to make an united effort to drive the Whites from this Country.

The Gros had been, and I am believing, driven to us finally - they brought me information of an intended attack on this Port, the last full moon, which I believe was only prevented by the severity of the weather. When their village left this vicinity, early in January they left two picked Warriors here to act as scouts, and give me information of the approach of the Enemy. The attack was to have been between the 12th and 16th January, and about the 20th January, the two picked men left for their village. The Gros are afraid to join us openly at present but would do so I think if a larger body of Troops were here. Before the news reached the Gros, and no of the late Lieutenant, Sir John Murray, the Gros would willingly have given information for us. But I was in daily expectation of a Mail, after that, the Gros was unwilling, and the weather was so severe, that such was impossible during the last part of January. Within a few days however, I have been fortunate enough to employ a half breed, by the name of Whiskey Boyer, who would have started the day after the Curious from Sir John Murray's tent, he will accompany them on their return. He is thoroughly acquainted with the Country, and will, I believe, prove invaluable, if kept away from Whiskey. After consulting with a party who came with Boyer from Virginia City, and with Mr Bridges, who are more or less acquainted with the strength of the hostile Indians I have made the following approximation of the several bands of hostile Sioux and Cheyennes.



Of the Tribes	Mu-wi-wi-Nay-joo.	430	Lodges.
"	"	300	"
"	"	170	"
"	"	140	"
"	"	120	"
"	"	120	"
"	"	150	"
"	"	180	"
"	"	490	{including 340 Northern.
"	"	400	"
"	"	160	"
"	"	60	"
	Total	2,720	Lodges



The Iron Chief has told me several times that they want to be the same as the White Man, and want to have a reservation, but that they are a small Nation and at war with all the tribes around, and unless the Whites are strong enough to protect them, they will be obliged in course of time to join the hostile Indians for their own preservation. That they had numerous treaties made at treaty with the Government, through Commissioners Edwards, Reed, and Cathey, (or Curtis) at Ft Union, at the Mouth of the Yellow Stone; the treaty on this part was, that they should remain at peace with the Whites and endeavor to induce other Indians to do so. That the Government was to send them \$25,000⁰⁰ worth of presents, to give them a reservation of their own selection, furnish them with implements, and then to instruct and enable them to farm, also sufficient quantity of stock. They desire me to tell the "Great Father" to send word how, when and where they can receive their presents. If that they had found as they told the Commissioners they would do, and that they would like to have their Reservation on the Big Horn River. In speaking of the Crow Indians referred almost entirely to the Mountain band whose strength is about a thousand warriors.

I mentioned above having heard of the disaster at Ft Philip Kearny, but I deemed it a great exaggeration until your Bureau arrived, confirming the news. As the statement of the Crow relative to our loss was brief, I will mention this statement of the Indian loss, which falls from 16 Sioux and 3 they seemed to be Sioux and 6 Cheyennes killed and a large number wounded, from 40 to 500 and some 200 Man Horse Lost.

I am directed to state by communication of 28th Jan'y from District Head Qr. The condition of the road is referred to especially to hostile Indians, between the Fort and Ft Philip Kearny. In reply I have to state that I believe the Indian villages to be more distant from the road than they have been at any time since August last. But what was further might be watching the road it is impossible to state. The nature of the Country through which the road runs is most favorable for attacks, especially between Dogue River and Little Horn River.

In relation to a plan for buying the Mail, twice a

mouth, or opening, while the present state of affairs continues, I would suggest that three Block houses, be built, one on or near Goose Creek, one on Tongue River, and one on Little Horn River, each block house to be two stories high, and of sufficient size to stable 15 or 20 animals on the first floor. The Mail can be carried with comparative safety by taking the mountains, which would take a day or two longer, and is at present I expect blocked with snow. As to its practicality, the Guide Boyer will be able to inform you on his arrival at Ft. Pitt Hammy, better than I can now.

I learn from Mr. Bridges, that should it be decided to pursue the Indian from Ft. Pitt Hammy, there is a good wagon road all the way to the Mouth of Tongue River from the point where they road crosses it, as there is also from this point down the Big Horn River, that should it be decided to attack them from the Missouri River, the best point to land is at Elk Horn prairie Creek, if the stage of water permit from that point a good road can be found for wagons. And troops to the Yellow Stone, and Big Horn at High Water, as far as the mouth of Little Horn River.

I made an effort to obtain the services of some one who would undertake to carry a mail through with some probability of a successful issue, but have been unable to do so, until within a few days.

The Government was unwilling to undertake it and though a number of my men volunteered, I would not accept of their services, as they are wholly unacquainted with Indian warfare and the nature of the country and I did not feel justified to send a sufficiently large party to stand openly in the day time, as it was reported also that the Indians were in camp in large force near the road.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servant

"Signed" M. C. Hammy.

Captain 27th Inf.

Adj. Genl. Co. U. S. A.

Comd'g Fort.

Official -

M. C. Hammy

1st Lieutenant 27th Inf. U. S. A.

Fort Union, Mountain Dist. July 14th 1867.



Head Quarters, Ft. Reno, D.C.
July 19th 1867.

Adjutant General Adjutant

Mountain District

Ft. Philip Henry, D.C.

14.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that after Blank Port Returns be furnished this post by return Mail.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servant

(Signed) S. F. Proctor

Captain 36th Inf
Columbiana

Official -

W. Brown

1st Lieutenant 27th Inf. a. a. G. S.

Head Quarters Mountain District, July 12th 1867.

Ft. C. D. Smith, W. D.

July 19th 1867.

Adjutant General Adjutant

Mountain District

Ft. Philip Henry, D.C.

15

Lieutenant

I have the honor to transmit herewith the Monthly Return of this Post for the 10th of February 1867.

Respectfully

Your Obedt Servant

(Signed) W. C. Kinney

Capt 27th U. S. Inf.
Quincy

Official -

W. Brown

1st Lieutenant 27th Inf. a. a. G. S.

Head Quarters Mountain District July 28th 1867.

Head Quarters Ft. Reno, D.C.

February 19th 1867.

Great Lieutenant 18th

18th U. S. Inf.

16
Adj. Genl. Adjutant General

Mountain District,

St. Philip Kansas, D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith Dr. Monthly Report of
St. Paul, D.C. for the ten days ending July 19th 1867.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servant

Official

Whitman

1st Lieutenant 27th Inf. U.S. Genl.

"Signed"

J. L. Proctor

Captain 34th U.S. Inf

Commanding

Post Head Quarters, Mountain District, July 17th 1867.

Head Quarters, Department of the States,

Owaha, Nebraska, July 16th 1867.

17
Hon. Secy Genl. U.S.A.

Guidg Mountain District

St. Philip Kansas, D.C.

General,

Your various reports made since your arrival in the Mountain District, have been received, and read with great satisfaction and copies of same sent to Lieut Genl Sherman for his information.

On my arrival here, I found you I found you acting under instructions given by my predecessor, Genl Cook, and as they appeared to embrace all that could be done under the circumstances, I did not deem it necessary to revise them.

I have every reason to feel assured that you are doing all in your power to bring order out of the fearful chaos existing in that District, and every thing you desire to do you shall be supplied, if within my power to grant.

Though I am confident you are making every possible effort to do so already, I can not refrain from urging upon you, in the most earnest manner to have an effort united to a few communications with St. C. J. Smith.

My anxiety concerning that fact is connected with

the present numbers of Extended Circulations of Indians in that vicinity is very great.

I am glad to hear that Curry has made its appearance, amongst your troops. I have ordered a large supply of Anti-Serbitics, to be sent you at once from St. Lawrence. Fresh vegetables cannot be sent, as they will freeze on the way. The Commissary will have a quantity of fresh potatoes pickled, and in that way I hope they will reach you in addition to annual further progress of the disease.

I doubt if active field operations against the Indians will commence before some time in April. Meanwhile, I wish no effort spared to have Officers and men, as thoroughly prepared for that duty as is possible. I am to have truck loads for all troops in the Department, and they shall be sent to you as soon as they arrive.

I have written you fully by my opportunity, to the Office. Carefully and spirally. Your long Service with Indians and Knowledge of the Country will enable you to give me much valuable information, and many useful suggestions, for all of which I shall be greatly obliged.

The Commissary Department has complained that no returns have been gotten from St. John's Huron. I wish you would have this corrected, and have returns rendered for supply.

I am, Sir,
Very Respectfully

(signed) P. C. Piquet
St. John's Huron

Official -
W. W. W. W.
Lieutenant 24th Regt. A.A. Cavalry

Head Quarters, Mountain District March 5th 1867.

Head Quarters, St. John's Huron, D.C.
February 16th 1867.

W. W. W. W.
Lieutenant 24th Regt. A.A. Cavalry
Chief Clerk, Department

18 Department of the State.

Omaha, N.D.

Omb.

In obedience to the enclosed letter of instructions and endorsement thereof, I have this day inspected the Magazine at Fort Totten, N.D., and the Ordnance and Ordnance Stores there in Outbuildings, and not in the hands of troops, including the Artillery at the Fort.

I find that the plan of the Magazine was sent to Dept. Quar. Quarries, from this post Dec 3, 1866. It is not built precisely as drawn if the plan I have is the same as that forwarded.

The Magazine is 16 feet square, 8 feet high, and is not quite half below the surface of the ground. It has no drainage, but perhaps would remain dry, so far as drainage is concerned, without it, on account of the nature of the soil. It is located on the Public Grounds, and is now surrounded with a Stockade of plank, about 50 yards square. This plank Stockade is 6 feet high, and loopholed, being spiked on top.

The Magazine is too small, and will perhaps in the Spring become damp, and unfit for the preservation of powder or arms.

I consider it a very bad Magazine. It has no Ceiling or roof which and the outside timber has no ventilation, and the moisture of the soil is likely to be felt in the air of the Magazine.

The following is a list of the Articles inspected and now in the Magazine, excepting the Artillery and some Old Horse Equipments.

3	Shov	12	For Mountain	Horstman	Cartridges
1	Aw	12	do	Field	do
3	Shov	12	do	Mountain	do H. Canjan
1	Aw	12	do	Field	do do
3	Shov	12	do	Mountain	do Cartridges
3	Shov	12	do	do	do Saw Whet
1	Aw		Bucked Car - (Snow Saw)		do
2	Tr		do Hating - Gutta - Percha		do
4	Iron		Fuzs Gouge. L. Prouman		do
1	Aw		Sawans Field Field		do
2	Tr		do Hamsuck		do

11-	Iron, Naudspike, Nail -	Terrible
3-	Iron, sets City Necess for 2, What horse.	Incomplete,
4-	Iron, do do do do 2 bag do	do
3-	Iron, Sack Saddles for Mountain Horses	do
8-	Sight, Lanyards for Friction Prisms,	Terrible
1-	Iron, Saddle Necess for 12. Pr. Mt.	do
2-	Iron, do do Pouches do	do
1-	Iron, Port Fire Case	do
4-	Iron, Training Wheel - Park.	do
2-	Iron, Prolongue -	do
1-	Iron, Sponges for 12 Pr. Mt.	do
1-	Iron, Sponges and Hammer 12. Pr. Fire -	do
3-	Iron, do do do 12. do. Mt.	do
1-	Iron, Sargent Stabs, 6. Pr. Fire Gun	do
3-	Iron, Sargent Stabs	do
6-	Iron, Sargent Pouches	do
2-	Iron, Sargent Cross - Field	do
1-	Iron, do Pouches do	do
29	Twenty Nine, Shell Pins 12. Pr. Mt.	5. Uncorr-
108.	One Hundred Eighty - Eight - Shell Pins 12. do do	3. do
126.	One Hundred Twenty Six, do do do.	Terrible
96.	Ninety Six - Canister, do do	do
64.	Sixty Four, do do Park	do
108.	One Hundred Eighty - Eight, Shell do do	do
89,000.	Eighty Nine Thousand - Long Range Cartridges - Cal. '58.	do
3000.	Three Thousand do do do '54	do
31,000.	Thirty one Thousand - Spencer Cartridges do do '58	do
15,000.	Fifteen Thousand do do do '56	do
3200.	Thirty two hundred, Navy Revolvers - do '56	do
1,000	One thousand - Spang Car Cartridges do '52	do
7500.	Seventy five hundred, Army Revolvers do '44	do
97.	Ninety Seven, Springfield Rifles Muzzle's Complete, Cal '58.	do
115.	One Hundred and fifteen, Bayonet Scabbards -	
120	do do Twenty Cartridges Navy and Pistol -	
119	do do Two Cup Pouches and Picket -	
120.	do do twenty Nails	

8.	Eight	Ball Carrio.		
80.	Eighty	Spaw Gun		
80.	Eighty	Carus Divas		
80.	Eighty	Compass		
8	Eight.	Spring Vices		
8	Eight.	Camblet Punches.		
80	Eighty.	Nipps		
20	Twenty	Main Spring S.		
10.	Ten	Car Spring S.		
20.	Twenty	Camblet Carrio S.		
4.	Four.	Shaw Chute.		
30.	Thirty	Spencer Rifle Carrio. No. 10 1865. Cal. 50.		
11,000.	Eleven Thousand.	do do do Cartridges		do 56.
63.	Sixty three	Bits		Unserviceable
33.	Thirty three	Nails	15	do
74.	Seventy four	Saddles	11	Worthless
81.	Eighty one	Camp Cooks.	22	do
83.	Eighty three	Novel Buckles	11	do
20.	Twenty	Carriots and Pans.		Serviceable
2.	Two	Shoe Bags		Unserviceable
65	Sixty five	Saddles Blankets		Worthless
33.	Thirty three.	Surcingle	5	do

In addition to the above I find some 56. Shell. 52. Spherical Amm. and 21. Quinzer, in the trunks boxes of the Camp Carrio. 94. and in the possession of the Artillery detachment. I also find quite a number of the Camp in the Magazine, having been spoiled by exposure to dampness and moisture.

The Artillery Gun had had bad usage, and the Carrio was not in the best condition, but could be made serviceable with repair, and paint at this post. The Mares need thorough repair, if it is decided to use it as a Campaign of any duration. It can be fixed at this post by the Saddler in about one month.

The Pack saddle need much repair. Could be fixed at this post by a Mechanic.

The Artillery Ammunition, is More or less injured by age and transportation, Some of it has been at Kanamin for Year. The Small Arms and Ammunition are in good Condition.

I recommend that the Magazines be repaired and fixed with new rivets being put on, in Order to keep it dry, and also that a Store Room be built for Amm. &c. That in Case an Expedition is intended against Indians and it is desired to use Artillery, that such Artillery be furnished complete from some Arsenal.

Not knowing what ports it is intended this Post shall supply, or what troops it is intended to keep at this Post I am unable to speak with regard to future wants, Having given the Store and haul, the Data for this information is furnished depending upon the distribution of Troops and Orders.

I would also recommend that an Ordnance Sergeant be ordered to this Post.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servant

(Signed)

J. Van Dorn

Major 18th U. S. Inf.

Official of

Montgomery

Lieutenant 27th Inf. U. S. A.

Fort Huachuca, Mountain District, July 16th, 1867.

Head Quarters Fort Laramie D.T.
February 18th 1867.

Litchfield Major H. G.

19

Actg Aft Adjt Genl
Dept of the Platte
Omaha

Major

I beg leave respectfully to call the attention of the Commanding General, to the manner in which the mails are carried between this ^{Post} and Forts Reno, Philip Kearney and Casper, and to suggest what I think would be a better plan

I have copied for the General a small map of the route lately made by Captain Hartz, and which I think is very correct. It will be seen by this that the distance to Fort Philip Kearney is about 234 miles and to Fort Reno about 170 miles from here to Fort Casper is about 140 miles. The mail to Fort Renond Philip Kearney is carried in this wise. A citizen Mail Carrier, a Guide and 12 mounted men start weekly from Fort Philip Kearney and come down past Fort Reno to Bridgers ferry, which is 53 miles above this place, then a detachment from this place receives the mail, and brings it here. The distance from Fort Philip Kearney to the Ferry is about 180 miles, which is travelled in five days each way, thus each week 24 horses living on less than half rations of forage and used for this purpose and I think it is fair to say that fifty per cent of the animals thus used will be hors-de-service after making a few of these trips

Now the distance from Fort Philip Kearney to Fort Reno (64 miles) is only one good stage, the distance from Reno to South fork Cheyenne is another good stage (say about 60 miles) and from South fork of Cheyenne to Bridgers Ferry another stage of 60 miles, and from the Ferry here 53 miles.

Now I would propose to erect a small defensive work at South fork of Cheyenne and place there from the Garrison at Reno twelve or fifteen Infantry, and establish a relay of mules there. The Mail party should travel habitually in the night

and it need consist of no more than two mounted men with one pack mule for the mail. You may assert that Indians are never dangerous in the night, and now that the winter will soon be breaking these night rides can be made easily and safely, and will save our stocks.

I would send a party such as I have designated to the Ferry and keep a relay there, if the same thing is done at Cheyenne, we would only need the two relays between this Post and Fort Philip Kearny. Fort Casper is about 40 miles from the South fork of the Cheyenne, and they should send from there a similar party to the Cheyenne for the mail which I would direct to be left at the Station for them. At present a party of fifteen mounted men is sent from Casper to Bridgers Ferry a distance of 85 miles, for the mail when they would get it much easier and without using up their stocks by sending the 40 miles to the Cheyenne. This matter is so easy to arrange, and it would save so much horse flesh and expense. (The Quartermaster hires several mail carriers at \$10. per day to carry the mail now this would be useless, in case the proposed change is made and in fact I think they now are) that I have thought it will worth the attention of the Commanding General, who I know will not object to my having a keen eye at this time to our horse flesh.

I am Major Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant

Official

Signed

J. W. Palmer

~~W. H. Brown~~

1st Bot Brig Gen USA Comdg

1st Lieutenant, 27th U.S. Infy, U.S.A. Genl.

Recd Head Quarters Mts Dist March 16th 1867.

Fort Le Smith M.T.
February 20th 1867

21
Adjutant Genl., Acting Assistant
Mountain District
Fort Philip Kearny D.T.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith the Tri-Monthly
Return of this Post for February 20th 1867.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt. Servt

Official (Sg'd
~~W. W. W.~~
1st Lieut 27th Inf. U.S.A., Genl

W. C. Kinney,
Capt 27th Infantry
Comd'g Post

Rec'd 16th Lt. Mt. Dist. April 28th 1867.

Head Quar. Fort Reno D.T.
February 24th 1867.

21
Adjutant General, Actg Assistant
Mountain District
Fort Philip Kearny D.T.

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith Tri-Monthly
reports of Fort Reno D.T. for February 20th 1867

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt. Servt

Official (Sg'd
~~W. W. W.~~
1st Lieut 27th Inf. U.S.A., Genl

J. L. Proctor
Capt 36th U.S. Infy
Comd'g Post

Rec'd 16th Lt. Mt. Dist. February 26th 1867.

Fort C. D. Smith.

July 27. 1867.

Respectfully
A. A. J. Mountain Dist.

A. A. J. Mountain Dist.

Sir.

I have the honor to report, for the information of the General Quarters, that I arrived here with my Command and train on the 23rd inst. and immediately despatched Quinn to Ft. "Shiloh" to report. I found the garrison well and in good order, and the reports that go down with this, with them that the Command is now in good health. I enclose Map showing the route marched, and beg to call the General's attention to the road from Fort "Shiloh" to Tongue River, known as the Cut off. It is a bad road, nearly all the way, and I must advise against any loading train being sent over it again; no, from all the information I can get, it is much worse than the old road, and by my estimate, eight (8) miles longer. The Country through which we passed between Tongue River, in my view, well watered, and the grass and timber abundant. On Beaver Fork, about twenty (20) miles from "Shiloh" and near the Mountains, a large amount of Hay could be cut, and if the Fort of "Shiloh" is moved, this would furnish a fine location, as the timber grows very near the road.

I had no trouble from Indians, though they were in sight, in small numbers. Every day, I moved the train in double line all the way. Except in passing I came and defiles. And I must advise that trains be moved in this way, whenever attacks are apprehended, as they are commencing in our quarters of the train. The store and freight were all unloaded, in "good order and condition". I regret to say that the Arms and Ammunition for "C. D." were not on the train, this is a serious disappointment, not only to the Company, but myself. And I cannot see, how they failed to be loaded at "Shiloh". I request that they may be no failure about their coming up by the Extra train. On the 22nd the Cross Chief came into my camp from this camp on the Little Horn. Crazy Head, Snow Bull, White Mouth and others, and spent the night with us. Yesterday, they moved this village up here, and



and now Camped around here in large numbers. I had a talk with the Chiefs to day, and they expressed themselves as willing to go when I told them. I advised them to go across the Big Horn, and remain for the present. I think it best that they should go across the river to get out of the way of the Sioux. They have been Camped near the Sioux for some time and I am satisfied that this influence is bad. They have traded with the Sioux, and have a large number of mules and Horses, which they have got in exchange for goods, but they generally they having sold them any powder. One Chief, Holy Horn, says they have traded powder for ponies, and I think this is true. The Grows do not behave well, and though the Chiefs pretend to be friendly, the Young men are not in a friendly humor. I distrust the Grows and shall not be surprised to find them hostile: but I shall do every thing in my power to prevent their taking part in the Indian war. I think the Young men are breaking away from the control of the Chiefs, and disposed to act for themselves. They bring a good many reports from the Sioux, but I do not place much reliance on them, among others, they say, the Sioux told them they were going to attack this Post, as well as "Kang" and "The Hearing". I give no heed to this. Except to put the Post in as good condition as possible for a fight. I camped this Camp in outside after my arrival, intending to keep them out for the summer, but since the arrival of the Grows, I have put them all inside the Stockade, mainly to keep the Indians away from the men. They are a set of thieves and steal every thing they can get hold of: so this was sure to lead to a quarrel. I thought it best to keep them away from the men. Some of the Grows came in to day who say they were in the Sioux Camp yesterday, when some of their Scouts came in with the report that the Dr Train had left for this place, and that they immediately sent out all their men on the road to meet it. Of course I do not believe this and only give it as one of the reports.

I find this Post in a very rough state, and foresee a good deal of hard work to put it in decent shape for winter. I shall commence hauling timber next week, and building up as fast as possible. I shall hear some news of the buildings, and although

the plan, so as to make the outer wall of the house. The deficiency in
 law, I do not think it practicable to remove the Port, as it
 cannot be got near a supply of timber so far as pricing infor-
 mation enables me to judge. I have been down the river with
 Maj Gordon, some dozen miles but do not find the grasses
 good as was represented. I think however, there will not be
 any difficulty in finding a supply for the Port. I found
 out very early here that a Contract for three hundred and
 fifty (350) tons of Hay, has been let to Mr. Richard, for \$1.
 (about Dollars 17) per ton, and the machine with Cummins acting
 on the Contract tomorrow. I shall have another Contract let
 for two hundred (200) tons more. The Surgeon reports to
 me that there is no one at the Port qualified to act as Doc-
 tor at St. Phil. Kearney. He has informed me that there are two others
 at St. Phil. Kearney. I respectfully request that one of
 them be transferred to this Port.

I desire to call the General's attention to the matter
 of supplying Flour and Potatoes (or their price from Gallatin
 Valley. Potatoes can be Contracted for at fourteen (14) Cents
 per pound. Including here, this is only about the cost of freight
 from Omaha to this Port. And the Potatoes from the valley are
 much better in quality, than those brought from below. The flour
 from Gallatin Valley costs twenty three (23) Cents here and yields
 one hundred and thirty (130) pounds of bread to the hundred pounds.
 There is no doubt, that there is Economy, both in time and money
 to Contract for winter supplies in Montana, while at the
 same time it encourages the border settlements, which I under-
 stand it is the policy of the Govt to do. Mr. Richard and other re-
 sponsible parties are ready to Contract for such amounts as
 may be wanted, and there is no doubt of their ability to fill
 their Contracts.

One of the deserters from W. Co. who left the camp at
 St. Phil. Kearney camp in yesterday, and gave himself up, I request
 to state that a Corporal and five men from W. Co. deserted last
 night with this crew. This is the worst Company I ever saw
 in point of morals and discipline. I saw that there is not a



the so lead in the Regt. and I hope not in the Service. I shall do my utmost to make them soldiers and creditable to the Regiment. I am informed that Mr. Bridg the District Guide has been transferred to this Post. He is not much here, our guide for this Post being sufficient in my judgment. If it is the Generals wish that he remain here, I have no objection: but I should prefer that he should not be transferred to the Quarter Master's papers here. I do not intend at this time to send about the 1st of September. Mean time I shall get out timber, and Stone, frame buildings so, so that they can be put up quickly when we remove.

We have building Stone & lime Stone within 21 miles of the Post. & good Lumber within two (20) miles.

My chief man is a Jew good Mechanic to assist in building the Storehouse and Quarters. and I regret that the District Commanding Officer would not send him here for this Post if possible. If the General Commanding Officer inspect this Post, he would not see the force of this request. Every building but the two Storehouses has got to come down and be rebuilt. First, because they are not fit to keep officers and men in. Second, because they are built without any system or order. and have got to be removed, to make a permanent and safe Post. In addition to this long Storehouse and ordered building, and Officers Quarters, must be built. The Quarters now occupied by the Officers of the Garrison, and nothing but shanties and are as disgraceful to the Country and Army. This is not a glory in the place, and the only roof, is a thin layer of gummy Sacks and dirt. I cannot build a good Post, without some skilled labor. That I cannot get out of my Command. and for this reason, I fear I shall fail in what is expected of me.

I send that Surgeon Mr. Perry down by this train, as I think this will be no objection to his going home. and there is apparently no hope of his recovery here.

I have a detail of about twenty (20) men and boys for sent in to. Most of them are among with the Sugar Cane, which they have got of Mexico and others. There is no Sugar Ammunition at the Post. and I request that a small quantity be sent here from St. Phil. Army.

I enclose Statement of Quarter Master and Commissary Stores on hand and Estimates for the coming Year also, report of Asst. Surgeon

Guiding, as to the Sanitary Condition of the Camp. Hospital &c.

Saw my anxious to get a supply of Ammunition: the quantity brought up furrier has but about two hundred and fifty rounds (lbs) per man, for my Command.

Enclosed a Map of the route marched from St. Louis to this Port. The distance given differs from other Estimates, but the En route over Hazen and Dodge Estimates, is mainly in the new route from "Harney" to "Smith".

July 30. The Corps all moved off camp last night. Except "Crow Bull" and a few of his men, they go this morning. The different bands are all going to unite on Dryer river, and hunt and furs up to the Yellow Stone. After getting a supply of meat and skins, they will come over to the Big Horn. I am not satisfied that the Corps are our fast friends. "Crow Bull" is friendly but "Crazy Head" and other Chiefs I distrust. They have all been trading with the Sioux, and I believe the Sioux have got most of Minnie's property. And they have a large herd of Horses and mules, got from the Sioux either as presents, or in trade.

At present, the Corps are out of the way of the Sioux and cannot do any mischief. "Crow Bull" and two of his young men will return here in about a month, and I shall employ them to carry the Mail to this Harney.

I request that the blank warrants for Non-Commissioned Officers which the Secy. is providing for this Port, be sent up by next train.

I'm the Experiment with the Flour is stored here of in the following rough, States Flour One hundred and forty (140) pounds of bread, to One hundred (100) pounds of Flour. Wheat-flour One hundred and fifty (150) pounds of bread to One hundred (100) pounds of Flour. This is a larger yield than it will average probably, but the proportions will be about the same.

Saw much indebted to St. Major Gordon for valuable assistance on the march. His duty has been for forcing to my entire satisfaction.

I have the honor to be
Your Obedt Servant



(Signed) L. J. Bradley.

1866 27th July -
Camp 9 Fort

Official -

Merriman

1st Lieutenant 27th U. S. Inf. A. S. A. FortRec^d Was Quarter Mountain District, August 3rd 1867.

Fort Philip Henry, D. C.

July 31st 1867.

Dorcas Hill A. S.

27th U. S. Inf.

2.

Fort Adjutant.
Sir.

In compliance with the direction of the commanding Officer, to furnish a statement of the Efficiency of the Medical Department in this District. I have the honor to refer to you the necessity of at least two (2) additional Medical Officers. For the following reasons, viz:-

Our Medical Officer, will be inefficient to perform all the duties required of that Department at this Post in the approaching Fall and Winter, when the number of sick requiring treatment will far exceed that existing at present. The Camps in the Quarter Mountain Department and other Regions at the Post require about much time and Medical attention, during last winter, when the sick call of the Garrison numbered at one time upwards of ninety soldiers.

There is only one Medical Officer at present, here, viz myself. My Assistant Dr Giedroff having recently been ordered to St. P. O. Smith, to return Acting Assistant Surgeon McCune who is reported to be invalid. The latter is the only Surgeon at that Post. In consideration of the early termination of the Contract of Acting Asst Surgeon Giedroff, and of the vigorous efforts made by all the Contract Surgeons hitherto in the District, to get away from the Country as soon as possible, after their Contract expired. I would respectfully represent the necessity of an additional Medical Officer for that Post.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully -

Your Obedt Servant

(Signed) S. M. Norton.

Asst Surgeon. ^{and 1st Major U.S.A.}

Post Surgeon.

Official.

[Signature]

1 Lieutenant 27th U.S. Inf. A.S.A. Genl.

Recd News Quarter, Mountain District, August 5th 1867.

St P. S. Smith, M.D.

July 27th 1867.

Grabley

Lieut Col L.S.

St Regis Genl U.S.A.

General:

I have the honor to request that as Steward of the Regular Army be ordered to this Post, as soon as possible, to retain the present Acting Steward, who is not competent for the faithful performance of his duties. I do especially recommend Steward Brecher, now on duty at St Philps Station, who is known to me to be able and worthy and true fitting for the position.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt.

(Signed) Francis Fitching.

A. A. Surgeon, U.S.A.

Official.

1 Lieutenant 27th U.S. Inf. A.S.A. Genl.

[Signature]

Recd News Quarter, Mountain District, August 3rd 1867.

St Philps Station, N.D.

August 5th 1867.

Imman

Lieutenant A.S.

27th U.S. Inf

A.S.A. Genl. Mountain District

Lieutenant -

I have the honor to refer to you that Ad's Asst Surgeon

J. M. Chay, U. S. A. (late Post Surgeon at Ft. O. Smith, Mo.) was last night brought to this Post inland. He is not in a condition to be left alone, but requires constant watching, night & day. He has already made out escape from the Garrison, but was caught on one of the adjacent bluffs and brought back. From information received he has been in this condition for more than one month.

I have the honor to request, that the Acting Medical Officer in Charge be advised and incensed to have him removed to the State by the next train, which leaves the Post tomorrow.

I have the honor to be,

Very Respectfully

Yours, Oth. Serrano

"Sign": S. M. Norton

Act Surgeon & Lt. Col. U. S. A.
Post Surgeon.

Official.

Lieutenant 27th U. S. Inf. A. S. Inf.

~~Head Quarters, Mount Airy, Virginia, August 4th, 1867.~~

Head Quarters C. O. 27th U. S. Inf.

Ch. Philip Kearny, P. S. Aug 4th, 1867.

Private Lieutenant A. H.

27th U. S. Inf.

Post Adjutant, Ch. Philip Kearny, P. S.

Sign

I have the honor to present for the information of the Post and Department Commanders, a report of the Engagement between a large body of hostile Indians, supposed to be Sioux, Cheyenne, and Arapahoes, numbering at the least Est. Etimate, Three Thousand (3000) Men, and Part of my Company (C. O. 27th Inf.) consisting of Amuly six (261) Cavalry men, four (4) Artillery, and one (1) Officer (myself included); which occurred near Piney Island, five (5) miles from this Post, on the 2nd day of August, 1867.

On the 31st day of July, 1867, pursuant to Special Order No. 128, bearing date July 31st, 1867, I left this Post with fifty one (51) Cavalry Men, and one (1) Officer, for the purpose of Escorting and furnishing details to protect the laboring parties engaged by Contractor J. R. Doherty

in hauling food to the Fort.

Upon my arrival at the above named place, I found the train divided: One part encamped on a plateau and with our Exception the position well selected for defence, and the best vicinity that the Country afforded for the Fort. The other part was encamped about one mile distant, in a South Westerly direction, on a commanding point across the Little Pine Cut, at the foot of the Mountains.

My details consisted in sending orders (12) Men to protect the working parties of both trains, and sustain them as Escort to the trains when coming into the Fort.

On the Morning in question, I had made the usual details, which left the Trinity Co. (26) Men, four (4) Officers and one (1) Officer about mentioned at my disposal.

About 9 o'clock in the Morning, two hundred (200) Indians, attacked the herd, in charge of the herd, driving them off. At the same time, some five hundred (500) attacked the train at the foot of the Mountains, driving off the Men belonging thereto, and burning it. Some fifteen minutes afterwards, I was surrounded by about eight hundred (800) Mounted Indians, but owing to the very effective fire of my small party, they were driven back with considerable loss. Finding they could not enter the Corral, they retired to a hill about five hundred (500) yards distant, and then stopping for some determined fighting. They with additional reinforcements continuing to charge us on foot, for three consecutive hours, but were each time repulsed.

The hills in the immediate vicinity were covered with Indians, who merely acted as Spectators, until they saw some fruitless efforts of the Curadores near my Corral, when they also moved up, and seemed determined to carry my position at all hazards. And Malheur my command, which they would do a God by hand down, but that it first was Benjamin J. Smith, Major 27th U. S. Inf. was seen approaching with reinforcements, when they retired, leaving some of the dead and wounded men in the Corral, thus closing the fight about half past twelve (12 1/2) o'clock, P.M.

In my opinion there was not less than Sixty (60)

Indians. Killed on the spot, and One hundred ^{and twenty} (124) Comely
Wounded. Although the Enemy, who took part in the action, are of the
opinion that my Estimate is far below the actual figures.

The following is a list of the Casualties at my Camp

- 1 Lieutenant Jos C. Saunders Co. B. 27th U. S. Infantry.
- Private Thomas C. Doyle " " "
- " Henry Haggerty " " "

- Killed while Escaping from the other Camp
- Private Thomas Hittidge Co. B. 27th U. S. Inf.
 - " Abraham Langs " " " "
 - " George W. Harris " " " "

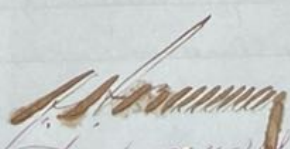
- Wounded
- Private Nelson S. Saucier Co. B. 27th U. S. Inf.
 - " John L. Saucier " " " "

That we Escaped with such a comparatively small
loss, considering the large numbers operating against us, ^{and} this
being so well supplied with Cartridges and other beach loading Arms, is
due in a very great Measure to the gallantry ^{and} Colours, displayed by
the Men of my Company, together with the excellent Marksmanship.

As the death of Lieutenant Saucier, the Service has lost a
gallant ^{and} promising Young Officer, One, who had Edeared himself
to his Parade, ^{and} who on the morning of his death, fell, while setting
a noble Example of Courage ^{and} daring to those who were serving with him.

Yours Obediently
 Your Obedt Servant
 "Signed" James Torrey.
 Captain 27th U. S. Inf.
 First Major, U. S. A.
 Craig's Company

Official -



1st Lieutenant 27th U. S. Inf. J. A. S. Torrey

Red Bank Canton, Mountain District, August 2nd 1867

Fort Philip Henry D. D.
August 3rd 1867.

Comandant Kautanauf N. N.

27th U. S. Inf.

Fort Adjutant -

Sir -

I was commanded with my Caval Order, from the Fort Major General Commanding. I have the honor to make the following report of Operations of my Command, sent to relieve the Wood party which was supposed to be in danger from a large party of hostile Indians, knowing themselves in the vicinity of the Fort.

Yesterday about Guard mounting hostile Indians, made their appearance on all sides of the Fort, at first a few, but gradually increasing to several hundreds. About 11th Clock, Scouts made indications that the Wood party and its Guard, five miles in the distance were in imminent danger. Fort Major Genl John E. Smith, Chief, directed me to proceed to their relief with Kautanauf, Pannely, Paulus and W. C. City of the 27th Inf. and several hundred selected men of the Pennsylvania Regiment from Companies N. and J. Also took a Mountain Horse and two Ox Wagons. The Cavalry teamsters being armed. My Command started about 11.30 P.M. and proceeded cautiously to the Spring, with Spanishes and Hanken thrown out; on nearing the Corral of the Wood party, and about a mile and a half from it, I discovered that a high hill near the road and overlooking the Corral of the Wood party, was occupied by a large party of Indians, in my estimation five or six hundred men in all, many more probably concealed. The grass was burning in every direction. The Indians appearing disposed to make a stand. I turned off the road to the right, some four hundred yards, to occupy the extreme right point of the hill which was flanked on that side by a steep precipice, with the intention, after securing it to follow the ridge to the Corral of the Wood party, commanded by Fort Major Powell 27th Inf. Before turning from the road, in obedience to instructions I fired a shot from the mortar, as a signal to inform Fort Major Powell's Command, that assistance was near; the shell fired was in the direction of the Indians, but fell short as I anticipated.



Feb. 2, Capt. Dancy to his concert. Found as a number of Mounted Indians, who
 were riding towards my Camp, turned and fled. Upon my ascending to
 the crest of the hill, all had disappeared from it and were seen across the Cut
 on an opposite hill about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away leaving all dead to Major
 Powell's Cavalry. Arriving there I saw Evidence of a stubborn and severe fight;
 the wagons had been riddled with bullets, and a large number of an-
 nals were found in the Cavalry. Lieutenant Sumner and two Soldiers had been
 killed and two Soldiers wounded. I also saw the dead bodies of three In-
 dians which had been left on the ground. The Cavalry were all gone. Major
 Powell gave me a description of his fight, but as he will make a more
 full report, I will not detail it. I found his force inside the Cavalry
 in strength about twenty four. Some Citizen Wood Choppers and Soldiers
 numbering about four ten, came into the Cavalry after my arrival, hav-
 ing abandoned their wagons in the woods. They had been driven away
 by the Indians, who took possession of the Castle and destroyed the
 wagons. So reported to me. There were some said to be about three miles
 from the Cavalry and now were here. Another small Cavalry of seven Wag-
 ons belonging to Mr. Weston was about a mile and a half from Major
 Powell, no one coming in from it. I sent Lieutenant Connelly with his
 Company to Ascertain its fate. He returned, reporting the Wagons burning, all but
 two, the men and Cattle gone, no Evidence of any one killed or wounded there. It
 afterwards appeared that these men fled to the Mountains. I now returned to
 the Fort before my Command, and a few are still missing, supposed to have
 been killed. After carefully placing the dead and wounded of Major Powell's
 Command in the wagons and loading all the most valuable articles re-
 maining to carry I abandoned every thing else, and in accordance with
 my instructions all returned to the Fort, and without further Event seeing no
 Indians.

I will give it as my opinion that if Major Powell's Men had
 been Arrived with Muzzle, instead of Great Loads, that his Party would have
 been manacred before my arrival.

In this Connection I will refer to the indifference and Carelessness of
 Citizen Wagon and Wagon Masters of Train and Stock in this most dangerous
 of all the Indian Country, the fact of constantly burning their Stock, too
 far out, in exposed places. And in this Particular Case of Mr. Weston's Train
 being a mile and a half from reasonable protection, and unable to stop.

Eats with Major Smith, is of constant annoyance to Officers in Command of Guards, who endeavor to give all the protection in their power, and Genl Smith will remember the trouble he has on this point during our late March Excursions to join this post with Outrigger trains.

I take great pleasure in mentioning the zeal and efficiency of the Officers, Lieutenants Conolly, Paulus and McCarty, and the men of my Command.

Having arrived, I think all the ground, concerning my Movements, I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Yours Obedt Servt

(Signed) S. J. Smith.

Major 27th Infantry
1st Lt Col. U. S. A.



Official
~~W. H. ...~~
Lieutenant 27th U. S. Inf.
A. S. A. S. G. S.

Red Cross Quarters, Mountain District, August 8th 1867.

St. C. J. Smith, M. D.

July 27th 1867.

Bradley
Lieut Col 27th U. S. Inf.
1st Brig Gen. U. S. A.
Gen. Ob.

I have the honor to request that a Car be furnished to this Post, for the benefit of the sick, which being an indispensable article of duty in the treatment of the sick which cannot be procured at present from any source.

I am

Most respectfully

Yours Obedt Servant

(Signed) Francis G. ...

A. S. Surg. U. S. A.

Official
~~W. H. ...~~
Lieutenant 27th U. S. Inf.
A. S. A. S. G. S.

Red Cross Quarters, Mountain District, August 3rd 1867.

St. P. J. Smith, M.D.

July 30 1867.

St. Brig. Gen. H. S.

Kint. Col. 27th U.S. Inf.

Kearney:



I have the honor to report on the condition of the Medical Department at this Post, the following.

The Hospital buildings have been built hastily for temporary use, and are entirely inadequate for the purpose, the ward is 7 feet high, ventilated by windows, 2 by 3 feet square and has to be evacuated in case of rain storm. The above room 10 by 10 cannot hold one fourth of the supplies which will come up this fall. No room for the stores is provided for. The 10 by 12 and 6 feet high, much too small. A new Hospital is a necessity for the Post and has to be built before cold weather sets in.

The Dispensary is in charge of a skilled man, a regular Army Steward is very much needed. Some hospital stores and medicines have gone out. A full supply is expected next November. The quarters of the men assigned for temporary use are low, narrow, dark and poorly ventilated allowing a very insufficient supply of air and light, 400 cubic feet being the minimum of space a well man ought to breathe in, these quarters do not allow more than 200th feet to the man. Stagnant air is one of the causes of Scurvy as demonstrated last winter at Ft. Pitt Kearney, when 5th Co. 15th U.S. Inf. quartered in tents remained entirely free of Scurvy when all other troops were severely affected. It would be the creation of new and spacious quarters necessary for the comfort and health of the troops.

The same applies to the Officers quarters, the location of the Post is healthy, and water good, the health of the troops satisfactory. The Post ought to be well provided with Anti-Scurvy food as specified by Tables of any description, dried fruit, Molasses and Potatoes and especially turnips, which keep good and palatable at the West Starvation.

I am

Most respectfully

Yours Obediently

"Sign" Francis Gooding.

M.D. Surg. U.S.A. Chief Surgeon

Official

Kint. Col. 27th U.S. Inf.No. 100 Quar. Mountain District, August 5th 1867

Fort P. Smith, W.V.
Aug 3rd 1867.

Washington 1st Lieut Geo W.

27th U.S. Inf
Post Adjutant
P. S. Smith, W.V.



Sir

I have the honor to report, that at 4 O'Clock P.M. August 1st 1867. I was ordered with "G" Co, 27th U.S. Inf. to go to the relief of Lieut E. R. P. Shurley, 27th U.S. Inf. who was in charge of twenty mounted Infantry, and Pikes. (Employees) and was engaged with Indians whilst reconnoitering the ground between the Garrison and the hay field.

I proceeded with my force until I found a junction with Lieut Shurley, when the Indians with whom he was engaged retired out of range.

When I had secured Lieut Shurley from danger, I was about to return to the Post, when I received a reinforcement of a detachment of "H" Co, 27th U.S. Inf. 1st Lt R. S. Denton being our Mountain howitzer and its gun squad, with others from Lt Col Geo W. P. Bradley, Lieut Col 27th U.S. Inf. being sent to move forward with my command, to the hay field, where they, bring back the killed and wounded, and so whatever I might have lost after I arrived there and discovered the exact status of affairs.

As obedient to your instructions I moved forward, bringing out Lieut Shurley, and his Mounted Party, to protect my flank, and guard against surprise, the Mounted Men were supported by our infantry M'Kinnis line, Lieut Denton in charge.

I arrived at the hay field at Sanborn, having had M'Kinnis firing with the Indians for a mile and a half before reaching it. When I arrived at the hay ground, I found the following casualties to have occurred - viz:

- Lieut Sigismund Straburg "G" Co, 27th Inf. Killed.
- Private Morris "H" Co, 27th Inf. Killed
- Serg Kortow "I" Co, 27th Inf. Wounded - left shoulder
- Sgt Humph P. Vineson "I" Co, 27th Inf. Wounded - both legs, right leg - (fractured)
- Sgt Francis M. Law. "E" Co, 27th Inf. Wounded - arm.
- Pikes J. G. Kollitz. Wounded - chest - since killed.

Upon arriving at the position, I found it untenable

from its measures to a thickly brushed Craft from which the Enemy could
 come very close and deliver their fire unscathed without great sacrifice
 of life.

Immediately then out a line of Mississippian Militia I put
 in charge, and ordered the dead and wounded to be loaded at once and
 all the available mules to be harnessed. I then discovered that out of twenty
 two mules, two had been killed and seventeen wounded, many of them
 severely, having from time to time been arrow wounded &c. with this limited
 and inefficient motive power. I found I could not transport all the property
 of the Union ordered all heavy articles to be left, such as wagons, wag-
 on beds, and two mowing Machines and the wagons loaded to the utmost
 capacity of the mules, with some valuable property, judging that the En-
 emy would not disturb the property thus left. This result has prevented
 its removal for today these articles were recovered unimpaired.

I was obliged for want of transportation to abandon some
 wagon beds and articles of like description as the mules preferred to
 draw lighter articles of more value. The articles so abandoned I caused
 to prevent them falling into the hands of the Enemy.

I made these dispositions as rapidly as possible for
 the wounded must now sadly in want of Medical attendance, during
 the time quite a lively Mississippian was kept up with the Indians.

They appeared on the bluffs all around me in numbers,
 which I estimate at from 450 to 500, whilst on the bluffs, in rear
 a party of about 300 was within supporting distance of the main force.
 Upon consulting with the Contractor and man on the hay stack, I find my
 estimate considerably lower than this.

When ready to return I found on the Indian with the Artiller-
 y, and placed the bluffs: and one of the fine Sporting Militia to take
 possession of the bluffs, and sent Sutton to support him with his Mississippian
 Co. whilst I with my Company and the train moved toward the Garrison
 by the river road.

I moved forward after these dispositions were made in the
 manner heretofore described, only being obliged to halt once and that some
 Indians off a bluff. Down the base of which I was obliged to pass
 with the train, when the frontier was again called into use.

Arrived at Ft. D. Smith at 8.30 P.M. Aug 1. 1867.

The distance marched was about 7. Miles, I stood within 100 yds or
 100 yds. I think I was slightly scratching out the sand in the
 action. My Column in going to behind the hay party was Eighty
 Men, in returning, it aggregated about one hundred.

And it is due to both the kind District and kind Sheriff for
 the great displays and the fidelity with which they carried out all my
 instructions.

I think it proper to add that from personal inspection
 of the Corral (which was built a weeks or more, right after having been
 constructed after the first dash of the Indians was made,) that
 the fight was a success to us. The Indians were certainly very
 determined. And the number of arrows in, and around the work shows
 that they came very close.

When I arrived I found our Indians lying dead within
 fifteen paces of the work. I am fully convinced that the number
 of Indians killed must be from eighteen to twenty two or there
 with a goodly number wounded.

All agree in this, that the men behaved exceedingly well
 that they were calm and deliberate, seldom making a shot, although
 their Chief Officer, Lieut. Strickland was killed at the first onset,
 and Capt. Norton the second in our own place "fired de combat".
 Shortly after.

The new breech loading musket, gave the men an op-
 portunity to fire much more rapidly when the occasion demanded.
 And with less exposure of the person than the Springfield rifle.
 Whilst the superiority of the rifle, gives more accuracy to the
 aim. - The confidence which it gives the man grows the rapidity
 with which it can be fired, and the telling effects of the shot tend
 to keep them calm, composed, and confident under fire.

The Indians engaged were Sioux, Assinibouin and Cheyenne.
 I am Sir

Very Respectfully
 Your Obedt Servant
 "Jus". J. A. Burrows.

Captain 27th Regt. Inf.
 Ft. May N. C. A.

Official

W. W. W. W. W.
 1st Lieutenant 257th U.S. Inf. V. M. Inf.

Co^d Head Quarter, Mountain District, August 11th 1867.



Fort B. J. Smith M.D.

August 5th 1867.

Forward Lieut H. H.

Acting Assistant Adjutant General
 Mountain District

At Fort B. J. Smith M.D.

Lieutenant.



I have the honor to report for the information of the Genl
 being that matters are progressing as favorably at this Post, as can be
 expected with the means at hand. The Saw Mill is nearly completed and
 we expect to cut lumber this week. Saw working large details, cutting
 and hauling timber and guarding and escorting Hay parties and trains. Grass
 is not as good as represented by Bridger and much lighter than it was last
 year, as I saw informed by the Officers at the Post. I have scouted for a
 circuit of two miles round the Post, and find my little good Hay ground. I
 think it will trouble us to get in the grain or the hunting time needed for this
 Post, as the Indians are burning grass all around us, and will still do it I
 suppose, as fast as it ripens. My Hay party, consisting of Lieut Stralough
 20 Cavalry men and six Cavalry men, was attacked on the 1st inst by a large force
 of Indians, numbering I think 500 at least. After a sharp fight of over four
 hours, the Indians were driven off with a heavy loss. I regret to report that Mr
 Stralough, Private Aries of H. and John S. Hollister, Cavalry men killed, and
 Private of H. and Private Wilson of "G." and Lane of E. severely wounded in
 the engagement. Nineteen Mules of 22 were shot four of which died the
 same day. The balance will probably recover in time. These mules were owned
 by Civil Contractors.

The Indians left one of their dead on the ground and several dead and
 wounded ponies. I am satisfied the Indians were severely punished. They carried off
 eight dead, beyond any doubt, and I think from the best information I can get, that
 they killed and wounded numbers, twenty five.

Our Men fought taking a light Stockade and the Indians charged it several times, both morning and in fore. Coming up within 20 paces of it, in considerable numbers, while others were circling around at a little distance: they showed a good deal of pluck and were determined to take the Stockade, Nothing but the columns of our men in ridding their fire for some shots saved them. The Hay grounds are 2 1/2 miles from the Fort, and entirely hidden from view by high bluffs. I did not know of the fight until it had been going on some hours: my little firing was heard, but not a large body of Indians was seen though a few were near the Fort. And finding the timber train, which was on my way and opposite direction. Wishing to send out the train of Hay Wagon in the afternoon I directed 20 Mounted Men under My Sheriff to go in advance and reconnoiter: they developed a large number of Indians, and were obliged to fall back. I then sent out Major Burroughs with Companies "B" and "D" and a Hornet, when the Indians were driven back, and the party at the Stockade retired. Major Burroughs put a couple of Axes into Gay Mount, Ed Justice and 2 Cattle there. He thinks that but for the Hornet, he would have had all the fighting he wanted before he got back, and that the Indians had about 800 Warriors, within reach when he got to the Stockade and having a strong Stockade built at the Hay grounds and shall keep a Company of men & a Hornet as a permanent guard. I do not think at all from what you say that this will secure the Hay.

I received Major Burroughs report, I returned by the Ox train to the District from Major Gordon's Co. who was arriving here long days after he left. He brings an Oxen, also our horses, saddles, bridles, and Carriage. The District reported in my last how well Amsted and all were in our today.

I respectfully request that a General Court Martial may be convened as soon as possible, for the trial of Amsted.

I have to report that Sergeant Ganeth, Co. C, detailed as principal Musician in General Order 12, starting from the Fort, on the 30th July. He has been tracking some distance on the road south. We saw nothing to think that he has gone to St. Peter's Mountain to fill the detail. He did not take his rifle and accoutrements, but he will not mind them as principal Musician. The track leading across has not been up by the Ox train, I do not understand this delay. They cannot be more ready any other than



at this Post. Saw G. E. Jones with the train, and I particularly request of the
Lieut. Col. that he will send them with the new rifle, before they return.

I am satisfied from information gleaned from Cross Chief when they
were here, that my men were shot in the late fight with treaty people, got at
Phil Kearney. I might not be able to prove this to a lawyer or a Judge, but
I can prove it to any An-die man. And I ask the Lieut. Col. to give this his consid-
eration. And to make such use of the information as he thinks proper. The Sol-
diers in this attack had but about one to two horses, but they used the arms
with great Effect.

Respect due to this date, will be forwarded by this mail.

Signed: L. F. Bradley

Lieut. Col. 27th Inf.
Cavalry Post.

Official

Adjutant 27th Inf. U. S. A.



Head Quarters, Mountain District 11th August 1867.

Head Quarters, M. Res. D. S.

August 5th 1867.

Adjutant General Acting Assistant.

Mountain District

M. Res. D. S.

Sir I have the honor to enclose herewith Monthly Return of this Post for
the Month of July 1867.

I am Sir, Very respectfully

Your Obedt Servant

Signed: Iwan Jones

Major & Infantry.

Cavalry Post.

Official

Adjutant 27th Inf. U. S. A.



Head Quarters, Mountain District, August 10th 1867.

with the next train. Escorts of men from this Post will be given to each train that follow after and these trains will be hurried up so that there will not be a greater distance between them than is necessary to obtain water.

It is believed that you might with propriety let these trains close to a shorter distance after you reach Crazy Horns, or plenty of water. You will use your discretion however, in the matter, doing what you think best.

It being impossible on account of the want of water, between this and Crazy Horns, to send these trains together, and it being impossible to furnish large Escorts to each of them from this Post, the undersigned assumes the responsibility of holding you here in order to carry out, what he deems the best manner of getting these trains to Fort Philip Kearny.

I am Major Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
(Signed) James Van Voast
Major 18th Inf Comd'g Post

Official Copy respectfully furnished for the information of the
Commanding Officer Mountain District.

(Signed) James Van Voast
Major 18th Inf'y
Comd'g Post
Official
[Signature]
1st Lieutenant 21st Inf'y U.S.A. Genl

Recd H^q 6th Div Mt^{ns} District Aug 22/67.

Head Quarters Fort Reno D.T.
August 17th 1867.

Adjutant General Actg. Apt
Mountain District
Fort Philip Kearny D.T.

Sir

I have the honor to

report, that about 11 O'clock A.M. of the 16th, one of Wells Fargo & Co's trains No. 41 had its stock run off by Indians. This train went into Camp on the other side of the river - in the timber - and a little over a mile from the Post.

Its stock was run off, within a half hour after it had turned out. The train could not be seen from this Post, it had no Escort with it and only two men on hand at the time the stock was lost. One of these herders, Peter Smith, had no Arms at all. He was killed, scalped, and mutilated. Some half hour afterwards, the apt Wagon Master, John Canine was shot by an arrow, and died from the effects of the wound.

Assistance was applied for, but before the Application was made, I had two Companies under way, to do what they could; at the time the assistance was applied for the Cattle were five miles away.

It is impossible to impress Wagon Masters with the danger on the road. - I am obliged to send after Wagon Master, when trains arrive, in order to get them to report, that I may give them instructions regarding their safety; they then take their own time and come when they choose.

They do not stop the firing of their own herders, and when at this Post, keep my guard running after them, in order to apprehend those who create alarms.

As an instance; on this very occasion, when these Cattle were run off. - I am informed - that when the first shot was fired the Wagon Master, said. - the herders were shooting Rabbits. -

I have the honor to forward the report of Captain Whitehead with regard to his skirmish at the Bay grounds, some four and a half miles from the Post.

Yesterday and last night, the Indians fired the grass in that direction, and from appearance, have burned all they could.

The number of Indians about this Post is estimated at about 50. So far this Post has met with no losses. In order that proper Escorts, may be given to trains, more troops are absolutely necessary.

I am Sir Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
(Signed) J Van Noast
Major 18th Infy
Comdg Post

Official
~~Memorandum~~
 1st Lieut 27th Regt A.A.A. Genl

Rec^d H^d Quarters Mts Dist Aug 23rd 1867.

Omaha August 10th 1867

Commanding Officer
 Fort Laramie D.T.

The President has appointed a Commission composed of very high Officers of the Government "Civil and Military" to treat with the Indians now hostile, with a view of learning all their grievances, and to ascertain if arrangements cannot be made whereby they and the whites may live in peace. This Commission proposes to meet the Chiefs and head men of the various hostile tribes in Council at Fort Laramie, on the full moon of September, (about the thirtieth,) Communicate with said Chiefs, in your vicinity including the Crows, and explain to them that it is to be a very important Council, where it is hoped all troubles between whites and Indians, may be adjusted, and that they should by all means attend, get answer as soon as possible and communicate them to these Head Quarters at Once

(Signed) C. C. Augur B. M. G. Commanding
 The Commanding Officer of Fort Laramie, will forward a copy of this immediately to the Posts above, where it will in like manner be forwarded to the next Post and so on to Fort C. F. Smith

(Signed) C. C. Augur
 Official, a true Copy

(Signed) A. C. Bates
 1st Lieut 3rd Regt 2nd Cavalry

A true Copy
 (Signed) Rufus P. Brown
 2nd Lieut 4th Regt Post Adjutant

Head-Quarters Fort Reno D.T.

August 22nd 1867

A true copy

(Signed) H. C. Luther

Official

Lieut 18th Infantry

Post Adjutant

~~A. W. Mumma~~
1st Lieut 27th Reg. A. S. A. Genl.

Rec^d Head-Quarters Mtn District August 27th 1867

Head-Quarters Dep of the Platte
Omaha Neb. July 27th 1867.

Smiths Peter C. Bot Maj's Genl
Commanding Mountain District
Fort Philips Kearney D. T.
General.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of General Order
No. 1. Head-Quarters Mountain District June 29th 1867. and to say that
as the reports and returns from posts must necessarily be greatly delayed
by being sent through District Headquarters. the General Commanding
directs that the same be sent as heretofore, direct to these Head
Quarters. Copies to be furnished District Head-Quarters when required.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

Official

(Signed) H. G. Litchfield

Post Lieut Col Actg. Aft. Adj. Genl

1st Lieut 27th Reg. A. S. A. Genl

~~A. W. Mumma~~

Rec^d Mt. Pte Mountain District August 27th 1867.

Wth Qrs Mountain District
Office Chief Quarter Master
Fort Phil Kearney D.^{ist}, Sept. 4, 1867

Lieut C. R. P. Shurley
Acty Asst Qr Master
Fort C. F. Smith M. T.

Sir

You are respectfully informed, that in consequence of your failure to send to this office, the reports, required, I am unable to ship you the stores which your Post may need. I have no data by which to determine the amounts of transportation, you have on hand, and unless you render your reports, promptly, you will be without necessary supplies, and the Chief Qr Master and the Qr Master Genl, will be notified of the cause.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
Signed G. B. Dandy
Bot Brig Genl A. G. W. Mills,
Chief Qr Master Mountain Dist.

Wth Qrs Fort C. F. Smith M. T.
September 4th 1867

Adjutant Genl Acty Asst
Mountain District
Fort Philip Kearney D.^{ist}
Lieutenant

I have the honor to report that the dispatches, per Courier Raphaelrd Steed, were received here at 3 A.M. of the 29th August. I immediately sent off a party, consisting of Boyer, Richard, Baptiste and a friendly Sioux Indian, to find the herons, who are supposed to be on the Yellowstone; and if possible to communicate with the Sioux. I sent presents of tobacco, Coffee and Sugar, as is usual when the Indians are invited

to a conference, and sent such messages to the Crow, as I thought would enlist their influence in this movement. I hear nothing from the Cowries yet, but am looking for their return daily.

The Indians have made two attacks on the Bay parties, since the fight of August 1st but were repulsed without loss, and I think two Indians were hit in the last skirmish. For the last two weeks, no Indians have been seen.

Lieut. Matson arrived September 2nd, with the train and Beef Cattle. He had no trouble on the road and saw but few Indians.

I send Major Burrows down in charge of the train, with transportation for his Camp Equipage. I hope the Genl Comd^g, will not think it necessary to send this Escort to Reno. My Command is worked very hard and the Companies need rest as much as any in the Regiment.

All Reports and Returns, due to this date, go forward by this Mail. Also duplicate Return of "H" Company for July. The regular Monthly Return was sent in the mail which went down by Major Gordon, as I am informed by the Officer Comd^g the Company and I presume his statement is correct, as the retain Copy was found here.

I request that 12 more Warrants for Non-Com-Officers, properly signed, be sent here. There are 17 Warrants required to complete appointments already made.

The Crow Indians, have been hunting for the last month, on the Pryor and Yellowstone. "Blackfoot", one of the principal Chiefs, was here about the middle of August and a small War party, who have been out against the Snakes, are now here. I am very well satisfied that we have the confidence and friendship of the Crow Chiefs, and the more I see of the tribe, the more satisfied I am that they are our friends. They will mix with the Sioux, and trade with them, but there is little fear of their joining them.



Private Perry of "B. Co." who deserted at Fort Philip Kearney, about the 12th of July, was found a few miles below here, and brought in by a friendly Indian. He was in a pitiable condition, nearly starved and crazy. He had been up on the Yellowstone, and was trying to make his way back to this Post. His Comrade Barnes died on the Yellowstone.

Three men deserted from this Post on the night of the 4th. Every precaution is taken to prevent desertions. Each flank of the Stockade is patrolled and the sentries are visited every half hour by Non-Com-Officers. When troops are stationed so near a Mining Country, the inducements to desert are great, and in my opinion it is impossible to prevent it, unless men are locked up every night. Two men of "C. Co." also, deserted on the march up from Fort Phil-Kearney.

Very Respectfully
 Your Obedt Servant
 (Signed) L. P. Bradley
 Lieut Col 2nd Infantry
 Commanding Post.



Official
~~Signature~~
 Lieut Col. Regt. Art. 2nd Inf.
 Actg. Q. M. Staff Lieut

Rec^d H^q 1st Div Mountain District, 12th September 1867.



Head Quarters Fort Reno D. T.
 August 24th 1867

W. H. Fitchfield
 Brig. Genl. Col. "B. Co."
 Assistant Adjutant Genl
 Department of the Platte
 Omaha Nebraska

Sir
 I have the honor to

enclose herewith Special Order N^o 18 Head Quarters Mountain District
dated August 16th 1867.

This Order details a man belonging to Company C
18th Inf. On duty in the Commissary Department at Fort Philip Kearney
D.C. I have the honor most respectfully to request, that this man may
be ordered to join his proper Company and command at this Post.

This Post has only (4) four Companies and (14) fourteen Citizen employees.
It has to depend entirely upon the men belonging to it in order to accomplish
its work.

The Commissary and Quartermasters duties at this Post are performed by
One Officer. and Clerks are absolutely necessary here. Private Thomas J. Williams
was kept at Fort Phil Kearney, when the 18th Inf. left. I have the honor to
request, that he may be returned to his proper Regiment.

This communication is sent direct to Department & Cord Quarters
to obviate the delay that would necessarily attend its being forwarded
thro District H^q Quarters. An Official copy is furnished
Commanding Officer Mountain District.

Very Respectfully Your Obedt Servt
(Signed) James Van Brack
Major 18th Inf. Comdg Post

Official copy respectfully forwarded to Cord Quarters Mountain
District

(Signed) H. C. Luther
Lieut 18th Inf Post Adjutant

Official

[Signature]
Lieut & Regl Adjt 2nd Infy
Actg Asst Adjt Genl

Rec^d H^q Quarters Mountain District Sept 29th 1867.

Head Quarters Fort Reno D.S.
October 5th 1867.

Adjutant Genl. Actg Ass't Mountain District
Fort Phil Kearney D.S.

Sir

I have the honor to report for the information of Br. Major Genl. Smith Col. 27th Infantry Commanding Mountain District, that the Troops at this Post are still engaged in preparing for Winter. Labor has been performed during the last of July, August and September, under great disadvantages.

The only lumber at this Post has been the seven thousand (7000) feet sent from Fort Phil Kearney - the greater part of it lately received this has obliged us merely to hew ourselves and to work with the Broad-axe and Auger. But little hay has been procured, some seventeen (17) tons were purchased and the troops have procured nearly as much more - the late arrival of the hay machines which were received here from Phil Kearney Sept 18th made it impossible to procure more.

Immediately upon the arrival of the machines a large party was sent out and have procured all that can be had at this season - It is not probable if the machines had arrived earlier that much more could have been obtained, except under contract. The want of machines kept citizens from offering to procure it.

The soldiers Quarters Store house and Hospital are all ready for lumber to finish them being covered with earth - A Steam Saw Mill arrived here about five (5) days since - and will soon supply us with such lumber as Cotton Wood will furnish. It is impracticable for us to get Pine Logs nearer than Phil Kearney. I have already made the experiment, and it takes longer to follow up Powder River to the Mountains - than it would to go to Phil Kearney and in addition the logs brought in are not fit for lumber.

I would suggest if it much with your approbation that some of the trains that are coming down be loaded with small Pine logs. In this way lumber will cost us but little and we can saw all that is required. Our supplies and purchases by contract will

amount to a thousand (1000) cords of wood and seven (7) tons of hay.
I have made every exertion to find Limestone, but have failed. This
Post is therefore dependent upon what is furnished of this very essential
material. I am informed that there is a great abundance of Limestone at
Phil Kearney.

The necessary estimate for Antiscorbaticin have been made.
If we can rely upon Phil Kearney for Limestone and one or two hundred
pine logs I think we will be comfortably fixed for the Winter.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

(Signed) J. Van Voorch
Major 18th Inf. Condy Post

Official

J. H. H. H. H.
Adj. Genl. & Regl. Adjt. Genl.
A. S. General

Recd. 10th J^{rs} Mountain District October 8/67

Head Quarters Fort Reno D. T.
October 13th 1867.

Adjutant Genl Actg Asst
Mountain District
Fort Philip Kearney D. T.
Sir

I have the honor to report
for the information of Col. Major Genl Smith, Commanding Mountain
District, that on the 10th Inst, about 3 P.M. some 28 Indians
slayped and run off part of the Government stock at this Post.
The Beef cattle & part of the herd was saved by the herdsmen.
The herd had with it 28 men as guard 14 mounted on horses
and had orders to drive within the Cavalry Picket, some 4 or 5
miles above the Post. The guard on this account was not the usual
number, it being customary when depending upon ourselves
to send about 40 men with it.

The Wagon Master in charge disobeys
his Order & kept the herd about 3/4 of a mile on this side of the

Cavalry Camp. - Colonel Switzer, not being apprized as usual of the presence of the Pack Herd, knew nothing of the disturbance, until the herd was started from their bottom although the Indians were some 7 minutes in getting the Animals from the herd. One Company of Cavalry was started in pursuit. ^{1st} Captured one broken down Indian pony.

The Wagon Master reports that the mules broke most of their hobbles. ^{2d} The Indians after they drove the herd a mile, cut such hobbles from the feet as were still remaining on the Animals.

The Wagon Master with such teamsters as were considered at fault, have been discharged. ^{3d} Those who lost their riding Animals, will have the same charged against their pay.

I can only attribute the loss to disobedience of positive and daily reiterated orders. ^{4th} I can not be made to believe unless the hobbles (fore feet hobbles) were rotten, that all the Animals were hobbled as had been ordered.

I have now discarded the use of those hobbles. ^{5th} I will use those manufactured at this post, for the fore & hind feet.

It is impossible to conceive how the Indians, could have got the Animals from the bottom, on which they herded, with the guard on duty, ^{6th} so near the Cavalry Camp, but it was done and 43 Mules lost.

I have also to report that on the evening of the 10th some 20 head of cattle were stolen from a Citizen Wood Contractor, this was done however without the knowledge of the Contractor, ^{7th} through his neglect, ^{8th} I was only assured that Indians had done it, by the examination of the trail.

I have also to report that Train No 77th just arrived without any escort, reports the down trains attacked at Curtis's Springs.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt

(Signed) J. Van Vorst

Major 18th Inf. Comd'g

Official

A. H. Munroe
1st Lieut. High Adjt. 27th Inf. A. A. A. Genl.

*Rec'd by the Train Comd'g
Oct 10 7 45 AM '77*