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# Last of Army's Rank and File Whose Blood Drenched Kansas Soil.<sup>1</sup>



OUT in the Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery a small white marble pyramid monument bears this inscription: "To the memory of Sergeant Theodore Papier and Private Robert Theims, Troop H, Sixth Cavalry, killed in an engagement with hostile Indians, April 23, 1875."

There is nothing about the monument to draw the attention of the visitor to the cemetery, as there are many others in this city of the dead to the memory of those who have fallen in engagements with Indians. Yet, these two soldiers have made history for Kansas—in that they are the last of the rank and file of the United States Army, whose blood drenched its soil as the result of battle with Indians which

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<sup>1</sup>Written for the Leavenworth Times, by Henry Shindler, and reproduced in Vol. XII of the Kansas Historical Society Collections, 1911-12.

Since the publication of this paper some curiosity and interest has been aroused in the Germaine girls, the tragic death of their parents and other members of the family. It was believed that other papers on the subject, together with official reports, placed in pamphlet form, would be an appropriate contribution for the future historian of Kansas.—H. S.

had been carried on in the defense of settlements and trade since 1829. They have also helped to make further history for Kansas in that they participated in what has become known as the bloodiest Indian engagement within its borders.

The writer knew both men intimately and this accounts for his effort to give them a place in history. It was in April, 1875, the commanding officer of Fort Lyon, Col., was instructed to dispatch, without delay, a detachment of forty cavalry, under Lieut. Austin Henely, Sixth Cavalry, to Fort Wallace, Kansas. There the troops were to take the field and intercept, if possible, a band of Cheyennes which had escaped from the Fort Reno Agency, and were making their way across Kansas to the Platte River, to join the Northern Cheyennes. The detachment was on the trail within twenty-four hours and on April 23 overtook the band in the Sappa Valley, in what is now Clinton township, Rawlins County. They were taken completely by surprise, in the dawn of the day, and so fierce was the attack, so determined were the soldiers to square accounts that when stock was taken after the finish, the dead among the hostiles numbered more than forty, of which eight were squaws and children. The loss on the side of the soldiers was Papier and Theims, both killed instantly. None were wounded. The camp was totally destroyed and the plunder secured required several wagons to carry, not counting a herd of nearly four hundred ponies which the troops rounded up. With these men it was a case of "Remember the Maine" sentiment for their shibboleth, by making it "Remember the Germaine Family," of which four members were massacred in 1874 by this band, four girl members taken into captivity, and rescued the following winter during the Miles campaign of 1874-5 in which these troopers participated.



When the detachment returned to Fort Lyon, flushed with victory and the spoils of war, pandemonium reigned for joy. They were feasted to their hearts' content. And yet, in all this jubilation, the two comrades who lost their lives were not forgotten. A subscription was taken up and the monument referred to placed over their graves at Wallace. When the post was abandoned some years ago, the dead in the cemetery were disinterred and brought to Fort Leavenworth and reinterred. Papier and Theims were both Germans, and it goes without saying, splendid soldiers. Both were popular in the troop.

It was here where Homer W. Wheeler, now a colonel of cavalry, on the retired list, won his spurs as an officer of the army. At that time he was the trader at Fort Wallace. He possessed a thorough knowledge of that section of the country and volunteered his services to act as guide. The successful outcome of the engagement with the hostiles, largely due to this volunteer guide, led General Pope to recommend Mr. Wheeler for appointment in the army, a recommendation on which the War Department acted with promptness, so that by October 15, 1875, he wore the shoulder straps of a second lieutenant in the Fifth Cavalry.

A word for brave Austin Henely is due. Henely came to the United States from Ireland during the Civil War, when only a boy. He enlisted in the 11th Infantry, and at the close of the war, through intercession of friends, was sent to West Point, where he graduated in 1872. His career in the army was cut short by an untimely accident. While serving in Arizona with his regiment, in an attempt to cross a stream, at flood tide, ordinarily shallow, he was carried off by the current, and in an attempt to save him Lieutenant Rucker, a brilliant young officer of the same regiment, also lost his life.

While to Papier and Theims belongs the distinction of being the last of the rank and file to lose their lives in combat with hostile Indians on Kansas soil, a similar distinction belongs, for the commissioned ranks, to Lieutenant Colonel W. H. Lewis, Nineteenth Infantry.<sup>1</sup> This officer was wounded at Punished Woman's Fork, Kansas, on the evening of September 27, 1878, in an attempt to overtake the fleeing Cheyennes across the plains and died the following day. This was the last effort of the hostiles to raid the settlements and closes the Indian wars within the history of the state.

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<sup>1</sup> William Henry Lewis succeeded Alfred Sully as Lieutenant-colonel of the Nineteenth Infantry, joining the regiment at Baton Rouge Barracks, La., early in 1874. He was a native of Alabama and appointed to the academy from New York, in 1845. He was a major in the 7th Infantry at the time of his last promotion. Colonel Lewis' death caused deep sorrow among his brother officers and the enlisted men of the regiment. None knew him but to respect him.—H. S.



# The Fight on Sappa Creek

Written by W. D. Street<sup>1</sup>, of Oberlin, Kansas

EARLY IN THE YEAR 1875 a band of Northern Cheyenne Indians, numbering about seventy-five persons all told, whose homes were with the Sioux in the vicinity of the Black Hills of Dakota, left the country of the Southern Cheyennes, in the Indian Territory, to make their way back north.

They had been visiting their friends and allies in the South, and had probably assisted in raids on the Texas border and in skirmishes with the troops during the winter in that southland. They were proceeding in a tolerably orderly manner across the state of Kansas, about forty miles west of the frontier settlements, when, on April 18, orders were issued to Austin Henely, second lieutenant Sixth United States cavalry, to intercept and turn back the fleeing band.

On the 19th the scouting party, consisting of forty men of company H, Sixth cavalry, with Homer W. Wheeler, post-trader at Fort Wallace, as scout and guide, an engineer officer, a surgeon, and two teamsters, a total of forty-six men, left Fort Wallace, Kan., scouting southeast. On the divide between Twin Butte and Hackberry creeks the Indian trail

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<sup>1</sup>Captain W. D. Street, came to Kansas from Ohio in 1861. He became identified with the northwest section of the state in 1869, where he located on a claim. He served as a soldier in Company I, 19th Kansas Volunteers and in Company D, 2d Allion, State Militia, participating in the Indian campaign of 1869. In the legislative session of 1897 he was elected Speaker of the lower house. He resides at Oberlin, O. In preparing this paper Mr. Street traveled 100 miles in a wagon to view the locality, and to verify some points. Lieut. Henley's report varies in many particulars from the account given by Mr. Street and Hill P. Wilson, then sutler at Fort Hays, in a letter to the Society, says that at that time it was "understood that the least said about the affair the better for all concerned". Captain Street died about a year ago.



was discovered, leading northward. Pursuit was immediately commenced. The trail passed near Russell Springs, across the old trail of the Butterfield overland stage route, crossing the Union Pacific railroad at a bridge about three miles west of Monument station, in territory now embraced in Logan county. Thence the trail led northward.

On the hard lands of the plateau between the Union Pacific and Sappa creek, the Indians apparently divided their trail, each lodge or family taking separate routes, to meet at some given point further north—a favorite ruse of the Indians to throw pursuers off the trail. After following a single trail for some distance it was lost entirely. The troops then marched northward toward Sappa creek with the hope of picking up the trail again. While on the march, April 22, a party of three buffalo hunters, Henry (Hank) Campbell, Charles Schroeder, and Samuel B. Srack, were met who informed Lieutenant Henely that the Indians were encamped on the North Fork of the Sappa (more properly the Middle Fork of the Sappa).

Under the guidance of the hunters the troops pushed forward a few miles and went into camp until after sundown, when the march was continued to within a few miles of the supposed location of the camp. A halt was then made, and the scout and hunters went forward to locate the Indians. Their efforts were successful, and in the gray dawn of the morning of April 23, 1875, the troops arrived at a point in the valley of the Middle Fork of the Sappa about three-fourths of a mile below the camp. Herds of ponies were discovered grazing close at hand. A small detachment of the command was detailed to kill the herders and round up the ponies while the main body of the troops charged the village, located on the north side of the creek.

The creek at this place was a wide, sluggish, marsh-like pond, several yards wide, probably caused by beaver dams, running almost due east, until about opposite where the teepees were pitched it turned rather sharply to the south and slightly toward the west, making a large loop, or horseshoe bend, and running back to the northeast, and then meandering away on its general eastward course. Within a few rods of the camp to the east and northeast was located a low and rather abrupt bluff of a semicircular formation, the southwestern edge of a long, regular tongue of land running down from the highlands and terminating with a gradual descent in the bend of the creek and further east and south. The abrupt formation of the bluff near the camp had been caused by the action of the flood-waters of the stream for ages past. Gullies had been furrowed out of the western face of this bluff, making admirable places for the protection of the Indian warriors, who soon took advantage of the location.

The troops floundered through the muddy creek; were dismounted and formed their line in the tongue of land just mentioned to the east and northeast of the Indian camp. While the ground on the south side of the stream was rugged and broken, the land to the northward sloped away with a gradual and fairly smooth rise. The troops occupied an exposed position on this smooth ridge. This position was abandoned after the loss of two men killed. The troops were then posted at each end of the semicircular flat in which the Indian camp was located. This was greatly to the advantage of the troops, as it enabled them to pour a raking cross-fire into the camp and the low bluff where the warriors had sought protection, without such great exposure as the level ridge first occupied presented.

The fight was furious from the start, and never



Map of the site where Lieutenant Henely struck the Cheyennes April 23, 1875, on section 14, township 5, range 33 west, Clinton township, Rawlins county.

BY COURTESY OF MRS. STREET.



ended while an Indian was left alive. Lieutenant Henely, in the report to his superior officers, says: "Nineteen dead warriors were counted; eight squaws and children were unavoidably killed by shots intended for the warriors;" making a total of twenty-seven reported killed. White hunters who visited the scene a few days after the fight told the writer that they counted between thirty-five and forty dead bodies, and later two or three others were found a short distance from the scene of the fray, bringing the total above forty, men women and children lying promiscuously around the burnt remains of their camp, while a number of bodies, variouly estimated up to twenty-seven, had been thrown into a shallow sandy gully and partially buried by the troops, bringing the number that were really killed up to nearly seventy, which is not far out of the way. Lieutenant Henely reported the destruction of twelve lodges; estimating five Indians to the lodge would be sixty. He also mentions a number of holes that were dug in the ground, which he thinks were for the protection of Indians who had no lodges. His report as to the number killed does not harmonize with conditions as found a few days later. He says: "From the war-bonnets and rich ornaments, I judge two were chiefs, and one, whose bonnet was surmounted by two horns, to be a medicine man.<sup>1</sup> The Indians were nearly all

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<sup>1</sup> Hill P. Wilson, in a statement concerning this fight, relates the following strange coincidence:

"Mrs. John Prower, of Las Animas, Colorado, until recently the wealthy widow of John Prower, the pioneer cattleman of the Upper Arkansas, is a full blooded Cheyenne woman. When Lieut. Henely, arrived at Fort Lyon, before leaving for Arizona, he had amongst his effects some of the paraphernalia of a medicine man of the Cheyenne tribe who had been killed in this fight. Medicine men are held in almost sacred consideration by all Indians. When Mrs. Prower saw these relics she 'took on' and went through the mourning

armed with rifles and carbines, the Spencer carbine predominating.”

According to the report, the fight lasted about three hours. The camp, consisting of twelve lodges, together with the camp-equipage and plunder, was burned or destroyed, very little being retained. One hundred and thirty-four ponies were captured by the troops, buffalo hunters picking up several bands not rounded up by the soldiers.

Lieutenant Henely makes no mention of the escape of any of the Indians, and the inference would be that he thought he had completely wiped the band out of existence.

But one Indian, and one only, made his escape. A young man without a family in the camp, and another older one, made a dash for their lives toward the north, up the long, sloping hill. After getting a mile or more from the camp, and entirely out of the range of the big buffalo guns the hunters were using in the fight, they halted and gazed back on the field of carnage, when the one with a family said to the other: “You are safe now, go on. I am going back to die with my family,” then wheeled his pony and rode back into the valley, and to his death. This information came to the writer several years after the fight, through Ben Clark, an interpreter for the Cheyennes, and at one time General Custer’s chief of scouts. He said to me, “The Cheyennes continue to

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ceremonies of the tribe. She kept up the crooning and wailing for three days. Her mourning ended, she refreshed herself and made a prediction that ‘the man who is responsible for the death of the medicine man will die within the year.’ By a strange fatality her prediction was in part verified. Henely was drowned in Arizona, July 11, 1878. Although not strictly within the limits of her prophecy, it would be hard to convince this untutored squaw that the Great Spirit had not intervened ultimately to avenge the death of the medicine man”.

sing the praise of the hero who rode back to death with his family," in that little valley far out on the Kansas frontier. Such a deed of valor deserves more than passing notice, even if enacted by a child of the prairie.

The three hunters<sup>1</sup> mentioned before rendered good service as sharpshooters, their long-range sporting rifles carrying much further than the soldiers' carbines.

It was a terrible tragedy enacted that April morning out on the Kansas plains, where women and babies met their deaths through the vicissitudes of war. One of the troopers told at Buffalo Park afterward that what was supposed to be a roll of plunder was carelessly tossed into a roaring fire of teepees and teepee poles, when an outcry told them that the roll contained a living human being, a little Indian papoose.

The writer has frequently visited the scene of this massacre; first within a short time after the fight. On several of these visits, in the early days, were plainly to be seen the evidences that Indians had but recently passed that way and paid their respects to their dead friends, leaving marks of various kind to designate the names, rank, and place where their friends fell in the fight.

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<sup>1</sup> The report was circulated that ten or twelve hunters were engaged in the fight. Lieut. Henely makes no mention of the fact in his official report. The writer has never been able to secure positive confirmation of the statement, but rather gives credence to the presence of the hunters. Several parties of hunters came into possession of herds of ponies, which they hurriedly drove east into the settlements, to prevent other bands of Indians from recapturing them. It was said that these ponies were given the hunters as their part of the loot in compensation for their participation in the fight. On the other hand, they may have found them straying around the prairie, and drove them off as unclaimed property—the spoils of war. The writer is inclined to the former proposition that the hunters participated in the fight.



The annihilation of this band was a severe and bitter blow to the Cheyennes. Whether they deserved such a fate I am not prepared to judge; but three years later, on September 30 and October 1, 1878, a band of Northern Cheyennes, under the leadership of Chief Dull Knife, in endeavoring to escape from the Cheyenne reservation in the Indian Territory to their former home, up among the Black Hills of the Dakotas, and to their friends, the Sioux, swung eastward in their flight and wreaked fearful revenge on the innocent white people who had pushed their settlements out onto the Sappa and Beaver creeks in Decatur and Rawlins counties, where nearly forty unsuspecting men were killed, women outraged, and a vast amount of property destroyed. So ended the last scenes of strife and carnage in the beautiful and famous Sappa valley. The massacre of the Cheyennes by Lieutenant Henely of the Sixth Cavalry, and the massacre of the white settlers by the Dull Knife band of Cheyennes, always appeared to me to be closely connected in the annals of border warfare, now a closed book forever. Peace and quiet now reign in those beautiful valleys so given over but a few years ago, to scenes of bloodshed and death.

And the ways of peace are the better ways.



## Lieutenant Henely's Report

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ON HIS return to Fort Wallace Lieutenant Henely submitted a report of his operations to Major H. A. Hambright, 19th Infantry, commanding post. In this report Lieutenant Henely says:

"On the morning of the 19th of April, with forty men of H Company, Sixth Cavalry, Lieut. C. C. Hewitt, Nineteenth Infantry, engineer officer, Acting Assistant Surgeon F. H. Atkins, and Mr. Homer Wheeler, post-trader of Fort Wallace, as guide, fifteen days' rations, ten days' forage, and two six-mule teams, I started for Punished Woman's Fork to strike the trail of a party of Indians reported there.

"My transportation, all that was at Fort Wallace, was so inadequate that I made only thirteen miles that day. The next day I directed my wagons, with a suitable guard, under command of Sergeant Kitchen, to proceed directly to Hackberry Creek, while I scouted Twin Butte and Hackberry to find a trail. Corporal Morris, commanding the advance, about noon discovered a trail of twelve lodges. I then hunted up my wagons, abandoned one wagon and half my forage, rations, and camp-equipage, notified the commanding officer at Fort Wallace of the fact, in order that they might be recovered, and started on the trail, at the rate of nearly five miles an hour, reaching the Smoky Hill River that night.

"During the night it rained, and the trail followed with difficulty the next day to the Kansas Pacific Railroad, near Monument Station.

"The Indians scattered after crossing the road, and a single trail was followed for several miles, when

I was lost entirely. I then struck directly for the headwaters of the Solomon River, camped on it that night, and deliberated with Lieutenant Hewitt, Dr. Atkins, and Mr. Wheeler as to the best course to pursue. Three plans were proposed. One was to turn back and try and strike some one of the other bands that we had reason to believe were crossing north. Another to strike Sappa creek, follow it for a day or two, and then march south to Grinnel Station, and if we failed to find a trail on Sappa, we still had a chance to strike one of the other bands, which might cross the Kansas Pacific road near Grinnel. The last plan, and the one that was finally adopted, was to march in a northeast course to the North Beaver and follow it to its head, as it was believed the Indians would collect there, and follow it down for the purpose of hunting.

“Shortly after daylight a hunters’ trail was discovered, which was followed until we met a party of hunters, who informed me that the Indians I was after were on the North Fork of Sappa Creek, and had robbed their camp the day before while they were absent, and that they were going into Wallace, as they had reason to believe the Indians would attack them. Three of the hunters, Henry Campbell, Charles Schroder, and Samuel B. Shack, volunteered to conduct me to the vicinity of the Indian camp, which they thought was about seventeen miles from where I met them. We marched about six miles and camped in a ravine until sundown, when the march was continued to within about five miles of Sappa creek.

“I then halted and went into camp on the prairie, and the three hunters accompanied by Mr. Wheeler, started to find the camp. Their efforts were successful, and we arrived at the North Fork of Sappa creek in the gray dawn of the morning, about three-quar-



ters of a mile above the camp, guided by the sight of a number of ponies grazing. I could not immediately discover the camp, as I could not tell whether it was above or below the herd. Mr. Wheeler, who had ridden off some distance to the right, galloped furiously back swinging his hat and shouting at the top of his voice. I immediately galloped toward him with my command, and the camp was displayed to view.

“My plan for the attack had been arranged as follows: Sergeant Kitchen was detailed with ten men to surround the herd, kill the herders, round it up as near to the main command as possible, stay in charge of it with half his men, and send the rest to join me. Corporal Sharples, with five men, was left with the wagon, with instructions to keep as near me as the very rugged and broken nature of the country would permit, always occupying high ground. With the rest of my command I intended to intrude myself between the Indians and their herd and attack them if they did not surrender.

“I will state here that the North Fork of Sappa creek at this point is exceedingly crooked, is bordered high and precipitous bluffs, and flows sluggishly through a marshy bottom, making it difficult to reach, and almost impossible to cross. As we charged down the side of the bluff I could see about ten or twelve Indians running rapidly up the bluff to a small herd of ponies—others escaped down the creek to another herd, while the remainder, the last to be awakened probably, seeing that they could not escape, prepared for a desperate defense. By this time I had reached the creek, which looked alarmingly deep and marshy. Knowing that no time was to be lost hunting a crossing, I plunged in with my horse, Mr. Wheeler with me. By extraordinary efforts our horses floundered through. A corporal, who followed, became mired,

but by a desperate effort all managed to cross, just as a number of dusky figures with long rifles confronted us, their heads appearing over a peculiarly shaped bank, made so by the creek in high water. This bank, with the portion of the creek and bluffs in the immediate vicinity, possesses remarkable topographical features, and I will endeavor to describe them. As we approach the creek from the south it is observed that it makes a sharp bend to the northeast, and then turns south for a short distance. The ground slopes from the top of the ridge near the creek, where it terminates abruptly in a semicircular crest concave toward it, and about five feet above another small slope which terminates at the creek. We crossed the creek at the termination of the southern arc; the Indian camp was at its northern termination. A number of holes dug in the ground were on the chord of the arc. Some of the Indians took refuge in these holes—others lined the banks with their rifles resting on the crest. I formed my men rapidly into line and motioned the Indians to come in, as did Mr. Wheeler, who was on my left and a few feet in advance. One Indian, who appeared to be a chief, made some rapid gesticulations, which I at first thought was for a parley, but soon discovered it was directed to those in rear. I gave the command to fight on foot, which was obeyed with extraordinary promptness. As the men dismounted the Indians fired, but excitedly. Fortunately no one was hit. I then ordered my men to fire and posted them around the crest in skirmish-line. If we imagine the dress-circle of a theater to be lowered to within about five feet of the pit, the men to be deployed about the edge and the Indians down among the orchestra chairs, it will give some idea of our relative positions. The most exposed part was near the center of the arc, corresponding to that part of the dress-circle opposite

the entrance. Here Sergeant Theodore Papier and Private Robert Theims, Company H, Sixth Cavalry, were instantly killed while fighting with extraordinary courage. They did not appear to be more than 15 or 20 feet from the Indians when they fell. After firing for about twenty minutes, and the Indians having ceased firing, I withdrew my men and their horses for the purpose of pursuing the Indians who had escaped. Hardly had we mounted when two Indians ran up to the two bodies, which had been carried some distance up the ridge I immediately detached three or four men at a gallop to charge them, and the Indians retreated, accomplishing nothing. Just then an Indian, gaudily decked, jumped from a hole, and with peculiar side-long leaps attempted to escape, which he did not. I then posted my men at the two ends of the crest, avoiding the center, and began again, the Indians returning the fire from their holes without any damage for some time, when the firing again ceased and I concluded all were dead.

“Seeing a herd of ponies on the hill behind me, I sent two men to bring them in. A number of Indians tried to cut them off. I mounted and went to their assistance, driving the Indians off and bringing in the herd. Coming back to burn the camp, a solitary shot was fired from the holes, striking the horse of Trumpeter Dawson through the body. I then concluded to make a sure finish, ordering Corporal Morris with a detachment to advance to the edge of the crest, keeping up a continual fire, so that the Indians would not dare to show themselves above the crest; another detachment went to the left and rear, and all advanced together; some few shots were fired from the holes without any damage. Nearly all the Indians by this time were dead; occasionally a wounded Indian would thrust the barrel of a rifle from one

of the holes and fire, discovering himself to be dispatched.

"I have not been able to determine the original object of these holes or pits, but judge they were originally made for the shelter of those Indians who had no lodges, and were deepened and enlarged during the fight.

"Nineteen dead warriors were counted; eight squaws and children were unavoidably killed by shots intended for the warriors. From the war-bonnets and rich ornaments, I judged two were chiefs, and one, whose bonnet was surmounted by two horns, to be a medicine-man. The Indians were nearly all armed with rifles and carbines, the Spencer carbine predominating. A number of muzzle-loading rifles, and one Springfield breech-loading rifle, musket-caliber .50, were found.

"I then burned all their lodges and effects and threw some of the arms into the fire, destroying also a quantity of ammunition. There were twelve lodges, five or six covered with skins, and the other were the frames, composed of new hackberry poles. Eight rifles and carbines were brought to the post of Fort Wallace and have been turned in.

"I then withdrew with the captured stock, numbering 134 animals, to my wagon, which I could discern during the whole fight on a bluff about a mile distant. I judge the fight lasted about three hours. Feeling certain that other bands were in the vicinity who would soon concentrate and attack me, and at least recapture the stock, I marched to Monument Station, thirty-eight miles distant, reaching it about 8 o'clock next morning. The march was continued to Sheridan Station that day where we were overtaken by a terrible norther, and I was forced to camp under a bank. The storm was so severe that it was impossible to herd the captured stock, our whole at-



tention being directed to save ourselves and horses from freezing to death. After a night of intense suffering among horses and men, the men having but one blanket each, and no tents—some of the men being frozen, and others who had dug holes in the bank for shelter, requiring to be dug out of the snow by their comrades—the storm abated and we split up in small squads to search for the captured stock. After a wearisome ride, occupying nearly all day, in which the faces and eyes of the men were injured by the reflection of the sun from the snow to such an extent as to necessitate medical treatment, eighty-nine ponies, one horse, (branded M, and recognized by some of the men as having been ridden by Private Pettyjohn, Company M, Sixth Cavalry, who was killed on McClellan Creek, Texas,) seven mules and one Spanish buro were recovered. Some of the rest may have perished by the storm, and some I believe will be picked up by citizens who have started, I understand, in search of them. One thing is certain, they will never be of any service to the Indians.

“I cannot find words to express the courage, patience, endurance, and intelligence exhibited by all under my command. Lieut. C. C. Hewitt, Nineteenth Infantry, although by his duties not required to be at the front, was under fire continually, exhibited great courage, and performed important service. Dr. F. H. Atkins gave proof of the greatest courage and fortitude, going up to the bodies of Sergeant Papier and Private Theims to examine them, when such an action appeared to be almost certain death; and again during the terrible suffering amidst the storm of the 25th, he was cheerful and full of words of encouragement to us all, exhibiting the greatest nerve when the stoutest heart despaired.

“I respectfully recommend that Doctor Atkin’s important services receive the consideration to which

they are entitled. All the men behaved with great gallantry. The following deserve special mention: Sergeant Richard L. Tea, Sergeant Frederick Plattner, Corporal William Morris, Trumpeter Michael Dawson, Privates James F. Ayres, Patrick J. Coyle, James Lowthers, Markus M. Robbins, Simpson Hornady, and Peter W. Gardner, all of Company H, Sixth Cavalry.

“Mr. Homer W. Wheeler, post-trader of Fort Wallace, left his business and volunteered to accompany the detachment as a guide. His knowledge of the country and of Indian habits was of the utmost service. He risked his life to find the Indian camp; was the first to discover it in the morning, and although not expected to take part in the fight, was always on the skirmish line, and showed the greatest courage and activity. The three hunters, Henry Campbell, Charles Schroeder, and Samuel B. Srack, who, with Mr. Wheeler, found the camp, performed important services; they participated in a portion of the fight and drove in a herd of ponies, which otherwise would not have been captured. When these men turned back with me, I promised that they would be suitably rewarded if they found the camp. I respectfully request that their services, as well as those of Mr. Wheeler, be substantially acknowledged.

“I brought to the post, for interment with the honors of war, the bodies of Sergeant Papier and Private Theims.

“Although none were wounded, a number of the men had balls pass through their clothing, and one ball passed through the cartridge-box (which had been moved to the front) of Private Patrick Coyle.

“One horse was abandoned, having been lamed; another was shot in the engagement, and fifteen are now temporarily unserviceable, rendered so by the

storm; nearly all of the men require medical treatment for the same reason.

“There was found in the camp of the Indians a memorandum book containing rude though expressive sketches, made by themselves, of their exploits. Among a great number were the following, as I interpret them: The charge on the scouts at the battle of Red River; the attack on Adobe Walls and on Major Lyman’s train; the killing of Private Pettyjohn, and another (of which I am not certain) representing the murder of the Germain family.”

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### Henely’s Conduct Praised

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Lieutenant Henely’s report was forwarded by Fort Wallace’s commander to General Pope, commanding the Department of the Missouri, with the following endorsement:

“The forethought, prudence and gallantry of Lieutenant Henely and all engaged entitle them to the highest praise of the Department Commander. It will be seen from the within report that these hostile Indians have received a blow from which it will take a long time to recover, and if followed up, will settle the question as far as the Cheyennes are concerned.”

Following the receipt of this report General Pope issued an order announcing the affair to the troops of his command saying:

“The Department Commander feels justified in saying that no better managed affair has occurred in this Department for many years, and he commends it to the emulation of all as a brilliant example of intelligent enterprise, rare zeal, and sound judgment, in the discharge of duty.”

## The Germaine Tragedy

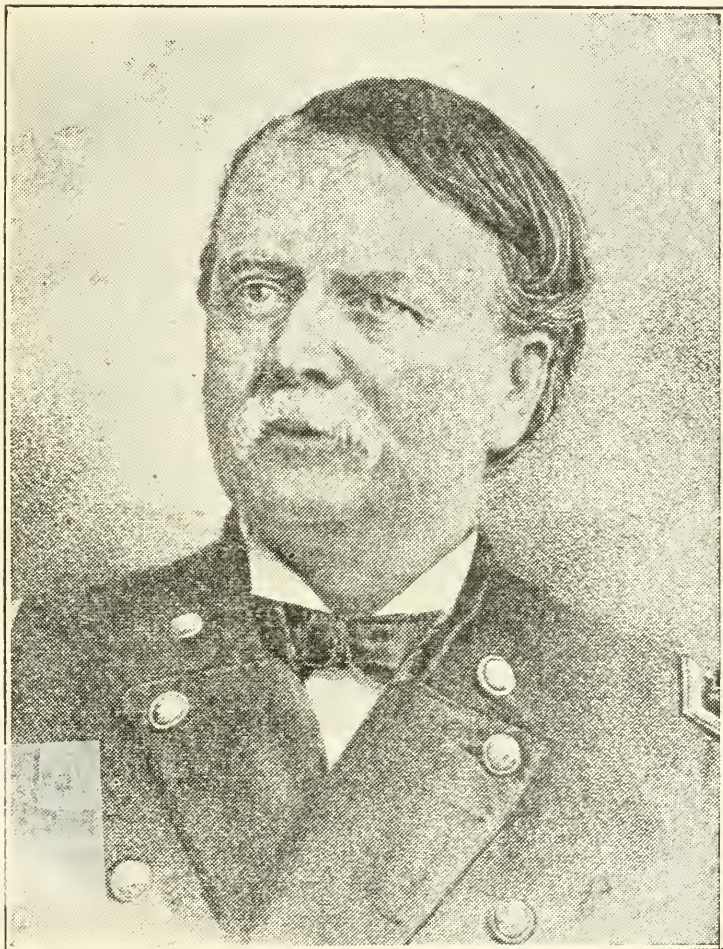
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**I**N THE summer of 1874 the ire of the Plains Indians, immediately to the south of the Kansas border, was aroused on account of the wholesale destruction of their game, principally the buffalo. A council of war was held among the various tribes and war declared upon the whites.

This statement is supported by the following extract from the annual report for 1874 of General John Pope, then commanding the Department of the Missouri, with headquarters at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, who said:

“A trading post, as is understood, not with any permit or license was established by some persons doing business in Dodge City, at Adobe Walls, in the Panhandle of Texas, and far beyond the limits of this department, to trade with the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, and such other Indians as might come there, but mainly to supply the buffalo hunters, whose continuous pursuit and wholesale slaughter of the buffalo, both summer and winter, had driven the great herds down into the Indian reservations. This trading-post sold arms and ammunition, whisky, etc., not only to the hunters, but to the Indians, and the very arms and ammunition thus furnished to the Indians they afterwards used to attack and break up this trading-post, which was put there to enable the white hunters to invade unlawfully the Indian reservation. There can be no doubt, from the facts that have reached these headquarters from good authority, that the present difficulties with the Cheyennes were mainly caused by the unlawful intrusion and illegal





MAJOR GENERAL JOHN POPE, UNITED STATES ARMY  
Entered the Army, 1838, Retired, 1886.  
Died, September 23, 1892.

and violent acts of the white hunters. When the Cheyennes made their attack upon this trading-post, they were badly repulsed, but the proprietors made an application, through the Governor of Kansas, not for protection of life, but to enable them to keep up their trading-post and the illicit traffic which had brought on this Indian war. As I did not consider it right to defend such traffic, I declined to send a force for any such purpose, and the traders, it is understood, left there and brought back the goods to the settlement.

“Beginning in this manner, the trouble increased until the whole of the Cheyennes and most of the Comanches and Kiowas were involved in it, and it became necessary to make some general movement of troops against these Indians.”

One of the tragic incidents of that outbreak occurred on the Kansas Plains in the summer of 1874. A Missouri family, named Germaine, originally hailing from Georgia, decided on seeking a home in Colorado. The family consisted of eight persons, father and mother, son and five daughters. The Germaines had passed through the Smoky Hill river section of Kansas and supposed was well out of the reach of the hostiles who infested that part of the state. They had hoped to arrive safely at their destination, within a day or two. While in camp they were overtaken by a band of hostile Cheyennes who killed father, mother, son and the eldest daughter, a cripple, taking the four remaining daughters into captivity. The four girls remained in the hands of the Indians until rescued the following winter by U. S. troops under command of Colonel Nelson A. Miles, Fifth Infantry. The two youngest girls, Adelaide and Julia, were rescued under the immediate com-

mand of Lieutenant Frank D. Baldwin<sup>1</sup>, Fifth Infantry, on November 8, having driven the Indians from their stronghold and forcing them to the open Staked Plains.

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## General Miles' Story of the Rescue

Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles, in his "Personal Recollections," embracing the thrilling stories of his Indian campaigns, gives the following interesting account of the rescue of the Germaine girls:

"Lieutenant F. D. Baldwin, with his detachment, and Troop D, 6th Cavalry, and Company D, 5th Infantry, attacked a camp of chief Blue Beard, Cheyenne Indians, on the north branch of McClellan Creek on November 8, and in a spirited engagement drove the Indians out of their camp to the Staked Plains again.

"In the engagement he rescued two white girls that were held in captivity by these Indians, named Julia and Adelaide Germaine, whose parents had been killed in Western Kansas. Here we first learned that besides these two, the two elder sisters were

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<sup>1</sup> Lieutenant Frank D. Baldwin (now Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, retired) has the distinction of being the only officer on the rolls of the Army, past or present, to possess two medals of honor awarded for conspicuous gallantry and bravery in action. The first he received for distinguished bravery in the battle of Peach Tree Creek, Ga., July 20, 1864, while serving as captain, 19th Michigan Infantry, the second for gallantry and distinguished bravery in the action against the Cheyennes near McLellan's Creek, Tex., and which resulted in the rescue of the two little girls which were left behind by the Indians in their sudden flight from camp. The official announcement of the award of the award of the medal says "in attacking the Indians with two companies, D, 6th Cavalry, and D, 5th Infantry, forcing them from their strong position and pursuing them until utterly routed, while first lieutenant, 5th Infantry."



still in the hands of the Indians. It was surprising to see the sympathy and emotion of the soldiers and trainmen as they listened to the story from the lips of those two little half-starved girls. One teamster, as the tears rolled down his cheeks, remarked: 'I have driven my mules over these plains for three months, but I will stay forever or until we get those other girls.' These little children were sent back in charge of Dr. Powell<sup>1</sup> to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where they were well taken care of. On his return Dr. Powell brought with him a photograph<sup>2</sup> which he had taken of them in their improved condition and which was used in an important event that occurred two months later.

"The campaign continued through the autumn, the purpose being to make that remote country, which the Indians had formerly used as their retreating ground, untenable for them until they should be brought under subjection. As they had been defeated in so many engagements, the weakest of the Indians began to retreat back to the agency in small numbers, and the approach of cold weather was having its effect on all tribes that remained in hostility. Their ponies had been so much worn down by their being kept constantly on the move that when winter struck them in their weakened condition they died by hundreds on the cold bleak plains.

"Finally, in January, believing that those still remaining out were in a disposition to surrender, I

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel Junius Levert Powell is a native of Virginia and was appointed to the army as an assistant surgeon from Maryland in 1878. He was retired from active service with the rank of lieutenant colonel in May, 1908. His present residence is "The Dresden," Washington, D. C.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. E. E. Henry, then a leading photographer of Leavenworth, was sent for and photographed the girls. Mr. Henry is still living in Leavenworth, but long since retired from professional activities.



sent a message to them demanding their surrender; and the friendly Indian who carried the dispatch also took with him the photograph of the two little Germaine girls, with the injunction to place it unknown to the Indians, in the hands of one of the captives, if he could find them. They found the hostile camp on the Staked Plains on a tributary of the Pecos River, on the border of New Mexico.

“The Indian carrying the photograph of the little girls when unobserved quietly placed it in the hands of the eldest, giving her the first knowledge she had that her sisters were living and that they had been rescued. On the back of the photograph was a message reading as follows:

“HEADQUARTERS INDIAN TERRITORY EXPEDITION,”

In the Field, Jan. 2, 1875.

TO THE MISSES GERMAINE: Your little sisters are well, and in the hands of friends. Do not be discouraged. Every effort is being made for your welfare.

(Signed) NELSON A. MILES,

*Colonel and Brevet Major General, U. S. Army,  
Commanding Expedition.*

“The girl afterwards told me that she was almost wild with joy on receiving the message. Up to that time she had not had a single ray of hope and did not know that anyone knew where they were or that they were alive, or that they would ever see the faces of white people again. She said that from that time until they were finally restored the hope of ultimate relief gave them courage to endure their hardships. With the demand for the surrender of the Indians when it was delivered, was a message to the chief saying that no peace could be made except on condition that they brought in alive the prisoners they had in their hands. The chief at once sent for these two girls and placed them in a tent next to his

own, and had them well cared for, and the whole body immediately commenced to move toward the east, traveling through the storms of winter and over the snow and ice a distance of more than two hundred miles to their agency, where they finally surrendered.

“After the surrender of the Indians the warriors were formed in the presence of the troops, and the two elder Germaine girls went along down the line pointing out to the officers the different men who had been engaged in the murder of their family, and in other atrocities; and to the number of seventy-five, these men were taken out of the camp and placed under guard and taken under the charge of Captain Pratt to St. Augustine, Florida<sup>1</sup>.

“At the close of the campaign the rescued Germaine girls were sent to Fort Leavenworth, and I was appointed their guardian. I secured a provision in the appropriation by Congress diverting ten thousand dollars from the annuities of the offending

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<sup>1</sup>These Indians passed through Fort Leavenworth en route to the place of their banishment. Of this incident General Miles furnishes this account in his “Personal Recollections”: “Minimic, one of the principal chiefs, asked me to take his son, young Minimic—who was, I think, one of the handsomest Indians I have ever seen—a stalwart young man of about twenty-two years—and to teach him the ways of the white men. I appreciated the sentiment, but at the same time I realized the futility of trying to accomplish any good results with but one Indian, and without any system of general improvement. Thinking the matter over, I was prompted to urge upon the government as strongly as possible that the Indian youth be given an opportunity to improve their condition, and in my report of that expedition and its results I urged an entire change in the system of government and management of these Indians. Wherever the suggestion has been tried, it has been eminently successful. Out of Captain Pratt’s judicious management of this body of wild, savage murderers has grown the great Industrial School at Carlisle, Pennsylvania.”

Indians, to be given to them. This sum was set apart for the benefit of these girls, the interest to go for their support during their minority, and the principal to be divided and given to them on reaching their majority. They are now married, and are occupying happy, though widely separated homes in Kansas, Colorado and California."

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## Another Version of the Rescue

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General W. H. Carter<sup>1</sup> in his book "From Yorktown to Santiago with the Sixth Cavalry," gives this version of the rescue of the two older Germaine girls who were in the hands of Stone Calf's<sup>2</sup> band:

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<sup>1</sup> Awarded a medal of honor for distinguished bravery in action against hostile Apache Indians at Cibicu Creek, Ariz., August 30, 1881, while serving as first lieutenant and regimental quartermaster and acting adjutant, 6th Cavalry.

<sup>2</sup> Stone Calf, in his day, was a very troublesome Indian. Following the campaign of 1874-5 he located on the reservation near Fort Supply. One of his daughters was married to Amos Chapman, a noted scout and guide, and through him exercised considerable influence with the authorities. The trading firm of Lee & Reynolds at Fort Supply, was also enabled, through Chapman, to secure the good will of Stone Calf and his band. For many years this firm furnished under contract the hay used by the government at that post which it secured off the Indian reserve at a very small cost, compared to the price secured from the government. When the Cheyennes and Arapahoes decided to lease their grazing grounds to the cattlemen, Stone Calf and his band would not submit, influenced in their action by the Supply traders. The opposition on his part to the leases continued to grow. At any rate, he, with his white abettors, got up such an Indian scare in the summer of 1885 that the southern Kansas border became aflame with rumors of massacre and Indian invasion from the south. Troops were sent down, but the only Indians to be found were those on the reservation. The President sent two commissioners—Generals Sheridan and Miles—to investigate. When Stone Calf and his band had given their version of conditions down there, General Sheridan wired the

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas H. Neill,<sup>1</sup> Sixth Cavalry, commanding a camp near Cheyenne Agency, sent an Indian runner to Stone Calf's village with this note on January 20, 1875:

*To Katherine Elizabeth or to Sophia Louisa Germaine,  
white women, now in the hands of the hostile  
Cheyennes with Grey Beard or Stone Calf:*

“I send you these few lines to tell you that your younger sisters, Julia and Nancy, are safe and well and have been sent home to Georgia. Your sad captivity is known all over the country and every effort to obtain your release will be made. Read this note to Stone Calf or Grey Beard, and say to Stone Calf that his message asking peace has been received, and that I will receive him and his band upon condition that he shall send you and your sister in first, and then he can come in with his band and give himself up to the mercy of the government, and I will receive him. I send you with this, pencil and paper. Write me Stone Calf's answer, and anything else you may desire; I think the Indians will make no objection.

“Stone Calf's village had been located on the Staked Plains, near the Pecos river, but on February 14, 1875, he moved to near Custer's old battle-ground.

President that the leases be abrogated, the wire fences taken down and the herds removed within forty days. Such sudden action meant immense losses to the owners of the cattle. Men of much influence besought the President to give more time. He declined, and as a result numerous fortunes were wiped out of existence. The Indians themselves were heavy losers financially. The thousands of dollars paid them annually no longer came to tickle their palms, while Stone Calf and his band of ruffians secured their former graft. Colonel Dyer, the agent at Darlington, was removed, and Captain Jesse M. Lee, 9th Infantry, appointed to serve as agent for the two tribes.

<sup>1</sup>Colonel Neill entered the army in 1843 and died in 1885.



Two more troops were added to Colonel Neill's command in order that he might force a surrender, but by the exercise of patience, the unhappy girls were rescued without a fight, and this was followed on February 26, by Stone Calf's surrender with 1600 Cheyennes.

"The condition of the two Germaine girls was pitiable in the extreme. They declined being sent to Georgia, stating they had no relatives or associations there to take them back, and desired to go to school somewhere in Kansas. They were sent to Fort Leavenworth, where they were taken in charge by a worthy family."

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## Surgeon Powell's Recollections

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Subsequent to the rescue of the two younger Germaine girls Surgeon Powell was commissioned by General Miles to conduct them to Fort Leavenworth. Responding to a request for his recollections of that journey Colonel Powell contributed the following:

"Of course you know all of the circumstances attending the dash made upon the Indian camp on the Llano Estacado, with a company of the Fifth Infantry and a troop of the Sixth Cavalry. The two poor half-starved and naked Germaine children were in the camp of the savages, but in their wild flight to escape from the soldiers, the Indians left the children, and as I was the proper one to look out for

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The girls were placed in the home of Patrick Corney, an employe of the Quartermaster's Department at Fort Leavenworth. Later, upon General Miles' recommendation, Mr. Corney was appointed guardian of the girls by the Probate Court of Leavenworth County. Some time in 1876 Mr. Corney removed to Sabetha, Kansas, to engage in agriculture. The Germaine girls went with him, later married, and are now living in different sections of the country, that being the last report from the Interior Department.

them, General Miles directed me to take charge of them, until further disposed of. Very soon after the fight I started off by ambulance and escort for Camp Supply, a distance of some sixty or eighty miles, if I remember correctly, where the ladies of the Camp took the little girls in charge and quickly made themselves busy in organizing a sewing bee, to equip the little ones with clothes. You know their parents, and a brother and sister were massacred up on the Republican [Smoky Hill] river, in Kansas, by the same band of redskins. I don't remember how many of the Indians we killed in the brush, but there were a number that took passage to the happy hunting ground for their fiendish act. After they had been well clad and fed up with proper food, I started with a relief ambulance and escort, the latter all important, as the prairies were full of the red devils, for Fort Dodge, Kansas, where the officers' wives again nobly came to my assistance. The distance from Supply to Dodge is, I believe, one hundred miles. How long I was on the road from General Miles' headquarters out on the plains to Camp Supply I can not now recall, but I do remember that soon after starting on the latter section of the trip we were caught in a terrible snowstorm, and I was glad enough, at last, to get to a point of safety. The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway had then been constructed as far west as Dodge City, Kansas, so that I found much more comfortable transportation for myself and the pitiful little girls, on to Fort Leavenworth, where in obedience to my orders I reported and delivered my charge to General Pope, who was in command of the Missouri Department. He found a home for them in some family at the fort and the officers' wives again interested themselves in their behalf. God bless the women. What would we do without them."

## Dull Knife's Escape and Capture

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THE NORTHERN Cheyennes, under Dull Knife, numbering nearly one thousand, were transferred in August, 1877, to the Reno reservation, in the Indian Territory, now a part of Oklahoma, to join and live with the southern band of the same tribe. These Indians, however, soon tired of their new home. They had intermarried with the Ogalalla or Red Cloud Sioux, and longed to return and join their friends. On the night of September 9, 1878, Dull Knife and his band, more than three hundred in number, left their lodges and started north. Among them were 87 warriors.

All of the cavalry at Reno and Supply were sent in pursuit, and the Twenty-third Infantry, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, was hurriedly mounted and sent out on the Union Pacific to intercept the escaping band.

In his annual report for 1878 General Pope expressed the belief they would not kill or do any damage, except to kill what cattle they needed for food on the way. If attacked, he thought, they would fight hard, as they would never return south. Notwithstanding the General's optimistic view as to their peaceable intentions, they passed over western Kansas where they killed settlers, burned houses, and committed many atrocities. After a march of six hundred miles without the troops being able to intercept them, the band surrendered in Northern Nebraska (Department of the Platte) under the condition that they should be taken to Dakota.

How well this pact with the Indians was kept is

told by General Crook in his report for 1879, whose troops secured Dull Knife's surrender:

"Among these Cheyenne Indians were some of the bravest and most efficient of the auxiliaries who had acted under General Mackenzie and myself in the campaign against the hostile Sioux in 1876 and 1877, and I still preserve a grateful remembrance of their distinguished services which the government seems to have forgotten.

"In the arduous labor involved in the pursuit of these Cheyennes, I deem it my duty to speak in terms of warm commendation of the services rendered by the commands of Majors Thornburgh and Carlton and that under Colonel Tilford, Seventh Cavalry, from the Department of Dakota, operating within the limits of this department.

"The captured Cheyennes were taken to Fort Robinson, Nebr., and there confined in a set of company quarters. They repeated their expressions of desire to live at peace with our people, but said they would kill themselves sooner than be taken back to the Indian Territory. These statements were confirmed by Red Cloud and other friendly Sioux chiefs, who assured us that the Cheyennes

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General Crook died in March, 1890, at Chicago, Ill. No other personality in the army knew the dead General's noble character so well as his aid, Major (now Brigadier General, retired), C. S. Roberts, who said of his dead chief: "He was the greatest Indian fighter of the country, but he was never an Indian hater. He was the Indian's friend. He knew the Indian better than the Indian did. He never promised him anything he did'nt mean to give. He never lied to him. The Indians feared him, but they respected him, and his ability to deal with them was recognized in other lines than the military. He was the only man in the country to deal with Indians. He knew their rights and he knew their wrongs, and he used to study the whole night through, anxiously trying to contrive ways to secure justice for them without injury to the nation."



had left their reservation in the Indian Territory to avoid fever and starvation, and that they would die, to the last man, woman, and child, before they could be taken from the quarters in which they were confined. All this information was promptly reported to higher authority, and instructions urgently requested; but no action was taken until the very last days of December, when orders were received to remove them south. At this time the thermometer at Fort Robinson showed a range of from zero down to nearly 40° below (the freezing point of mercury). The captives were without adequate clothing, and no provision had been made to supply it until very late in the season, which occasioned a further delay until the beginning of January.

“The Cheyennes had now become satisfied that their complaints would not be considered, and the situation of affairs became desperate. They demanded several times to be informed whether or not they were to be taken back south to the Indian Territory, and reiterated their determination to die rather than leave the post of Fort Robinson. Two or three of their party were anxious to yield, but their comrades threatened their lives if they made any attempt to leave the building. Every argument failed; every persuasion was tried. To have entered the building to seize the ringleaders would have been the signal for the commencement of a fearful and unnecessary carnage; the Indians had dug rifle-pits commanding all entrances, and were supplied with knives and slings, made by breaking the stoves in their quarters. Having tried every means in his power and failed, and there being no change in the orders from Washington, Captain Wessells, the officer in charge, had no alternative but a resort to harsh measures. He made overtures to the chiefs and headmen to let the women and children come

out from the building, so that they might not suffer in any conflict that might arise; but the Indians defiantly rejected every attempt at compromise, saying 'We'll all die here together sooner than be sent south'.

"Captain Wessells then stopped the issue of food and fuel, hoping to bring them more speedily to terms. I may say here that this measure, criticised by the rules for the *theoretical* management of Indians, seems to have been a severe one; but I ask, and I claim to have had as much experience in the management of Indian tribes as any man in this country, what alternative could have been adopted? During the twenty-seven years of my experience with the Indian question, I have never known a band of Indians to make peace with our government and then break it, or leave their reservation, without some ground of complaint; but until their complaints are examined and adjusted, they will constantly give annoyance and trouble.

"In the present case, the Cheyennes claimed that they had been wronged, and had become as desperate as a pack of wolves. The Army had orders to take them back to the Indian Territory, and had no option in the matter. It seems to me to have been, to say the least, a very unnecessary exercise of power to insist upon this particular portion of the band going back to their former reservation, while the other fragments of the same band, which surrendered to the troops on the Yellowstone or escaped to the Red Cloud and Spotted Tail Reservations, had been allowed to remain north unmolested, more especially since we have every reason to believe that the latter were the principal actors in the outrages perpetrated in Kansas, and know that they murdered several persons since the surrender of those confined at Fort Robinson.

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“About the dead of night, on the 9th of January, the Cheyennes made a sudden break through the windows and doors of their place of confinement, shooting down the sentinels with arms they had managed to obtain, and possessing themselves, in addition, of the carbines and revolvers of the soldiers killed. After this they moved in one compact mass toward the high bluffs back of the post, fighting desperately all the while, women with men. It was impossible, in the darkness, cold, excitement, and confusion, to avoid the deplorable results that might be expected. A number of the squaws were killed and wounded in the affray, although officers and men used every care to capture, where possible, without inflicting injuries, and a number of our men froze hands and feet while taking women and children back to the post.”

The survivors, women and children, seventy-five in number, were sent to dwell with their relatives, the Ogalalla Sioux at the Pine Ridge Agency, South Dakota.

Severe criticism was passed upon the Army following this “unnecessary exercise of power,” which fell with such crushing force upon Dull Knife and his band. The people regarded this action as wanton slaughter, not knowing that the Indian Bureau declined to heed the appeals of the Army in behalf of these unfortunate Indians. The duty of the Army was plain. The result of its obedience is now history and the responsibility rests elsewhere.

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## The Army and the Indians

“There is no class of men in this country who are so disinclined to war with the Indians as the Army stationed among them.” This was the view expressed by the late General John Pope, when dis-

cussing the Indian question in an official report in 1875, three years preceding the outbreak at Fort Robinson. "The Army", he said, "had nothing to gain by war with Indians; on the contrary, it has everything to lose. In such a war it suffers all the hardship and privation, and, exposed as it is to the charge of assassination if Indians are killed; to the charge of inefficiency if they are not; to misrepresentation by the agents who fatten on the plunder of the Indians, and misunderstood by worthy people at a distance, who are deceived by these very agents and their following, the soldier has little to expect from the public feeling. Nevertheless, he is so placed under present arrangements and orders that he has no power whatever on the Indian reservation to redress or prevent wrongs which drive Indians to war; on the contrary, at the demand of the very agent whose unfair dealings with the Indians has brought on the difficulty, he is obliged to pursue and force back to the same deplorable state and place Indians whom he knows to have been wronged, and who have only done substantially what he would have done himself under like provocation. Such a relation to Indian affairs and Indian agents is unjust and unfair to the army and a serious injury both to the interests of the Government and the well being of the Indians."











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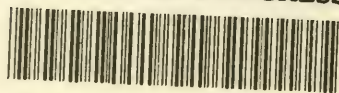


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