

the gallop, which example was followed by the whole party.

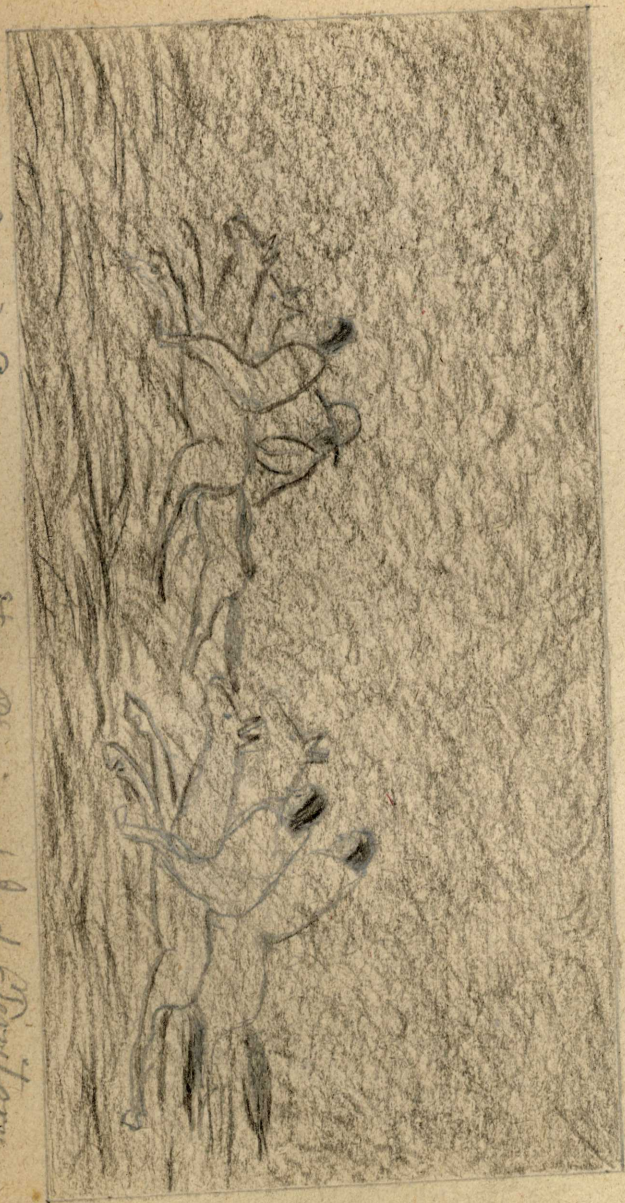
Though this haze looked distant to me, it was but a few minutes before we were enveloped in blinding clouds of dust and sand, which, fortunately for us, were driven the same way we were travelling. The sand and small pebbles, furiously driven by the wind, stung our ears and the sides of our faces, and rendered our horses almost unmanageable by their continuous pelting; but being at our backs, we held rapidly on our way. Dense clouds of dust filled the air, obscuring all surrounding objects to within a few feet, filling our eyes, noses, ears, and mouths, and literally covering us with dust. These sand-storms are most frequent in the spring and early summer, but are of occasional occurrence at other times of the year.

To-day we passed over a level plain south-east of Rainy Mountain, sparsely covered with <sup>mesquite (one-foot)</sup> ~~musquito~~ (mus-keet) timber, which gave it, for many miles, the appearance of a broken down or badly kept peach orchard, with mountains on either side. This plain gradually gave place to gravelly ridges and rocky ravines, north-west of Mount Sheridan, and this again to fertile prairies and rich valleys, well watered by fine streams of pure water, and bounded on all sides by rocky mountains, among which we travelled in a south-<sup>east</sup> ~~west~~erly direction, towards the Agency, where we arrived about four o'clock P. M.

5th Month, 12th. — As the Indians' beds in their

*We had neither bucket or kettle to draw with, or I should have insisted up young larvae together, & ascertaining the quality of the water*

*In a Sand Storm on the Plains of Ind. Territory*



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