

continued

finding a good but winding road until after having traveled about twelve (12) miles in a due North West course. I struck a well traveled road running, as I was informed from Hutchinson to Fort Dodge, Kans. This section of country is a slightly rolling upland prairie, occasionally broken by prairie streams. An abundance of Buffalo, and a small army of Buffalo Hunters were found from this on to Fort Dodge. The prairie in this section is frequently cut by well defined roads, probably made by Buffalo Hunters, while other scattering wagon trails were discovered too numerous to mention. The only streams of water crossed worthy of mention after having left Turkey Creek, were Soldier Spring, and Thompson Creeks. These streams as can be seen by reference to the notes, kept by Private Kelly, Battallion of Engineers, are quite close together, running in a south easterly course and emptying into Medicine Lodge Creek, they are each fine running streams of water fed by springs near where the regularly traveled road crosses them. Thompson Creek is an unusually fine, large stream of pure, cool and rapidly running water with gravelly bottom. The banks of these streams are heavily wooded. The grazing was fair, consisting mainly of Buffalo grass. At Sun City I was informed that two (2) days prior to my arrival, three (3) Cheyenne Indians were there from a small party camped about twelve (12) miles South West from Sun City on Mule Creek; they came in for the purpose of trading and were quiet and orderly. They represented their party as having been out in search of some Indians of another tribe, a few of which they were at war with. They had found and killed all of the party they were after with the exception of one. My informant could not give me the name of the tribe to which these Indians belonged.

From Fort Dodge to Camp Supply with the command and public horses in charge, I found it entirely impracticable to keep the notes and map the country myself as I at first intended, from Camp Supply back to my post I attempted the first day out from Supply to make the notes required, but found that I could not properly attend to my command and make the marches necessary to go over the route required in the time allowed and correctly map the country. The country passed over between Camp