

continued

properly adjusted; the lock is not of sufficient strength and is liable to fail in exploding good ammunition. The rapid firing, the breech block is moved with difficulty and the ejector frequently fails to eject the shell. I earnestly recommend the Springfield carbine in performance to all others. The
 25 Colt's pistol metallic cartridge is entirely satisfactory. I believe it superior to all others in strength and accuracy of firing.

The leather covered saddles are the best I have seen in use in the service. They are without saddle pockets and should be supplied with them. The bridle bits now in use I consider outrageous. They are uniformly too heavy and are deficient in strength. It seems a pity to inflict a horse with them. I recommend the Daniel's steel bit with curt strap in place of curt chain.

T. C. Tupper
 Captain 6th Cavalry

A true copy
 Thomas E. Nichols
 2nd Lieut 6th Cavalry
 Post Adjutant

Fort Dodge, Kansas
 October 6/73

The Post Adjutant
 Fort Dodge, Kansas

Sir!

In compliance with letter dated Hdqrs. Ft. Dodge, Ks. Oct. 3/73, I have the honor to make the following condensed report of Scouts made by Company "F", 6th U. S. Cavalry, during the present season.

On the 28th of April, pursuant to S. O. No. 52, c. s., Hdqrs. Ft. Dodge, Ks. with Co. "F" I proceeded on scout. Part of the time of this scout was employed in looking after horse thieves, in the vicinity of
 26 Bluff and Bear Creeks, under the direction of Depty. U. S. Marchal Bridges. Then marched to the head of Crooked Creek and crossed the prairie to the Cimarron River below the springs. There struck "Left Hands" Band of the