

rapidity. Brackett with his Minnesota troops, was sent to attack this body and the gallantry of the attack won commendation from the commanding officer in his report of the affair. The energy and rapidity of his attack carried Brackett three miles, driving the enemy before him, and put him in a position isolated to such an extent that he was in danger on being overwhelmed by mere weight of numbers, when Jones' battery went to the rescue and again the Indians were put to flight. While this action was

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going on still another considerable body of Indians had made a detour and struck Sully from the rear, only to be repulsed by a rear guard and a field piece. The Sioux became dispirited and in the middle of the afternoon they began to strike their tents the women getting off with the camp equipage while the braves massed on the hilltops and in ravines to harass the troops in their advance. Pope's battery was brought to bear and the Indians were dislodged and driven over the mountain tops before sunset. ~~The retreat was carried out with much deliberation, for they took their wounded with them, but they left much of the dunnage on the hills the next day and escaped in different directions, some of them heading for the Black Hills, some remaining to pot straggle from Sully's force, and still others swinging around and getting out to the northeast.~~

Sully thought he killed 150 of the Sioux. Gall, who was present, said that his people did not lose more than thirty or forty men. The expedition came near to a disastrous finish after winning the ~~last~~ fight, suffering fearfully in crossing the Bad Lands and arriving at the river to meet the supply boats just as the exhausted men were in danger of being attacked by a large skirmish in party of the Indians.

Inkpaduta had gone off to the northeast with his ~~Yank~~ Santees and Yankton and Sully kept a lookout for this party while descending the Missouri. About ten miles above the present site of Bismarck scouts brought in word that Ink. was in force on the Dodgen Hills, seventy miles north. A force was sent against him, but he got away and moved with such celerity that pursuit was hopeless, considering the condition of the command. The march down to Fort Rice was marked by a number of skirmishes, the Indians hanging on the trail of the column and picking off two men on the river bank near Rice.

This expedition of Sully's was not particularly effective in beating the Indians to submission, for if they were terrified at first they also came to understand that organized troops could not cope with them in the rough country and that, given the means of subsistence they could practically defy soldiers in heavy marching order. But also demonstrated to them the resources of the government in commanding a great number of men for the protection of the frontier and that counted for much. The lesson did not reach them very readily, though, for the Tetons in the war party, having started for the Black Hills became active at once in attempting the destruction of an emigrant train which had pushed its way into the country in the immediate rear of Sully.

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#### THE FISK EXPEDITION.

The story of this emigrant ~~train~~ outfit constitutes one of the few stirring instances in which a considerable number of people were made the object of attack by Sioux in North Dakota territory. The mere fact that Sully was deliberate in his movements ~~made~~ in getting out of the country saved the emigrants from massacre.

The train was under the direction of Captain J L Fisk, U S A, one of the most enterprising and picturesque figures produced by the conditions then governing the frontier.